

# PROGRAMME

*Conductor: Carlos Vasquez*  
*Piano: Michael Berkovsky*

## “Around The World in 80 Minutes”

**Gioachino Rossini** *Overture to La Gazza Ladra*

**Edvard Grieg** *Piano Concerto in A minor*  
*Op.16*  
I. *Allegro moderato*  
II. *Andante con moto*  
III. *Rondo (Vivace)*

*(15 minute intermission)*

**Johann Strauss II** *Voices of Spring Waltz*  
*Op.410*

**Inocente Carreño** *“Margariteña”*  
*Glosa Sinfónica*

**Alexander Borodin** *Polovtsian Dances from*  
*Prince Igor (Nos. 8 & 17)*

# NOTES

**Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868):** *Overture to La Gazza Ladra*

The Overture begins with a bold, military rattle of snare drums, a nod to the "thieving magpie" at the heart of this tale. Legend has it that the conductor for the premiere, fed up with Rossini's procrastination, locked the composer in a top-floor room at La Scala the day before the curtain rose. Guarded by stagehands, Rossini was forced to write page by page, tossing each sheet out the window to copyists waiting below. The result is a masterpiece blending rhythmic wit with frantic, last-minute energy.

**Edvard Grieg (1843-1907):** *Piano Concerto in A minor Op.16*

From the opening timpani roll that leads to a dramatic piano entrance, the first movement alternates between moments of intense lyricism and dramatic flourishes, concluding with a virtuosic cadenza. The second movement is lyrical, in the distant key of D flat major and leads directly into the finale, which opens with an energetic Norwegian dance. A contrasting lyrical theme forms the basis of the middle section and that same theme is transformed into a “Hollywood style” conclusion.

**Johann Strauss II (1825-1899):** *Voices of Spring Waltz Op.410*

The famous grand entry is followed by the first waltz's gentle and swirling melody. The second waltz invokes the joys of spring with the flute imitating birdsong and a pastoral scene. The plaintive and dramatic third waltz might suggest spring showers whereas the fourth waltz breaks away from the pensive mood with another cheerful melody. Finally, the familiar first waltz melody makes a grand reentrance followed by a breathless finish, the usual timpani drumroll, and warm brass flourish.

**Inocente Carreño (1919-2016):** *“Margariteña” Glosa Sinfónica*

The title refers both to the island of Margarita, Carreño's birthplace, and to the Venezuelan song “Margarita is a Tear” that is the main theme. The theme is introduced by the solo horn and later played by the cello section. Episodes follow using two other traditional melodies, “Song of Pilon” and a vibrant version of “Song of Velorio”, punctuated by echoes of the opening in the horns. A brief pause leads to a playful treatment of the children's song “Tiguitiguitos” before a return to the main theme that closes a landmark work of Venezuelan musical nationalism.

**Alexander Borodin (1833-1887):** *Polovtsian Dances from Prince Igor (Nos. 8 & 17)*

These dances are popular orchestral showpieces, performed with the choral parts omitted. No.8 (“Dance of the Polovtsian Maidens”) is a lively dance that opens with a virtuosic and long clarinet solo and continues with a driving rhythm. No.17 (“Polovtsian Dance with Chorus”) is a series of dances in contrasting sections. The first dance (“Gliding Dance of the Maidens”) contains perhaps the most recognizable melody of the piece that appears numerous times.



## ORCHESTRA

### Violin I

Dean Wang, concertmaster  
Jean-Paul Desaulniers  
Paul Froese  
Julie Kerekes  
Josh Lau  
Lea Ollagnier  
Hiroko Sawai  
Nick Xie

### Violin II

Michael Lee\*  
Linda Byron  
Gillian Chen  
Wendy Frey  
Boekhren Karyostyko  
Jeanine Mollineau  
Alexandra Soloman

### Viola

Velma Ko\*  
Ivanka Ivcevic  
Veronica Koopmans  
Caroline Pai  
Jessamyn Schertz  
Madeleine Spence  
Beverlee Swayze

### Cello

Leanne Wright\*  
Tom Lee  
Warren Lee  
Robert Rinkoff  
Amit Rotem  
Stephany Seki  
Robert Wu

### Double Bass

Stone He\*  
Anthony Damtsis  
Ian Werker

### Harp

Catherine Liu

### Flute

Laurie Hamilton  
Jaye Marsh  
Hyejin (Jinny) Yoon

### Oboe

Eric Dai\*  
Klein Li  
Cristina Sewerin

### Clarinet

Jennifer Bucci  
Danielle Waxer

### Bassoon

Dorothy Ward  
Roland Wilk

### Horn

Chris Buchner\*  
Duncan Andrews  
Rebecca Davies  
Derek Ellis

### Trumpet

Claire Dossantos\*  
Emanuel Ciucur  
Simon Leung

### Trombone

Sophie Chiu\*  
Chenhao Gong  
Shaiyan Keshvari

### Tuba

Masaru (Xian) Lin

### Timpani

Tim Francom

### Percussion

Christopher Wong\*  
Vincent Jia  
Sydney Orlander  
Marion Wilk  
Yvonne Yik

\*Principal



Rosedale  
Symphony  
Orchestra

Overture to La Gazza Ladra  
Rossini

Piano Concerto in A minor Op.16  
Grieg

Glosa Sinfónica "Margariteña"  
Carreño

Voices of Spring Waltz Op.410  
Strauss II

"Polovtsian Dances" from  
Prince Igor (Nos. 8 & 17)  
Borodin

**Conductor**  
Carlos Vasquez

**Soloist**  
Michael Berkovsky

TICKETS  
Admission is by donation  
VENUE  
Calvin Presbyterian Church,  
26 Delisle Ave, Toronto

FEB 8  
2026  
8pm