



THUNDER BAY
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

Presents Season 63

**YOUR COMMUNITY.
YOUR MUSIC.**

2023-2024

MASTERWORKS

October 13, 2023

OPENING NIGHT: MUSIC FOR A CELEBRATION

We are absolutely delighted to welcome the TBSO's own concertmaster Thomas Cosbey to the stage to perform Samuel Barber's violin concerto. This piece celebrates the strings of the orchestra with some of the most wickedly difficult writing for violin in the entire repertoire, while at the same time, showing off deeply lyrical and passionate melodies. We open the concert with a bang, Alexina Louie's Music for a celebration! Alongside this is the work of the incredible contemporary composer Jessie Montgomery. Her piece "Strum" is a romp through different string techniques, including heavy "pizzicato" in the style of great banjo playing - it feels like sitting outside on a hot summer night. Honneger's Pastorale d'été is a musical impression of a peaceful early summer morning in the Swiss Alps. It opens with a languorous soaring theme on the horn that transports us instantly to a bright, sunny mountainside. Poulenc's Sinfonietta leaves us with its fun, witty charm and eclectic dance rhythms. We'll have you in the mood for warm nights and cool drinks and dancing on the beach with this concert.

· *Louie – Music for a Celebration*

· *Montgomery – Strum*

· *Barber – Violin Concerto – Thomas Cosbey*

· *Honneger – Pastorale d'été*

· *Poulenc – Sinfonietta*

November 10, 2023

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER FEATURING RACHEL KREHM

Memory is one of life's strongest and most powerful forces. Join us for an emotional evening of truly fine music inspired by the act of keeping memories close. Myroslav Skoryk's haunting "Melody" marks a defining moment in Ukraine's artistic history, standing against oppression. Canadian composer Ryan Trew's "Come Closer" is a stunning, heart-rending song cycle, created for soprano Rachel Krehm to cherish the memory of her late sister Elizabeth by setting Elizabeth's personal and striking poetry to music. And we finish with an unquestionable masterwork, Louise Farrenc's magnificent Third Symphony, a reminder of an until-recently forgotten Maestra who rightfully belongs in the same league as the celebrated symphony titans.

· *Skoryk – Melody*

· *Trew – Come Closer: Songs on Texts by Elizabeth Krehm – Rachel Krehm*

· *Farrenc – Symphony 3*

February 23, 2024

IN THE KEY OF BEETHOVEN FEATURING KEVIN CHEN

Join the TBSO as we welcome the incredible pianist Kevin Chen to the stage to celebrate Beethoven! 17-year old Chen is the youngest ever winner of the Franz Liszt International Piano Competition in 2021; took first place in both the Mozart International Piano Competition in Switzerland and at the Hilton Head International Piano Competition in 2020, won first prize at the Geneva International Music Competition in 2022, and most recently took top prize at the Arthur Rubinstein competition in Tel Aviv in March 2023. Kevin will perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, a delightful piece that will whet the audience's appetite for Beethoven's most famous work: the Fifth Symphony. A truly celebratory sonic experience! Also featured on the program is Pierre Mercure's Kaleidoscope, an aptly-named Canadian masterpiece that celebrates the many colours of the orchestral palette and takes the audience on a wild ride.

· *Mercure – Kaleidoscope*

· *Beethoven – Piano Concerto No.4 – Kevin Chen*

· *Beethoven – Symphony No.5*

April 5, 2024

MEET ME IN VIENNA FEATURING SHARON WEI AND SCOTT ST. JOHN

Nothing can captivate you quite like Viennese music. From Mozart to Schoenberg to Schubert, you will fall in love with the romance and passion of this timeless city. The TBSO invites you to close your eyes and let your heart wander off to Vienna. Also featured is the incredible "Musica Serena" by Canadian composer Elliot Weisgarber. We are also thrilled to welcome incredible duo, Sharon Wei on viola and Scott St. John on violin, whose playing is sure to leave you wanting more!

· *Weisgarber – Musica Serena*

· *Mozart – Sinfonia Concertante – Sharon Wei & Scott St. John*

· *Schoenberg – Chamber Symphony No.2*

· *Schubert – Symphony No.3*

POPS

October 28, 2023

TIME WARP – THE MUSIC OF ROCKY HORROR FEATURING JEANS 'N CLASSICS

Are you ready for the Time Warp? Hot Patootie - Bless My Soul...Jeans 'n Classics is doing the music of Rocky Horror!!! We've never gone quite this theatrical before, but "It's Astounding" how five of our vocalists channel Rocky Horror characters Magenta, Columbia, Frank-N-Furter, Riff Raff, and Brad and Janet in this fun and wild symphonic rock concert, as we present the music of the iconic sci fi-comedy-horror satire.

November 24, 2023

BHANGRA AND BEYOND FEATURING DANIEL BARTHOLOMEW-POYSER, CONDUCTOR AND THE MARITIME BHANGRA GROUP

Bhangra meets classical with Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser in this high energy show! Music moves us in many ways, emotionally and especially physically. Across the globe, there are musical traditions that fuse music and movement in distinct ways. Join us as we see how composers, influenced by the music of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Indian subcontinent, create new sounds and exciting pieces. This show is absolutely guaranteed to have you on your feet singing along to every song, even if you don't know the words!

December 16 , 2023

HOLIDAY POPS

A TBSO classic and a Thunder Bay seasonal-must, the Holiday Pops concert is one of the most popular presentations of the year. A witty, charming perennial holiday concert featuring many holiday music favourites, along with special guests the TBS Chorus, Zorya Ukrainian Dance Co, The Stringlings, and many more!

January 20, 2024

QUARTETTO GELATO

The TBSO is thrilled to join forces with the amazingly effervescent Quartetto Gelato! Virtuoso showpieces and romantic ballads, blazing jazz Manouche tunes and forgotten chestnuts, all brought to life with multi-instrument mastery: this is Quartetto Gelato—a popular and highly unusual classical quartet.

March 9 , 2024

9 TO 5 - THE TBSO WITH BADANAI THEATRE CO.

We had so much fun with Badanai Theatre Co the last time they joined us, we've decided to do it again! This time, we're going to take it up a notch with a Kennedy Centre-style production of Dolly Parton's musical 9 to 5!! 9 TO 5 THE MUSICAL tells the story of three women pushed to boiling point by their sexist and egotistical boss. Concocting a plan to kidnap and turn the tables on their despicable supervisor, will the ladies manage to reform their office – or will events unravel when the CEO pays an unexpected visit?



April 27, 2024

PIANO MEN 2 - FEATURING JIM WITTER

The Piano Men is a musical celebration of the 1970's- year by year, hit by hit- from the songbooks of Billy Joel and Elton John. Award-winning Canadian recording artist Jim Witter and his incredible band lead an expertly crafted tour of an entire decade that begins with "Your Song" and winds us along on a musical time machine, saluting two of the century's most popular contemporary songwriters. The sounds of "My Life", "Candle in the Wind", "Rocket Man", "Just the Way You Are", and many more classic hits create an evening that's so much fun, you won't want it to end. Witter at the grand piano unleashes his golden tenor on hit after hit to recreate landmarks in a pop culture timeline.

FAMILY

October 21 , 2023

TBSO HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

It's the spookiest night of the year as the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra presents our Halloween Spooktacular. An event for the whole family, featuring music from Harry Potter, classic Halloween movies and other SPOOKY tunes, it will be a concert to remember! Wear your favourite costume and bring all your little ghosts and ghouls to enjoy this musical treat!

February 17, 2024

BEETHOVEN LIVES UPSTAIRS

The world famous production of Beethoven Lives Upstairs features a lively exchange of letters between young Christoph and his uncle. Their subject is the "madman" who has moved into the upstairs apartment of Christoph's Vienna home. Through a touching correspondence dramatically underscored with the composer's most beautiful excerpts, the young boy slowly comes to understand the genius of the man, the torment of his deafness and the beauty of his music. The audience will be captivated by more than twenty-five excerpts of the master's music, including the Moonlight Sonata, Fur Elise, and the great Fifth and Ninth Symphonies. The music is magically woven into the drama as two actors share their anecdotes and observations based on true incidents from the composer's life.

April 13 , 2024

THE SPIRIT HORSE RETURNS

Back by popular demand! "The Spirit Horse Returns" is a powerful concert production that combines traditional teachings, original visual art, music, and an all-new orchestral score to tell the story of the Ojibwe Horses, traditional helpers and spirit guides for First Nations and Métis people. It's a journey of hope and reconciliation as Indigenous and non-Indigenous people come together to rescue the last of these horses and give them new life. Suitable for all ages, this production is an entertaining opportunity to learn about Indigenous cultures, reconciliation, and how we all play a part in the future of the land and its inhabitants.



HILDALE CHAMBER SERIES

November 3, 2023

TROPICAL NIGHTS

Join our Chamber Music Series debut concert and experience the vibrant and bold sounds of Latin American music! Each piece showcases the rich and diverse musical traditions of the region, taking audiences on a captivating journey through Latin America’s unique soundscape. Morlock’s “Theft” blends traditional Latin American rhythms with contemporary classical elements, while Santos’ “Ykamiabas” draws inspiration from the Amazonian rainforest. Paquito D’Rivera’s “Aires Tropicales” pays homage to Cuba’s lively and colourful music, and José Evangelista’s “Spanish Garland” takes listeners on a musical voyage through Spain. Get swept away to the tropics with us!

- **Morlock** – *Theft*
- **Santos** – *Ykamiabas*
- **D’Rivera** – *Aires Tropicales*
- **Evangelista** – *Spanish Garland*
- **Ginastera** – *String Quartet No. 1*

December 22, 2023

FLIGHT OF “PHANTASY”

Embark on a delightful musical journey and discover the wonders of British classical music! Gordon Jacob’s “5 Bagatelles” seamlessly blends traditional and modern elements, while Imogen Holst’s “Phantasy Quartet” showcases her masterful use of counterpoint to create a lush tapestry of sound. R. Murray Schafer’s “String Quartet No. 12” experiments with the sonic possibilities of the string quartet, and Gustav Holst’s “Wind Quintet in A-Flat Major” displays the composer’s prowess in harmony and counterpoint. Coleridge Taylor’s “Nonet in f minor” is an evocative piece that mixes classical and folk music. Don’t miss this unforgettable evening celebrating the rich legacy of British classical music.

- **Jacob** — *Five Bagatelles*
- **Holst** — *Phantasy Quartet*
- **Schafer** — *String Quartet No. 12*
- **Holst** — *Wind Quintet in A-Flat Major, Op. 14*
- **Taylor** — *Nonet in f minor, Op. 2*

February 2, 2024

“TRAPÈZE”

Get ready for a thrilling concert of dance, whimsy, and musical acrobatics featuring Ligeti, Archer, Bozza, and Prokofiev! Ligeti’s “6 Bagatelles” mixes jazz and folk music for an energetic performance, while Archer’s “Sonata for Flute, Clarinet & Piano” highlights the versatility of these instruments in a lighthearted piece. Bozza’s “3 Pieces for Brass Quartet” explores the tonal possibilities of brass instruments, and Prokofiev’s “Quintet Op 39 in G minor “Trapèze”” showcases the composer’s skillful use of rhythm and melody in a dazzling and virtuosic piece. Don’t miss this unforgettable concert celebrating the whimsy, dancing, and acrobatics of these dynamic works, whether you’re a seasoned music lover or new to classical music.

- **Ligeti** — *6 Bagatelles*
- **Archer** — *Sonata for Flute, Clarinet & Piano*
- **Bozza** — *3 Pieces for Brass Quartet*
- **Prokofiev** — *Quintet Op 39 in G minor “Trapèze”*

VOICES

December 8/9, 2023

HANDEL’S MESSIAH

You know it. You love it. You want to hear it again and again. From the soft beauty of the opening notes to the resounding joy of the Hallelujah Chorus, this performance promises to uplift and delight audiences during the festive season. Handel’s Messiah transcends cultural, geographic, and religious boundaries with its message of charity, peace, goodwill, and sacrifice. It also contains some of the most uplifting, touching, and magnificent music ever composed.

· **Handel** – *Messiah*

February 9, 2024

DON’T GO BAROQUING MY HEART

Get swept away by one of the most popular classical pieces of all time: Bach’s Concerto in D Minor for 2 violins, played by a truly talented TBSO couple, Christopher Stork and Kimberly Dürflinger. The Thunder Bay Symphony Chorus takes the stage for Bach’s unforgettable cantata “Nach Dir, Herr, verlanget mich”, which translates roughly to “For you, Lord, is my desire.” On top of that, we get to hear a Baroque-inspired contemporary jewel, “Baroque Melting” by Vivian Fung. And it doesn’t stop there! Featuring pieces by Purcell, Gluck, and Rebel, this concert promises to be a wild emotional ride - and a good time!

- **Purcell** – *Selections from The Fairy Queen*
- **Bach** – *Herz und Mund*
- **Bach** – *Nach Dir, Herr, verlanget mich*
- **Bach** – *Concerto in D Minor for 2 Violins – Violins Christopher Stork & Kimberly Dürflinger*
- **Fung** – *Baroque Melting*
- **Rebel** – *Les Elemens*
- **Gluck** – *Dance of the Furies*

March 22, 2024

REQUIEM

The TBSO is absolutely delighted to bring principal bass, Martin Blanchet centre-stage to perform a truly incredible piece. Bottesini’s Concerto No. 2 in B minor is one of his most performed works for the bass. Lyrical and introspective, this piece spans the instrument from the lowest register to the high harmonics. We are certain you will fall in love with this music. You’ll also love listening to the TBS Chorus alongside the Lakehead University Vocal Ensemble in some of the most riveting 20th-century choral music out there: John Rutter’s inspired and haunting “Requiem.” This masterpiece celebrates our departed friends and companions, while simultaneously lifting us up, inspiring us to live our own best lives. If ever there were a concert you won’t want to miss, this would be the one.

· **Raum** – *Evolution*
· **Bottesini** – *Concerto No.2 in B minor*
· **Martin Blanchet**
· **Rutter** – *Requiem*

NORTHERN LIGHTS

November 17, 2023

ALL THAT GLITTERS THE TBSO FT. SPENCER HARI

The divine, witty, charming, glittering, and incredibly talented Spencer Hari has performed locally for over a decade, but would you believe this is his first time collaborating on a full show with the TBSO? Well, it was worth the wait! If you think you’ve seen Spencer Hari perform, just wait till you see what he’s bringing out for this show. Join us for an evening you won’t soon forget.

January 26, 2024

CAN’T CHANGE THE WORLD THE TBSO FT. SHY-ANNE HOVORKA

Shy-Anne Hovorka is no stranger to Thunder Bay audiences. An award-winning songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, humanitarian and performer, whose first three albums have sold over 15,000 + copies worldwide, Shy-Anne brings her heartfelt music to a night of song and storytelling with the TBSO. We are thrilled to have her back with us for a truly spectacular show!

March 1, 2024

FUSION HEAT THE TBSO FT. FLAMENCO CARAVAN

Flamenco Caravan is a Thunder Bay favorite and the TBSO is thrilled to share the stage with them! Blending elements of flamenco, jazz, Latin, sacred and folk music with the sounds of the TBSO, this show promises to delight. The band’s sound is characterized by tight guitar flourishes and smooth vocals, with strong, melodic lyricism and driving and grooving rhythms throughout.



SPECIALS

OCTOBER 27, 2023

OKTOBERFEST AT SLEEPING GIANT BREWERY

Join the TBSO for a night of good brews, and great music! Get up close and personal with TBSO musicians for a chamber music concert like no other- featuring a smorgasbord of musical styles, there will be something for everyone! We are so pleased to partner with Sleeping Giant Brewery for this event- see you there!

December 1, 2023

THE MUSIC OF GORDON LIGHTFOOT WITH RODNEY BROWN

The man. The Legend. The Icon. Join the TBSO for a tribute to one of the greatest songwriters of all time, Gordon Lightfoot. The backdrop to so many road trips, camping trips, nights spent with friends, nights spent missing friends, experience the music that has become the soundtrack to life in Canada.

MAY 4, 2024

NOONDAAGOTOON!

Noondaagotoon, means play it (so it makes a sound) in Ojibway. If you've been to a Noondaagotoon concert, you know this to be true. This annual collaboration between the TBSO and Indigenous performers has become one of the highlights of our season. It is an exciting opportunity to strengthen long-standing relationships – and establish new ones – while creating space for musical reconciliation with Fort William First Nation.



PRICING

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS BY SERIES

\$25 FAMILY

\$30 HILLDALE

\$40 VOICES

\$40 NORTHERN LIGHTS

\$50 MASTERWORKS OR POPS

CHILDREN 50% OFF ADULT PRICING

SELECT PACKAGES

Purchase tickets for the whole season in advance and save. Select packages can be purchased online or in person at the TBCA box office.

SELECT 6 PACKAGE
\$270

Save 10% versus purchasing individually.

SELECT 8 PACKAGE
\$350

Save 13% versus purchasing individually.

SELECT 10 PACKAGE
\$410

Save 18% versus purchasing individually.

PURCHASE TODAY!

PURCHASE ONLINE

Go to tbso.ca to get more information on shows and to purchase tickets! All Masterworks and Pops show tickets are sold through Ticketmaster via tbso.ca. (All other tickets are sold through Universe at tbso.ca.)

PURCHASE IN-PERSON (POPS AND MASTERWORKS ONLY)

The TBCA box office is open Wednesdays from 12:30-5:30pm. TBCA Box Office: 1 Paul Shaffer Drive.

PURCHASE AT THE DOOR

You can always purchase tickets at the door for any show.

CONCERT VENUES

Concert venues vary depending on the series and show. Venues and times are listed on the individual concert description on tbso.ca.



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