



Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

FRIDAYS @ 12:30 SERIES

Friday, November 23, 2018

12:30 p.m., von Kuster Hall

Christine Tithecott, *piano*

Andy Cloutier, *guitar*

Paul Digout, *piano*

Ron George, *horn*

Shelley Heron, *English horn*

Jackalyn Short, *soprano*

Bobbi Thompson, *saxophone*

from Four Songs to Poems by E. E. Cummings

Nobody wears a yellow flower

Sweet spring

Jackalyn Short, *soprano*

Christine Tithecott, *piano*

John Beckwith

(b. 1927)

Nostalgica

Ian McDougall

(b. 1938)

arr. Ron George

Ron George, *horn*

Christine Tithecott, *piano*

Strata

Opia

Colin Labadie

(b. 1984)

Bobbi Thompson, *saxophone*

Christine Tithecott, *piano*

Taking Turns

Monologue

Whimsical dialogue

Palindrome

Angular dance

Epilogue

Brian Sexton

(b. 1953)

Ron George, *horn*

Shelley Heron, *English horn*

Christine Tithecott, *piano*

Valse Vertigo

Patrick Roux

(b. 1967)

Andy Cloutier, *guitar*

Ronde villageoise de l'Oiseau-phénix

Clermont Pépin

(1926-2006)

Paul Digout, *piano*

Christine Tithecott, *piano*

THE ARTISTS

Christine Tithecott holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa, as well as a MMus in Performance and a BMus (Honours) in Music Education from the University of Western Ontario. She has worked previously at Iowa State University in Ames, IA, and is a member of the College of Examiners for the Royal Conservatory of Music. In high demand as a clinician and adjudicator, Dr. Tithecott presents master classes for young pianists and workshops on pedagogical topics for piano teachers throughout North America. She has presented lectures at national conferences for the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) and the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations (CFMFTA). Christine is a member of the Canadian Music Festival Adjudicators Association (CMFAA), and a clinician for the Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association (ORMTA). Additionally, Dr. Tithecott has served as an editor for Conservatory Canada's New Millennium Series. An avid performer, Dr. Tithecott has had the opportunity to perform as a solo and collaborative artist throughout Canada, USA, and Europe. Christine has a strong passion for performing and promoting contemporary repertoire, and has performed with numerous new music ensembles including Ensemble 319, and The CNM Ensemble (Iowa City, IA). Christine currently resides in London, where she is on faculty at Western University's Don Wright Faculty of Music. She also works as a collaborative artist, and maintains a full studio of private piano students.

Born in Toronto, **Andy Cloutier** began musical studies at the age of five. After many years of study and performing, he entered the University of Western Ontario, where he completed a bachelor of music degree, with honours specialization in music theory and composition. He has played in master classes and studied with many world renowned musicians, including Pepe Romero, Manuel Barrueco, David Russell, Roland Dyens, the Assad brothers, and many more. He currently teaches young musicians in the London area, and is organist and music director at Strathroy United Church in Strathroy, Ontario.

Vocal coach **Paul Digout** holds a Master of Music degree in Collaborative Piano and a Bachelor of Musical Arts degree from the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western University, where he studied with Dr. John Hess. Paul also holds an Associate Diploma in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Paul has been invited to participate in prestigious International Young Artist programmes including La Musica Lirica (Novafeltria, Italy) Opera NUOVA (Edmonton, Alberta) and the Canadian Operatic Arts Academy (London, Ontario). At these programs, Mr. Digout has been privileged to work with notable pedagogues including Michael McMahon and Martin Katz. In demand as a collaborative pianist and repetiteur, Paul has worked across Canada, and Internationally with the Yorkshire Opera Workshop (Yorkshire, U.K.), Halifax Summer Opera Festival (Halifax, NS), Cowtown Opera Summer Academy (Calgary, AB), The Victoria Playhouse (Petrolia, Ontario) and Music Theatre on the Thames (London, Ontario). At present, Mr. Digout maintains a full schedule as a freelance collaborative pianist at Western University in London Ontario.

Ronald George is a musician in a variety of roles: teacher, soloist, chamber and orchestral player. He has been principal horn with Orchestra London Canada since 1979 and appeared as soloist with the orchestra numerous times. Born in San Francisco, Ron's studies began with Earl Saxton and Robert Creech through high school in Vancouver. At the University of Toronto, he studied with Eugene Rittich. In Germany he worked with Hermann Baumann.

He has performed with Toronto, Detroit, Kitchener-Waterloo and International Symphony Orchestras, Calgary Philharmonic, Hamilton Philharmonic, Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Orchestre Symphonique de Laval, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Aradia, Arion, Talisker Players and Opera Atelier. He has appeared with the Canadian Opera Company, notably in their production of the Wagner Ring Cycle. He has recorded with Pinchas Zuckerman (National Arts Centre Orchestra), Gary Cooper (Arion), and Bruno Weil (Tafelmusik). Tours have included Europe (Calgary Philharmonic) and Japan (Opera Atelier).

As chamber musician, he has appeared at the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival, the Westben Arts Festival and collaborated with Orchestra London colleagues. He is a dedicated teacher and proud to have worked with some of Canada's finest young musicians at Western. In the summers, he has worked for many years at Interprovincial Music Camp.

Shelley Heron spent almost three decades as a member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's oboe section prior to retiring in 2014. During her tenure, she participated in more than forty recordings with the DSO and the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings and toured the United States, Europe and Japan on numerous occasions.

Shelley enjoys teaching oboe and is currently a member of the Faculty of Music at Western University. She has conducted masterclasses at The Glenn Gould School of Music, Interlochen Arts Camp, Western Michigan University, Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Detroit Symphony Civic Youth Ensembles and the Banff International Festival of Youth Orchestras and Wind Ensembles.

Shelley's formative oboe teachers were Richard Killmer (Eastman School of Music) John Mack (Cleveland Orchestra) and Jonathan Dlouhy (Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.) She received a Bachelor of Music in Performance degree from the University of Toronto and Masters of Music from Western University.

Canadian soprano **Jackalyn Short** has sung leading lyric coloratura roles with every major opera company and orchestra in Canada. Internationally, she has performed in many United States cities, and also in Korea, Japan, Singapore, New Zealand, England and Israel. She has been a regular performer on CBC's Saturday Afternoon at the Opera, and Two New Hours, has been the recipient of several Canada Council grants and scholarships, and is a member of Canada's Who's Who.

Jackalyn has been teaching voice to undergrads and post-graduate students at Western University since 2001. Her duties include teaching vocal technique and coaching repertoire,

teaching Italian, French, English and German lyric diction, and instructing her students in the use of the IPA system. Several of her students have won prizes at Kiwanis, have advanced in the Met Competition and been accepted into opera ensemble programs. She is a member of NATS and is an active member of the music faculty, collaborating and performing with fellow professors at the school. Jackalyn has received the top teaching honour at Western every year since 2001.

Ms. Short has been a faculty member of the NUOVA summer opera program in Edmonton, and also Opera on the Avalon in St John's, Newfoundland.

Jackalyn is married to acclaimed opera director Michael Cavanagh and has a daughter, Amelia, who is actively involved in the jazz and musical theatre scene in Toronto.

Saxophonist **Bobbi Thompson** has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in North America and Israel, and currently serves as Assistant Professor of saxophone at Western University in London, Ontario. She is a passionate proponent of contemporary music who performs frequently with guitarist Ariel Kasler. Together, the Thompson-Kasler Duo is working to expand the repertoire for saxophone and electric guitar through commissioning and performance projects. She has also performed with a wide range of organizations including Orchestra London (Canada), Irving Symphony Orchestra, Plano Chamber Orchestra, Toronto Wind Orchestra, Dallas Jazz Orchestra, Grand Theatre (Canada), Drayton Entertainment, and the world-famous University of North Texas Lab Bands.

Outside of her role as a performer and educator, Dr. Thompson serves on the Editorial Board of the North American Saxophone Alliance's journal *The Saxophone Symposium*. She previously taught saxophone and chamber music at The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. She holds the Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, graduate Music Certificate from Bowling Green State University, Master of Music Education from the University of North Texas, and Bachelor of Music in Instrumental Performance from the University of Idaho. Her research focuses on the saxophone music of American composer Marilyn Shlude.

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