

PROGRAMME

Conductor: Suzanne Yeo

Piano: Darren Lee

L van Beethoven

*Piano Concerto no.4 in
G major Op.58*

- I. Allegro moderato*
- II. Andante con moto*
- III. Rondo (Vivace)*

(Intermission)

Giuseppe Verdi

*Overture to La forza del
destino*

Georges Bizet

Carmen Suite no.1

- I. Prélude*
- II. Aragonaise*
- III. Intermezzo*
- IV. Séguedille*
- V. Les Dragons d'Alcala*
- VI. Les Toréadors*

Franz Liszt

Les Préludes, S.97

NOTES

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827): *Piano Concerto no.4 in G major Op.58*

The Fourth Piano Concerto was groundbreaking in that instead of the usual orchestra introduction, it opens with piano soliloquy that is inward and simple. From there, the movement grows into moments of grandeur and brilliance. However, what is most memorable is the tender lyricism, delicacy, warmth of tone, and especially moments of intimate, chamber music-like exchange between piano and orchestra. Following in the second movement, orchestral strings and piano alternate and finally combine in a powerful and moving dialogue: strings initially brusque and rhythmically jagged with piano soothing and placatory. The finale is playful and brilliant with much interplay between piano and orchestra – the trumpets and drums are now featured but there are still contrasting moments of poetry to contrast.

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901): *Overture to La forza del destino*

The intensity of Verdi's melodramatics in his opera is certainly apparent in the overture. The six opening brass exclamations create an atmosphere of foreboding and the agitated theme that follows fully conveys the doom and gloom. This motif, associated with the tragic destiny of the main characters, dominates the Overture. Many of the main themes from the opera are heard and in the process, musical dark and light alternate. The melodies from the opera intertwine throughout and lead to a thundering conclusion.

Georges Bizet (1838-1875): *Carmen Suite no.1 (arr. Ernest Guiraud)*

This suite contains music derived from the opera and was published years after Bizet's death. The opening prelude introduces the ominous theme associated with both Carmen and her fate at the hands of her lover, Don Jose. The following aragonaise (a dance from Aragon in Spain) is the festive yet sinuous music that opens the final act of the opera as crowds arrive for a parade outside the bullring. An intermezzo, a serenely melancholic section based on the prelude to the final act, leads to a séguedille that Carmen sings to seduce Jose. The suite ends with a jaunty military march, "Les Dragons d'Alcala", followed by the famous march "Les Toréadores", the entry of the bullfighters, which is the opening piece of the opera.

Franz Liszt (1811-1886): *Les Préludes, S.97*

Les Préludes is the third and most popular of his 12 symphonic poems. Here we have a free form in which a few basic themes undergo continuous transformation of melody, rhythm, harmony, timbre, dynamics, or tempo. Liszt's program note to the piece indicates that it is considered a musical depiction of a poem by Alphonse Lamartine. The poem starts off as "What is life but a series of preludes to that unknown song whose initial solemn note is tolled by Death?".



ORCHESTRA

Violin I

Dean Wang, concertmaster
Boekhren Karyostyko
Julie Kerekes
Hiroko Sawai
Jesse Tamang
Nick Xie

Violin II

Michael Lee*
Linda Byron
Susan Chan
Gillian Chen
Wendy Frey
Jeanine Mollineau
Caroline Pai
Alexandra Soloman

Viola

Velma Ko*
Elly Hooker
Mateo Ham
Cendri Hutcherson
Ivanka Ivcevic
Jaime Yan

Cello

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

Double Bass

Ian Werker*
Anthony Damtsis
Stone He
Jude Littlefield Buschlen

Flute

Claire Lee*
Iverson Bumanglag
Laurie Hamilton

Oboe

Ashlyn Lee
Klein Li

Clarinet

Sean Lin*
Rita Greer

Bassoon

Robert Lu*
Kevin Seymour

Horn

Chris Buchner*
Duncan Andrews
Rebecca Davies
Derek Ellis

Trumpet

Claire Dossantos*
Simon Leung

Trombone

Sophie Chiu*
Chenhao Gong
Shaiyan Keshvari

Tuba

Brian Truong

Harp

Catherine Liu

Timpani

Tim Francom

Percussion

Christopher Wong*
Scott McBride
Yvonne Yik

*Principal



Rosedale
Symphony
Orchestra

Overture: La forza del destino
G. Verdi

Les Préludes
F. Liszt

Carmen Suite no.1
G. Bizet - E. Guiraud

Piano Concerto no.4 in G major Op.58
L. van Beethoven

Conductor
Suzanne Yeo

Piano
Darren Lee

June 21
2025
8pm

Admission is by donation

Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Ave, Toronto