"LIFE IS BETTER WITH A SOUNDTRACK"



THUNDER BAY **SYMPHONY** ORCHESTRA

> Paul Haas Music Director

pirit Horse

April 14th, 1pm & April 15th, 2pm Thunder Bay Community Auditorium

Beatrice Twance-Hynes, Elder Naomi Woo, conductor Ken MacDonald, horn/narrator Jodi Contin, narrator

Music by Kevin Lau, with additional music by Jodi Contin and Andrew Balfour. Visual Art by Artist and Knowledge Keeper Rhonda Snow.



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Beatrice Twance-Hynes, Elder

Elder Beatrice Twance-Hynes is a member of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation. Beatrice is a traditional women's dancer who makes her own regalia. She is a grandmother pipe carrier, a sacred circle facilitator, songwriter, singer and drummer. She does teachings on the Medicine Wheel, the Sacred Medicines, and the Seven Sacred Grandfathers and the hand drum.

Naomi Woo, conductor

Naomi Woo is a prominent young Canadian conductor and pianist, recognized by CBC Radio, ARTV, and Flare magazine as a rising star on the Canadian classical music scene. The current Assistant Conductor and Community Ambassador of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Naomi is frequently in demand as a guest conductor across Canada and is a finalist for the position of Artistic and Music Director of l'Orchestre Symphonique de l'Estuaire. In 2021-2022, she made debut appearances with the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra, Regina Symphony Orchestra and Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, and will also conduct rehearsals of the Orchestre Métropolitain, having been chosen by Yannick Nezet-Seguin for the orchestra's inaugural conducting academy.





Ken MacDonald, horn/narrator

Acclaimed as a "French horn master" by the Toronto Star, Ken MacDonald has performed in every province with a variety of Canada's top ensembles. He is currently Associate Principal horn with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, having played principal horn with the Hamilton Philharmonic (for seventeen seasons), Symphony Nova Scotia, and the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. He has also performed as a guest artist with the Vancouver Symphony, the Canadian Opera Company, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Orchestra London, the Victoria Symphony, and the Regina Symphony, to name but a few.

Ken is a National Arts Centre teaching artist and, in co-operation with the Winnipeg Symphony, has travelled to several of Manitoba's northern communities for educational workshops with composer and conductor Andrew Balfour. He also teaches at the University of Manitoba. He lives just outside Winnipeg with his husband, two children, six goats, five horses, and a variable number of chickens and turkeys.

Jodi Contin, narrator

Jodi Contin is a highly energetic Anishinaabe Kwe who hails from Wasauksing First Nation. Jodi's Anishinabek roots and cultural ethical principles shine through in everything she does. Currently, she is the Band Representative for Henvey Inlet First Nation. In 2018 Jodi participated in the original Festival of the Sound production "Sounding Thunder", for which she wrote the lead song "Wasauksing Enydaayong". Since then, Jodi has travelled to various venues across Ontario to perform the work. She was recently elected to the Board of Directors for the Festival of the Sound.



Rhonda Snow, visual artist

Anishinaabe artist Rhonda Snow is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from Rare Breeds Canada for her tireless work preserving the Ojibwe Horse breed. Her vivid Woodlands style canvases captivate viewers and share the knowledge she has gained from the Elders about the "small horses of the big woods". She has personally cared for over 60 Ojibwe Horses, playing an important role in the comeback of the breed from near-extinction.



Kevin Lau, composer



Composer Kevin Lau's music has been performed by groups such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Against the Grain Theatre, and the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra. He is the composer of two ballets, Le Petit Prince and Dark Angels, both choreographed by Guillaume Côté (National Ballet of Canada. His music is featured on several commercially released albums, including the JUNO nominated "Spin Cycle."

Andrew Balfour, composer

Of Cree descent, Andrew Balfour is an innovative composer/conductor/singer/sound designer with a large body of choral, instrumental, electro-acoustic and orchestral works. Andrew is also the founder and Artistic Director of the vocal group Camerata Nova, now in its 22nd year of offering a concert series in Winnipeg. Andrew has become increasingly passionate about music education and outreach, particularly on northern reserves and in inner-city Winnipeg schools where he has worked on behalf of the National Arts Centre, Camerata Nova, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and various Winnipeg school divisions.

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Paul Haas, Music Director, Sponsored by Anonymous Martin Blanchet, Principal Bass, Sponsored by Susan Marrier Kevin Brohman, Principal Timpani, Sponsored by Jackie and Maurice Black Gwendolyn Buttemer, Section Oboe, Sponsored by Jackie and Maurice Black Stephanie Caplette, Section Violin, Sponsored by Jean Engholm and Vic Smith Thomas Cosbey, Concertmaster, Sponsored by Johan Terpstra Lindsey Herle, Section Violin, Sponsored by Ken Boshcoff Erik Hongisto, Principal Trombone, Sponsored by Diana Pallen Patrick Horn, Section Viola, Sponsored by Jackie and Ernie Dojack E-Chen Hsu, Section Clarinet, Sponsored by Paul Inksetter & Penelope Clarke Colleen Kennedy, Principal Oboe, Sponsored by Catherine & Robert Breckenridge Heather Kilborn, Section Flute, Sponsored by Ernest Hrynyshyn in memory of Else Thorst Marc Palmquist, Principal Cello, Sponsored by David Legge & Shelley Crawford Damian Rivers-Moore, Section Horn, Sponsored by Scott M. Sellick Geena Salway, Section Viola, Sponsored by Greig & Lynda Lawrie Peter Shackleton, Principal Clarinet, Sponsored by Linda Penner & Bruce Thacker Matheus Moraes, Section Trumpet Sponsored by Molly Denson Kathlyn Stevens, Assistant Concertmaster, Sponsored by Anonymous Kristy Tucker, Principal Bassoon, Sponsored by Anonymous Janelle Wiebe, Principal Horn, Sponsored by Anonymous Michelle Zapf-Bélanger, Section Violin, Sponsored by Denise Terpstra



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We do our best to be accurate but if you see anything that needs to be corrected, let us know! Contact Colleen Kennedy: **colleenkennedy@tbso.ca** or Kristy Tucker: **kristytucker@tbso.ca**