



**COUNTERPOINT
COMMUNITY
ORCHESTRA**

2022/2023 SEASON

HOLIDAY CORNUCOPIA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022

7:30PM | ROSEDALE UNITED CHURCH

159 ROXBOROUGH DR - TORONTO, ON

Message from the Board

A warm welcome to the first concert of the CCO's 39 th season! Our season continues with concerts on March 25 and June 10. Please plan on joining us again. The CCO has been as musically creative as possible through two years of public health restrictions. In 2021, we launched "Playing in the Park", a short, outdoor summer season in Allan Gardens, offering the joy of live performance to the users of the Park on Sunday afternoons. In June, 2022, our "United with Ukraine" fundraising concert, here at lovely Rosedale United Church, raised a significant donation to the Red Cross for Ukrainian support programmes; we played music that evening that was both beautiful and triumphant.

Tonight, we are featuring three talented women. First, Rebecca Gray is someone you may have heard as a first violinist with the CCO. Rebecca is now building a busy career as an opera soprano and a composer. Fortunately, she found the time for this performance with her former orchestral colleagues. Also featured is Helen Li, the CCO's principal clarinetist. Helen first played the movement from Mozart's clarinet concerto that she is playing tonight as part of the CCO's "Playing in the Park" 2022 summer season. It will be lovely again!

The CCO's guest of honour is Angela Swan. In 2021, the Governor General appointed Angela as an Officer of the Order of Canada for outstanding contributions to the legal profession, as a lawyer, professor, author and mentor. Angela is also a proud and happy trans woman. The CCO applauds her legal accomplishments and also honours her as a truly wonderful role model. The public recognition and wide acclaim she has received justify her philosophy about being true to one's self: "Expect Acceptance". The CCO Board commissioned our long-standing member, Andrew McClure to compose a piece in Angela's honour, "Journeys, for Angela", which is premiering tonight.

Finally, the CCO is pleased to once again have the assistance of Enza Anderson. She is such a well-known Toronto personality that all we need to say is thank you to Enza for her loyalty as the CCO's regular and enthusiastic concert host.

BOARD MEMBERS

Chairperson - Elizabeth Mitchell

Vice Chairperson - Daniel Payne

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Directors: Andrew Lam, David Brownstone, Tetsuya Kobayashi

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HOLIDAY CORNUCOPIA

Saturday, December 10, 2023 | 7:30pm
Rosedale United Church

PROGRAM

- Overture to Hansel und Gretel (Vorspiel)Humperdinck
- Adagio from Clarinet Concerto.....Mozart
Helen Li, Clarinet
- Messiah - Rejoice greatly, o daughter of Zion.....Handel
Rebecca Gray, Soprano
- Exsultate Jubilate.....Mozart
Rebecca Gray, Soprano
1. Exsultate jubilate – Allegro
2. Tu virginum corona – Andante
3. Alleluja – Molto allegro
- Journeys, for Angela Swan..... Andrew McClure
- Soirees Musicales..... Britten
- A Christmas Festival..... Anderson
-

Please note there will be no intermission.

Andrew Chung - Music Director and Conductor
Gemma Donn - Paul Willis Concertmaster Chair
Leslie Townsend, Guest Concertmaster
Enza Anderson - Emcee

OUR CONDUCTOR



Appointed Music Director of the Counterpoint Community Orchestra in June 2017, Andrew Chung also serves as the Music Director of the Silverthorn Symphonic Winds and the Mississauga Pops Concert Band. While attending the University of Toronto, he was appointed Music Director of the Pickering Philharmonic Orchestra and Assistant Conductor of the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He has also served as Music Assistant to the Opera Mississauga. He has guest conducted the Hart House Orchestra, the North York Concert Orchestra, the Toronto Philharmonic, Korean Canadian Symphony Orchestra, Northdale Concert Band, the Toronto Chinese Youth Orchestra,

the Mississauga Youth Orchestra, the Toronto Youth Orchestra, the Hong Kong Symphonic Band, the Hong Kong Youth Symphonic Band and the Hong Kong Chamber Wind Philharmonic.

As an orchestra musician, Mr. Chung served as the principal trumpet with the Hong Kong Chamber Orchestra, the Hong Kong Youth Symphony, the Asia Youth Orchestra (under the direction of Yehudi Menuhin and Alexander Schneider) and the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. He made his solo debut with the Moordale Festival Orchestra.

Mr. Chung attended the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, the University of Hong Kong, the University of Toronto and the University of Freiburg, Germany. His trumpet teachers include Stephen Chenette, Robert Nagel, Henry Nowak, Jeffrey Reynolds and Larry Weeks. He also studied privately with Arnold Jacobs and Murray Crewe. A scholarship from the Centre d'Arts Orford allowed him to study conducting with Raffi Armenian and Agnes Grossman. He has also participated in the Conductors Apprentice Program with the Huntsville Festival of the Arts Orchestra. His other conducting teachers include Dwight Bennett, Tak-Ng Lai and Kerry Stratton.

REBECCA GRAY



Rebecca Gray is a soprano, composer and improviser passionate about performing and creating fresh, complex and inclusive new works. As a soprano, she has performed with Pacific Opera Victoria, Esprit Orchestra, Tapestry Opera, Opera Q, and is a member of FAWN chamber creative. She loves contributing to Canada's queer opera scene as a performer and composer, and has presented compositions at Nuit Rose, the Montreal Contemporary Music Lab, the Toronto Creative Music lab, the Atlantic Music Festival and the Banff Centre. She participated in the Canadian League of Composer's PIVOT mentorship program, and participated in Soundstreams' Young Composer

Workshop in 2021. She recently won the Mécénat Musica Prix 3 Femmes, for which she will compose an opera about Toronto raccoons and the housing crisis.

HELEN LI



Helen originally wanted to take up the saxophone, but her grade five music Guest teacher said she must learn to play the clarinet first. Luckily she ended up enjoying the clarinet and studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Helen has been playing clarinet with Counterpoint Community Orchestra since 2005, and is a founding member of the WindWerx woodwind quintet. She also plays bass clarinet in her clarinet quartet and in community orchestras around the GTA. When not clarinetting, she enjoys indoor rock climbing and tending to all the houseplants she acquired during the pandemic.

ANDREW MCCLURE



Andrew McClure studied composition at McGill University and at the Nordwestdeutsche Musikakademie in Detmold, West Germany. He is a founding member of Open Score, a contemporary Canadian chamber ensemble, and of First Draft, an interdisciplinary performance ensemble. His works include music for spoken voices, and solo, chamber and orchestral works which have been performed across Canada, and published by Ouroboros, under various editions, and presented on CBC radio. Recent performances include Lament for solo cello for those lost in the serial killings in the Gay Village (LGBTQ classical Showcase, University of Toronto) and Elegy, first performed by Counterpoint for those lost at the Pulse nightclub in

Orlando. Tonight, the orchestra performs a new work by Andrew McClure: “Journeys, for Angela”, as a thank you to Angela Swan for being a role model and an inspiration to the 2SLGBTQIA community.

SHARING THE MAGIC OF MUSIC

Counterpoint Community Orchestra has been operating as a community orchestra in downtown Toronto. Formed in 1984, it was the first 2SLGBTQIA+ orchestra in Canada. Counterpoint is a full symphony orchestra with a repertoire drawn from the Baroque through to the contemporary period.

We believe that music is at the heart of a community, so we use our talents to help bring people together to celebrate diversity, creativity, and excellence.

We encourage all to join in supporting our mandate as performers, volunteers, or donors.

ANGELA SWAN



Angela Swan, O.C., B.Com., LL.B. (U.B.C.), B.C.L. (Oxon.), LL. D. (honoris causa) (Law Society of Ontario, McGill University), is a Life Member of the Law Society of Ontario. She is Counsel and a member of the Capital Markets and Corporate/Commercial Practice Groups at Aird Berlis LLP in Toronto. She is an Adjunct Professor at the Osgoode Hall Law School of York University where she teaches courses on Contracts. She was a Professor of Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, from 1965 to 1988, and at McGill University from 1996 to 2002. She has also been a sessional lecturer at Queen's University and a visiting Lansdowne Professor at the University of Victoria. She was previously a Partner at Aird

Berlis LLP, and an associate at Stikeman Elliott LLP in Montreal. Her areas of expertise include contract law, corporate law and the conflict of laws. She is the author of many chapters in books, articles, papers, presentations and case comments. Her principal work is, with Jakub Adamski and Annie Na, *Canadian Contract Law*, 4th ed. (Toronto: LexisNexis, 2018). The first edition of this text was awarded the Walter Owen Book Prize, 2006, by the Canadian Bar Association. She is a co-author, with Jakub Adamski, of the *Contracts* volume for *Halsbury's Laws of Canada* and of *Swan, Bala & Adamski, Contracts: Cases, Notes and Materials*, 10th ed. (Markham, ON: LexisNexis, 2020) She was given the Distinguished Service Award of the Ontario Bar Association in 2016, an LL.D. (honoris causa) by the Law Society of Ontario in 2019, an LL.D. (honoris causa) by McGill University in 2021, and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2021. She has five children and fourteen grandchildren who give her more joy than she had ever believed possible.

Angela's story is described in an on-demand video, *Expect Acceptance: The Story of Transgender Lawyer Angela Swan & Her Daughter Ellen Swan*, available directly through this QR code:



SING-A-LONG - CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Joy To the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'en and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Deck the Halls

Deck the hall with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la la la la.
'Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la la la la.
Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la la la la la la.
Toll the ancient yu-tide carol,
Fa la la la la la la la.

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentleman; let nothing you dismay.
Remember, Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the Feast of Stephen
When the snow lay round about
Deep and crisp and even
Brightly shone the moon that night
Though the frost was cruel
When a poor man came in sight
Gathering winter fuel

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations rise,

SING-A-LONG - CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,

Silent Night

Silent night, Holy night, all is calm, all is bright.
'Round yon Virgin Mother and Child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow,
In a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields so laughing all the way:
Bells on bobtail ring. Making spirits bright;
What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight.
Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way;
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh, hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way;
Oh, what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh.
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way;
Oh, what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh, hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way;
Oh, what fun it is to ride In a one-horse open sleigh.

Adeste Fideles/O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels
Oh, come let us adore Him,
Oh, come let us adore Him,
Oh, come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

COUNTERPOINT COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Music Director and Conductor - Andrew Chung
Paul Willis Concertmaster Chair - Gemma Donn

Violin I

Leslie Townsend •
Alessandra Bosch-
Spiteri
Raymond Fung
Israel Matos
Chris Richards-Bentley
Pona Tran

Violin II

Chris Yoshida *
Megan Foley
Rick Fraser
Hanna Gans
Elizabeth Mitchell
Robert Mitchell
Ricky Tsai
Renee Vroom

Viola

Erick Oliver
Wawrzekiewicz *
Nicolas Alby-Gabara
Venita Sitahal
Jenny Shaw
Jaedon Daly

Cello

Daniel Payne *
Zhen-Ying Chen
Terry Jackman
Robert Mitchell +
Russell Westkirk

Flute

Tetsuya Kobayashi *
Tai Stanley Chan

Piccolo

Tai Stanley Chan

Oboe

Elizabeth Brown *
Abigail de Niverville

Clarinet

Helen Li *
Alex Puettner

Bassoon

Kevin Seymour *
Dorothy Ward •

Trumpet

Claire Dos Santos
Tyler Peck

French Horn

Toby Milton *
Kat Furtado •
Caroline Spearing
Steven Vande Moortele

Trombone

Martin Hubel •
Stan Van Zuylen •

Bass Trombone

Mackay Chan

Tuba

Dan Manley

Percussion

Brad Kilpatrick •
Aaron Orians •

PROGRAM NOTES

Overture to Hansel und Gretel (Vorspiel) - Humperdinck

This wonderful piece was composed by German musician and composer Engelbert Humperdinck (no, not the English pop singer!) in 1892 after his sister asked him to write four songs based on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale for her children to perform. From this, Humperdinck ended up creating an entire opera.

The opening overture, which is a potpourri of tunes taken from the opera's arias and choruses, stands on its own as a musical piece. The music is light and begins with a serene brass chorale led by the French horns, followed by a section of playful brass fanfare commanded by the trumpets. In the piece Humperdinck uses the upper winds to help segue to each new section; keep an ear out for the piccolo as it is used for this purpose several times. In the final passages, the horn motif returns with a countermelody from the oboe, flute and upper strings to create a magical feel.

Adagio from Clarinet Concerto - Mozart

Our principal clarinet Helen Li, performs this delightful work by musical genius Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Composed just two months before his death in 1791, the three-movement concerto for clarinet and chamber orchestra blends lyrical passages with those of demanding technique. It is widely considered the first great piece written for at the time the young instrument, the clarinet. Mozart composed this piece for a friend, Anton Stadler. Interestingly, the autograph manuscript of the concerto was in Stadler's care after Mozart's death but is now lost.

PROGRAM NOTES

Messiah - Rejoice greatly, o daughter of Zion - Handel

Written in 1742 this movement from Handel's masterpiece, the Messiah, is a prime example of Baroque music. In the movement performed tonight, the genre is an aria. In the beginning and ending section, the music has an overall bouncy and joyous feel and is performed in the major keys. The middle section takes a theatrical turn with much smoother sounds in the minor keys. The instrumentation is an orchestra plus a single soprano singer. CCO is particularly lucky to have soprano Rebecca Gray perform this piece tonight, this movement takes great talent for singers to perform due to very fast sixteenth notes and triplet trills.

Exsultate Jubilate - Mozart

Exsultate, Jubilate, K 165, ("Rejoice, Be Glad") is a three-movement composition that can be performed with or without an orchestra. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart composed this piece in 1773 while he was still a teenager. Already employed as a sacred music writer, this was written while on tour in Italy with his father. Originally composed for Italian opera performer, Venanzio Rauzzini, who had a powerful high voice, the piece now is usually performed by female sopranos, tonight that will be Rebecca Gray. The text is joyful which is reflected in the music and the final movement is especially brilliant as one word, Alleluia, is set to music by the genius composer.

Journeys, for Angela Swan - Andrew McClure

This piece is about immigration and transitions and how things stay the same despite changes. It begins with an old Irish hymn, followed by an ocean journey, and then a nostalgic, perhaps wistful waltz in 5/8 time. The piece ends with the same Irish hymn transformed, which has now become a cheerful Canadian jig. This piece inspires us to see things from a different perspective to see another beautiful side of what's around us. "Journeys, for Angela" is dedicated to tonight's guest of honour, Angela Swan, as a thank you for being a role model and an inspiration to the 2SLGBTQIA community

PROGRAM NOTES

Soirees Musicales - Britten

Premiered in 1937, *Soirées Musicales*, (Musical Evenings), Op. 9, is a suite of five movements by English composer Benjamin Britten, using music composed by Gioachino Rossini. The piece came together after Britten, who was working in films, was composing music for promotional documentaries, in this case the short film called *The Tocher*. Britten arranged a score for boys' voices, flute (doubling piccolo), oboe, clarinet, piano and percussion. A year after the premiere, the whimsical work was made into a ballet and presented at the London Palladium.

A Christmas Festival - Anderson

Arthur Fiedler asked Leroy Anderson to write a special concert piece for a Christmas recording in 1950. Anderson selected some of the most popular Christmas carols and songs, including: *Joy To the World*; *Deck the Halls*; *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*; *Good King Wenceslas*; *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*; *Silent Night*; *Jingle Bells* and *Adeste Fideles*. Tonight we can sing along with our wonderful Soprano, Rebecca Gray.



SUPPORT THE CCO

A tax receipt will be issued to \$20 and above.

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Acknowledgement of your support for 3 concert programmes

FRIENDS (\$25 - \$99)

Acknowledgement of your support for 3 concert programmes

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CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE (\$1000 and ABOVE)

Benefits include Acknowledgment in each concert program, a CD recording of a performance, 2 sets of season tickets

3 ways to donate:

1. At the door on the night of concert!

2. Canada Helps:

ccorchestra.org/donate

3. Through Canada Post:
Counterpoint Community Orchestra
20 Bloor Street East, Box 75134
Toronto, Ontario
M4W 3T3



DONOR LIST

Thank you to all our donors for their wonderful support. They help our orchestra thrive! This donor list includes donation we received between 2021 January - 2022 November as we were unable to honour our donors during pandemic.



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Kim Montgomery
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BILL MCQUEEN SCHOLARSHIP

The Bill McQueen Music Scholarship is an annual scholarship, funded by a generous donation from Mr. Addison Tallman, a long-time supporter and former Director of Counterpoint. The Scholarship is in memory of one of our founding members, clarinetist Bill McQueen. It is available to tertiary-level instrumental music students in the Greater Toronto Area, and winners will play with Counterpoint during the season. It provides an opportunity for even more engagement with the music community, and to bring an exciting performing experience to young musicians. ‘

We are pleased to announce that Jaedon Daly has won this scholarship for the 2022-2023 season. Jaedon Daly is a Violinist/Violist and a music student at the University of Toronto. The CCO is delighted to welcome him to our musical family.

VOLUNTEER LIST

Enza Anderson
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Chris Yoshida



CCO's Holiday Cornucopia concert, Dec. 10, 2022, welcomes lyric soprano Caitlin Wood to perform;

- Messiah - Rejoice greatly, o daughter of Zion
- Exsultate Jubilate
- A Christmas Festival



Caitlin Wood, Soprano

Alberta-born soprano Caitlin Wood was “absolutely vibrant” and showed “great comic flair” in her debut as *Susanna* in Vancouver Opera Festival’s *The Marriage of Figaro*. Caitlin portrayed *Ava* in City Opera Vancouver’s 2017 world premiere of Marie Clements/Brian Current’s powerful opera *Missing*, showing “exquisite vulnerability”.

Mark Morris called Caitlin’s recent *Comtesse Adele* “the standout performance of the evening” in *Le Comte Ory* at Edmonton Opera. As *Susanna* in their 2020 production of *Marriage of Figaro*, Caitlin was hailed as “an exceptional soprano with excellent comedy”.

In 2022, Caitlin portrayed *The Housewife* in the multi-Dora Award nominated world premiere of Gould’s *Wall* (Current/Balkan) with Tapestry Opera and was a sparkling *Despina* in Edmonton Opera’s *Così fan Tutte*. As *Josephine* in *HMS Pinafore* with Vancouver Opera, Janet Smith observed: “Capturing the full range of emotions of her character, Caitlin Wood has a vibrant soprano voice that easily scales the heights of Josephine’s arias.”

Recent concert performances for Caitlin include Vancouver Bach Choir/Vancouver Opera Festival’s premiere of Brian Current’s *The River of Light*, *Carmina Burana* with Ottawa Choral Society, and Mozart’s *Requiem* with Windsor Symphony Orchestra. In 2023, Caitlin debuts with Regina Symphony Orchestra’s baroque series in Bach’s *Cantata No. 202, Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten*.

Caitlin is featured in several OperaBreaks, cinematic videos produced by Domoney Artists Management, and voices Iona the cockatiel in Opera 5’s charming, animated video in collaboration with Kingston Symphony, *Threepenny Submarine*.