



# Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

## FRIDAYS @ 12:30 SERIES

Friday, September 27, 2019

12:30 p.m., von Kuster Hall

Adi Braun, *vocalist*

Tom King, *piano*

Moderne Frau	Adi Braun
Surabaya Johnny	Kurt Weill/Bertolt Brecht
Nannas Lied	Kurt Weill/Bertolt Brecht
Buddy On the Night Shift	Kurt Weill/Oscar Hammerstein
Josephine	Adi Braun
Stranger Here Myself	Kurt Weill/Ogden Nash
Du sollst es leise sagen	Franz Grothe/Robert Gilbert
Leben ohne Liebe	Mischa Spoliansky/Robert Gilbert
Gestern	Adi Braun
Und was bekam des Soldaten Weib	Kurt Weill/Bertolt Brecht
Mack the Knife	Kurt Weill/Bertolt Brecht

*Program is subject to change*

## THE ARTISTS

Critically-acclaimed singer/songwriter **Adi Braun** launches her latest recording, *Moderne Frau*, which pays tribute to the women of Weimar Berlin and the music of the 1920s. Stirred by her lifelong passion for German cabaret, Braun's 5th recording features music by leading composers of that era and includes three of her own original songs.

*Moderne Frau* follows Adi's previous celebrated recordings: *Canadian Scenes I* (2010), which marked her singer/songwriter debut; *Live at the Metropolitan Room* (2007), recorded off-the-floor at New York's renowned jazz/cabaret venue; *The Rules of the Game* (2006), from which the song *Show Me Yours* was featured on the hit U.S. TV series *The "L" Word* and *Delishious* (2003), short-listed for a 2004 Juno Award nomination.

Her sophisticated style and subtle delivery evokes such vocal greats as Sarah Vaughan, Lotte Lenya, Judy Garland and Rosemary Clooney. Elizabeth Ahlfors of New York's Cabaret Scenes describes Adi as, "A tad Dinah Washington, a hint of Lena Horne, the enveloping warmth of Doris Day, all gift-wrapped up in a unique sound that is singular Adi Braun!" Adi's repertoire ranges from the Great American Songbook, to European cabaret, to contemporary songs by Canada legend's Shirley Eikhard and Gordon Lightfoot as well as her own originals. Whether she is singing in English, French, Spanish or German, Adi Braun is "a power-frau who gives jazz standards a unique touch, telling stories that are miniature life moments" (*Rheinische Post*, Düsseldorf, Germany).

Born in Toronto, Adi Braun grew up in Europe surrounded by music and musicians. Her parents were opera singers, and her father, Victor Braun, was one of Canada's leading baritones. Her first instrument was piano, which she began studying at the age of six. With no formal voice lessons, she made her first pop/jazz recording at age 19. Following family tradition, Adi trained classically at the Royal Conservatory of Music and the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. She began her singing career as a classical recitalist, a soloist with orchestra and on-stage in operas and operettas alongside her brother, baritone Russell Braun. In addition to her many musical roles, Adi teaches German art song at the Royal Conservatory of Music and is a German diction coach for the Canadian Opera Company.

Adi started "singing sideways" in the late '90s and returned to the music she loves – which she calls "cabarazz" – drawing on aspects from both cabaret and jazz. After winning a local competition in 2001, she was catapulted to centre-stage as one of Canada's leading jazz vocalists. In 2007, Adi was nominated as Best Major Jazz Vocalist of the Year by the Manhattan Association of Cabarets and Clubs (MAC).

Born and raised in Regina, Saskatchewan, Toronto-based pianist **Tom King** is at home in a wide variety of styles and genres. He holds a Bachelor of Music from the University of Ottawa and a Masters of Music degree from Western University. Tom is a music director at the Second City Toronto where he also completed as an actor, the Second City Training Centre Improvisation Program and is a graduate of the Second City Long-Form Improvisation Conservatory.

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