

CONFLUENCECONCERTS.CA

HUGO AND WILLIE

JANUARY 25, 2020 - 8:00 P.M.



ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH

SONGS OF THE SOUL

Confluence
Concerts

LARRY BECKWITH
ARTISTIC PRODUCER

WELCOME

Welcome to our 2020 “soul” concert!

I realize that last year I titled our January concert “Centuries of Souls” and featured significant sacred music by Hildegard, Ockeghem and Messiaen. And here we are, enduring the chilly and dark January days again and sharing “songs of the soul” by Hugo Wolf and Willie P. Bennett.

I am proud to say that Confluence is probably the only concert series around that would feature the juxtaposition of the music of songwriters from such different sets of circumstances.

And I can imagine that both Wolf and Bennett would be amused to find their music on the same program. But I honestly don’t see a fundamental difference in the intention of the songs of both of these unique composers. In fact, I only see similarities.

Hugo Wolf was ahead of his time — a brilliant but troubled composer who had an endlessly creative approach to the intimate art of songwriting.

Writing in the latter years of the 19th century, he had a unique compositional voice that looked forward to the sparse and expressionistic compositional style of the early 20th century.

Willie P. Bennett was a product of his time — a talented Canadian singer-songwriter who got his start in the 1970s and enjoyed modest success as a “musician’s musician” through the ’80s, ’90s and early 2000s.

He was a prodigious songwriter with a charming connection to the golden age of popular song mixed with a raw and edgy side that exposed the pain and loneliness of life.

My thanks to the gifted and generous artists who have assembled for tonight’s show.

I hope you enjoy our mash-up of these two remarkable songwriters and that you will join us for the rest of the Confluence season.

You are cordially invited to mingle with the artists after the concert in the Parish Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry B." with a period at the end.

Larry Beckwith
Artistic Producer

PROGRAM

HUGO AND WILLIE

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

Willie P. Bennett (1951-2008)

Auch Kleine dinge (Italienisches Liederbuch)

Blue Valentine

In dem Schatten meiner Locken (Spanisches Liederbuch)

Und willst du deinen Liebsten (Italienisches Liederbuch)

Ich hab' in Penna einen Liebsten wohnen (Italienisches Liederbuch)

White Line

Andrew's Waltz

Driftin' Snow

Gebet (Möricke-Lieder)

Der Musikant (Eichendorff-Lieder)

Rains on Me

Down to the Water

INTERMISSION

Alles endet, was entsteht (Michaelangelo-Lieder)

Fühlt, meine Seele das ersehnte Licht (Michaelangelo-Lieder)

Country Squall

Lace and Pretty Flowers

Storm Clouds

Anakreons Grab (Goethe-Lieder)

Dismantled Angel

Music in Your Eyes

Wir haben beide (Italienisches Liederbuch)

Brave Wings

Wiegenlied im Sommer

ARTISTS

Larry Beckwith

Andrew Downing

Martin Julien

Patricia O'Callaghan

Giles Tomkins

Kathryn Tremills

Joey Wright

SONGS OF THE SOUL



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AND MANY THANKS TO OUR FRONT-OF-HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Don Kendall and Patrick Slaney

Tonight's concert is taking place on the traditional Indigenous territory of the Huron-Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and, most recently, the Mississaugas of the New Credit. This territory is part of the Dish with One Spoon Treaty, an agreement between the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. This territory is also covered by the Upper Canada Treaties. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet and work on this territory.

SUPPORT CONFLUENCE CONCERTS

This concert marks the mid-point of the second season of Confluence Concerts, a wide-ranging series that breaks down boundaries and views music through a fresh lens. Our programs are curated by a team of outstanding performers and musical minds and our concerts are joyous, intimate and thought-provoking. We would be deeply grateful if you would consider joining our journey as a donor, subscriber or volunteer and overjoyed if you would spread the word and tell as many friends as you can about what we are doing at Confluence Concerts.

With special thanks to our season sponsors, **Ellen and John Spears**, and to our generous individual donors:

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BULLET TRAIN / WITCH ON THIN ICE

A dramatic reading of Madeleine Thien's powerful short story *Bullet Train* paired with the world premiere of Alice Ping Yee Ho's avant garde tribute to Yoko Ono. Featuring actor Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster, pianist Gregory Oh and superstar percussionist Beverley Johnston.

February 21 & 22

Aki Studio, Daniels Spectrum

BAROQUE MUSIC BY CANDLELIGHT

A time for quiet reflection featuring one of the greatest masterpieces of the 17th century, Dietrich Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostri*, for choir and chamber orchestra.

April 6

St. Thomas's Church

SECOND ANNUAL WALTER UNGER SALON: CREATIVITY AND AGING

Celebrated authors and educators Linda and Michael Hutcheon will speak on the late bursts of creativity from Olivier Messiaen, Benjamin Britten, and Leonard Cohen with performances by Sanya Eng, Robert Kortgaard, Patricia O'Callaghan and Lawrence Wiliford.

April 27

The Shaftesbury Atrium

THE MANDALA

A powerful season-ending show curated by Suba Sankaran with words and music inspired by a most enduring image.

May 9

St. Thomas's Church

OUR 2019-20 SEASON