



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EMV Announces 11 New Concerts for the Remainder of its 51st Season *Includes performances by Canadian icon Angela Hewitt, recorder virtuoso Vincent Lauzer, and returning EMV favourites*

Vancouver, BC – Early Music Vancouver (EMV) begins the second half of its 51st season on **Wednesday January 13, 2021 at 7:30pm** as part of its Digital Concert Hall. The virtual season will continue to be released on a bi-weekly basis, concluding on June 2, 2021. The 11 concerts feature a diverse range of programs, including J.S. Bach’s *Brandenburg Concerto no. 5* performed by the Pacific Baroque Orchestra, West African music performed by Ensemble Constantinople and kora player Ablaye Cissoko, and a recital of 19th century lieder sung by Vancouver native Tyler Duncan accompanied by Erika Switzer on fortepiano.

The first concert of the new year will be *Vivaldi & Bach: The Trio Sonata in the 18th Century*, performed by veterans of the early music movement, Marc Destrubé, former Music Director of the Pacific Baroque Orchestra and co-concertmaster of the Orchestra of the 18th Century, Jeanne Lamon, Tafelmusik Music Director Emerita, Christina Mahler, former principal cellist of Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, as well as Christina Hutten, keyboardist of the Pacific Baroque Orchestra. Other notable concerts include *New Music for Old Instruments* in which the Pacific Baroque Orchestra performs newly commissioned pieces from BC-based composers in collaboration with Vancouver Pro Musica; *Metamorfosi*, showcasing music by Barbara Strozzi in the context of music from the Persian and Ottoman Empires performed by Ensemble Constantinople and incoming Artistic & Executive Director of EMV, Suzie LeBlanc; Angela Hewitt in recital performing J.S. Bach and Couperin; among others.

The remaining concerts of the 51st season are programmed by former Executive & Artistic Director of EMV Matthew White who is now the CEO of the Victoria Symphony.

The Digital Concert Hall will continue to be hosted by Bill Richardson, author and beloved former CBC radio host of *Saturday Afternoon at the Opera* and *In Concert*. All concerts premiere on EMV’s Youtube channel and on channel 710 for Telus Optik Subscribers and are available to watch for one year after each premiere date.

The second half of the season comes off the heels of a highly successful first half. The initial batch of concerts that debuted between September and December of 2020 have garnered more than 10,000 views, with audience members spanning across the country and to the U.S., Europe, and beyond.

SCHEDULE AND CONCERT DESCRIPTIONS:

All concerts premiere at 7:30PM and are available to stream for one year

Wednesday January 13, 2021

Vivaldi & Bach: The Trio Sonata in the 18th Century

Musicians: Jeanne Lamon, violin, Marc Destrubé, violin, Christina Mahler, cello, Christina Hutten, harpsichord

Enjoy two of Canada’s most revered and influential violinists specializing in historically informed performance practice, Jeanne Lamon, Tafelmusik Music Director Emerita, and Marc Destrubé, longtime concertmaster of the Orchestra of the 18th Century as they sample the splendours of Baroque chamber music as realized by the great J.S. Bach, Antonio Vivaldi, and French composers Jean-Marie Leclair and Marin Marais.

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Wednesday January 27, 2021

J.S. Bach Concertos feat. Pacific Baroque Orchestra

Musicians: Alexander Weimann, music director, Pacific Baroque Orchestra

Two of J.S. Bach's most beloved concertos exuberantly celebrate ensemble playing, a joy keenly felt by the musicians of Pacific Baroque Orchestra during this time of isolation. Each concerto features not a single soloist but rather a trio – flute, violin, and harpsichord in Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 and two violins accompanied by bass instruments in the Double Violin Concerto. The rest of the ensemble supports the soloists and comments on their playing often in a song-like alternation of catchy tutti refrain and fanciful solo verse.

Wednesday February 10, 2021

Love Near, Love Far feat. Tyler Duncan, baritone, Erika Switzer, fortepiano

Musicians: Tyler Duncan, baritone, Erika Switzer, fortepiano

Love Near, Love Far - a timely and timeless state of longing. Early Music Vancouver recently received an historic and beautifully maintained 1870 Broadwood piano that still possesses its original parts as a gift to the society from John and Patricia Lee. This instrument has been meticulously restored to sound exactly as it would have 150 years ago and is the perfect vehicle for these late 19th century songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Charles Gounod, Cécile Chaminade, and Hugo Wolf.

Wednesday February 24, 2021

Over the Alps: Music of 17th Century Italy & Austria

Musicians: La Modestine, Marc Destrubé, violin, Kathryn Wiebe, violin, Jeremy Berkman, sackbut, Natalie Mackie, viola da gamba, Katrina Russell, dulcian, Michael Jarvis, organ

The audience for 'classical music' is well familiar with instrumental music from Corelli to Stravinsky, but largely ignores some wonderful repertoire composed before and since. This program highlights instrumental music composed in Austria and Italy in the 17th century, a time when composers innovated and experimented with musical forms, and explored the technical possibilities and distinct sonorities of individual instruments, including the sackbut (early trombone) and dulcian (early bassoon) as well as string and keyboard instruments.

Wednesday March 10, 2021

Corelli, Janitsch, and J.B. Bach feat. EMV's Baroque Mentorship Orchestra

Musicians: Alexander Weimann, music director, Chloe Meyers, violin (ensemble mentor), Natalie Mackie, gamba (ensemble mentor), Baroque Mentorship Orchestra

A collaboration between Early Music Vancouver, the UBC School of Music, and the Pacific Baroque Orchestra, the Baroque Orchestra Mentorship Programme gives student and community players the chance to play side by side with experts in historically informed performance. This unique mentorship initiative is designed to foster the next generation of early music performers. Members of the Baroque Mentorship Orchestra reconvened at the Chan Centre to record this varied programme of German and Italian instrumental music. Smaller chamber ensembles and the full baroque string orchestra play the music of Arcangelo Corelli, J.G. Janitsch, and J.B. Bach, one of J.S. Bach's talented cousins.

Wednesday March 24, 2021

New Music for Old Instruments feat. Pacific Baroque Orchestra

Musicians: Alexander Weimann, music director, Pacific Baroque Orchestra

A remounting of last year's cancelled event which also celebrated the Pacific Baroque Orchestra's 30th anniversary, New Music for Old Instruments returns in collaboration with Vancouver Pro Musica as part of their Sonic Boom Festival. This special concert features new compositions written for the period instruments of the PBO. All composers are BC-based, highlighting the emerging talent of BC's burgeoning composers.

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Wednesday April 7, 2021

Dynamic Duos: Memorable Partnerships in 18th Century England

Musicians: Luchkow-Jarvis Duo, Paul Luchkow, violin, Michael Jarvis, fortepiano

Rogers & Hart, Gilbert & Sullivan, Abbot & Costello, Batman & Robin... History is full of great partnerships and 18th century England was no exception. Join Paul Luchkow and Michael Jarvis as they explore the music of Handel and his favourite pupil and personal secretary, John Christopher Smith, as well as music by the famous Bach-Abel partnership, which resulted in the fashionable London subscription concert series.

Wednesday April 21, 2021

Itinerant Gardens feat. Ablaye Cissoko, kora, and Ensemble Constantinople

Musicians: Kiya Tabassian, setar & voice, Ablaye Cissoko, kora & voice, Pierre-Yves Martel, viola da gamba, Patrick Graham, percussion

From the twelfth century until today, griots, known as “the Bards of West Africa”, have transmitted their music and knowledge from generation to generation through a sophisticated and unbroken oral tradition. Griot and master of the kora, Ablaye Cissoko and Kiya Tabassian, master setar player, perform the intersecting music of the Mandinka Kingdom, Persian Empire, and European Baroque, taking the audience on a journey across regions and eras.

Wednesday May 5, 2021

Angela Hewitt in Recital: Bach & Couperin

Musicians: Angela Hewitt, piano

"Of all living pianists, [Angela] Hewitt makes the strongest case for hearing Bach on the piano as opposed to harpsichord. Here, she applies the same staggering technique and intellectual grasp to three suites by François Couperin." (The Independent) Considered one of the foremost interpreters of Baroque music, Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt returns to EMV for a program of J.S. Bach and François Couperin. Lauded for her lifelong dedication to the works of Bach, in 2019 she became the first woman to receive the City of Leipzig Bach Medal Award since the award's inception in 2003.

Wednesday May 19, 2021

Metamorfoosi feat. Suzie LeBlanc, soprano and Ensemble Constantinople

Musicians: Kiya Tabassian, music director, Suzie LeBlanc, soprano, Ensemble Constantinople

For this concert, Ensemble Constantinople and Suzie LeBlanc have reinvented the pages left by Renaissance Venetian madrigalist Barbara Strozzi, marvelous composer and singer. A worthy heiress of Monteverdi, Strozzi created a secular vocal repertoire that intoxicates the senses. In response to her songs, Constantinople will interpret some of the masterpieces from the same period played in Ottoman and Persian courts creating a dialogue that recreates the spirit of the cultural exchanges between Venice and Eastern capital cities, such Constantinople. Suzie LeBlanc's illustrious vocals will be enhanced by the brio, nimbleness, and bold improvisations of Constantinople's five virtuosos.

Wednesday June 2, 2021

Concerti Virtuosi feat. Pacific Baroque Orchestra & Vincent Lauzer, recorder soloist

Musicians: Alexander Weimann, music director, Vincent Lauzer, recorder, Pacific Baroque Orchestra

Gaining a reputation as one of the world's most virtuosic soloists of his generation, Vincent Lauzer is a national treasure whose career is only just beginning. This programme features ravishing music by Handel and his Italian contemporaries that are the perfect vehicle for Vincent's prodigious talents.

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DONATIONS IN LIEU OF PURCHASING TICKETS

Thanks to the support of our donors and government partners, our virtual season will be available for free. EMV is asking people to **consider making a tax-deductible donation to EMV at each of these virtual concerts** in lieu of purchasing tickets.

ABOUT EARLY MUSIC VANCOUVER (earlymusic.bc.ca)

Founded in 1970, Early Music Vancouver (EMV) has a long-standing international reputation for the presentation, production and study of classical and traditional repertoires using “historically informed performance practices”. Historically informed performance is based on two key aspects: the application of the stylistic and technical aspects of performance, known as performance practice; and the use of period instruments which may be reproductions of historical instruments that were in use at the time of the original composition. EMV now offers the second largest program of its type in North America, presenting and producing an average of 40- 50 concerts per year featuring internationally-renowned local, regional and guest artists. EMV has a Main Season that runs through the Fall, Winter, and Spring as well as a growing annual summer festival that was re-branded as the Vancouver Bach Festival in 2016. It also has substantial education and outreach programmes including the Baroque Orchestra Mentorship Programme and BC Scholarship Programme. Beginning January 4, 2021, EMV will be led by Artistic & Executive Director Suzie LeBlanc.

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