



The Gallery Players of Niagara
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August 30, 2022

Help Us Build Our Audience and Keep the Music Playing!

Dear Friends and Supporters;

All of us at the Gallery Players sincerely hope this finds you and your family in good health. It's been a difficult few years for many of us, but we feel hopeful that sharing beautiful music together in an intimate space will help lift spirits in our community. Thank you for being part of our journey thus far.

As we announce this season's concerts, I'm writing to tell you about a bold, new Accessibility Initiative that will broaden access to our concerts, build our audience, and ensure that we're still thriving and ready to celebrate our 30th anniversary with you in 2024-2025.

We believe that access to art is a human right, and that the experience of live music enriches lives and strengthens communities. But for some, cost is a barrier to access. Some of our "pandemic time" has been spent searching for ways to remove that barrier so that everyone who wishes to can share the delights - and benefits - of our music making.

The goal of our Accessibility Initiative is to ensure that everyone in our Niagara community is able to experience **exhilarating, engaging, moving, truly glorious music**, irrespective of means. To this end we have reduced the cost of our subscriptions and introduced a "pay-what-you-choose-to" concert admission on the day of each performance. While some people will choose to pay less than the suggested price, we hope that those who are able will pay the full amount. You will notice on our ticket order form that we've clearly marked the savings (over last year's prices) and invite those with the financial means to convert their savings to a donation and receive a tax receipt.

We have planned an exciting season of concerts for 2022-2023 and are enthusiastic about this initiative for sharing our concerts with a much broader audience. We are already working hard to identify and engage with potential new concert-goers and welcome them into the Gallery Players family. In addition, to ensure we have the financial resources to meet our commitment to engage top professional artists and pay them appropriately, we will energetically seek funds from private foundations, corporations, and government funders, all of which have shown interest in supporting our desire to grow and diversify our audience.

I can't say this too often: **Thank-You** to everyone who has continued to support the Gallery Players. You, our patrons, are part of a very special community that underpins everything we do. Despite all the pandemic upheavals, with your help we've managed to keep the music playing, and to dream of a better future. Together we can make that dream happen!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Gay". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Margaret Gay, Artistic Director

THE GALLERY PLAYERS OF NIAGARA 2022-2023 SEASON – Live & Virtual Concerts

#1 Sunday November 13, 2022, 3:00pm Silver Spire United Church, 366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines
“Schütz in Venice: Worship in a Time of Plague” Featuring music composed and published during the German composer's visit to Venice in 1629. The 1630 plague outbreak in Northern Italy devastated Venice: one third of the population succumbed to disease. With obvious parallels to the present day, we explore expressions of faith set to music by Schütz and his Venetian contemporaries Monteverdi, Grandi, and Cifra. **Performers:** Sheila Dietrich and Lindsay McIntyre, sopranos; Jennifer Enns Modolo, alto; Bud Roach, tenor and Artistic Director (Capella Intima); David Roth and Paul Winkelmanns, baritones; Julie Baumgartel and Rona Goldensher, violins; Margaret Gay, ‘cello; Jonathan Stuchbery, theorbo; Borys Medicky, organ. *Online 48 hours after the concert.*

#2 Sunday December 18, 2022, 3:00pm St. Catharines United Mennonite Church, 335 Linwell Road
Glissandi & Guy Bannerman with “Celtic Yuletide” A charming mix of Celtic folklore, tales, and traditions intertwined with festive music to lift your holiday spirits and warm your hearts. **Performers:** Guy Bannerman, narrator; Deborah Braun, harp; David Braun, violin; Douglas Miller, flute.

#3 Saturday March 4, 2023, 6:45pm The Film House, FirstOntario PAC, 250 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines
Movie Night - A Co-production with the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre
6:45pm pre-screening talk, 7:00pm screening in Film House
THE SCAR of SHAME (Frank Perugini, 1929) 86 minutes Produced by Colored Players Film Corporation, Philadelphia. We continue our fascinating journey with live improvised music accompanying a visually stunning social melodrama, featuring an all-Black cast in this 1929 silent film. When an impoverished young woman escapes her abusive father, she is rescued by an aspiring composer. **Performers:** Douglas Miller, flute; Eric Mahar, guitars; Penner Mackay, percussion; Joan Nicks, film critic.

#4 Sunday March 19, 2023, 3pm Silver Spire United Church, 366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines
Eybler Quartet and Suzannah Clark present “Inside the Music” Inside the Music draws the audience deep into a selected piece of music, guiding their listening experience. An intimate conversation with members of the Eybler Quartet and Suzannah Clark, Morton B. Knafel Professor of Music at Harvard University, explores essentials such as harmony, phrase structure, and the social significance of *Op. 20 #5 string quartet* of Joseph Haydn. Also on the programme Mozart’s “*Hunt*” quartet K458. **Performers:** Eybler Quartet: Julia Wedman, violin; Patricia Ahern, violin; Patrick G. Jordan, viola; Margaret Gay, ‘cello. *Online 48 hours after the concert.*

#5 Sunday April 16, 2023, 3pm The Recital Hall, FirstOntario PAC, 250 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines
Tafelmusik presents La Stravagante! The “*stravagante*” (extravagant) style was all the rage in the seventeenth century: performers were urged to embrace an unbridled style of playing in music ranging from the pensive to the humorous, the refined to the audacious. We welcome you on a musical journey to the imaginative world of “*La Stravagante.*” Performers: Patricia Ahern & Christopher Verrette, violin; Patrick G. Jordan, viola; Keiran Campbell, violoncello; Lucas Harris, lute; Charlotte Nediger, harpsichord.

#6 Sunday May 7, 2023, 3pm Silver Spire United Church, 366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines
Transformations with soprano Maria Vetere Orchestral music transformed for our group of five instruments. Canadians Trevor Wagler and Daniel Warren have created new versions of Haydn’s “*Clock*” Symphony, Piazzola’s *Street Tango*, and *Lippen Schweigen* by F. Lehár. Our special guest, Niagara Soprano Maria Vetere, will sing a new version of Samuel Barber’s *Knoxville Summer 1915*. **Performers:** Maria Vetere, soprano; Julie Baumgartel, violin; James Mason, oboe; Peter Shackleton, clarinet; Margaret Gay, ‘cello; Anna Ronai, piano. *Online 48 hours after the concert.*

#7 Sunday May 28, 2023, 3pm St. Catharines United Mennonite Church, 335 Linwell Road
The Odin Quartet & Pianist Alexander Panizza present “The Last Movement” An Odin-Edition anthology that binds together some of the finest final chapters from the repertoire. From masterworks to hidden gems, Schumann to Schickele, Dvořák to Price, come and enjoy our story. **Performers:** Odin Quartet: Alex Toskov, violin; Tanya Charles Iveniuk, violin; Matt Antal, viola; Samuel Bisson, ‘cello, Alexander Panizza, piano.

Concert A

A - Southern Exposure - Re-scheduled from May 2022

Tickets purchased for originally scheduled concert on May 8, 2022 will be honoured. On September 12th we will email all those of you who purchased tickets for May 8th. If you don't hear from us that day, and think you purchased tickets last season please contact us by email or phone. info@galleryplayers.ca or 905-468-1525.

A - Saturday October 22, 2022, 3pm

Silver Spire United Church, 366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines

Southern Exposure! - Curated by Timothy Phelan, Classical Guitar meets Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone 'Cello & Percussion for a vibrant South American tour from Buenos Aires to Rio de Janeiro! Featuring Astor Piazzolla's *Primavera Porteña* from *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, Maximo Diego Pujol's *Suite Buenos Aires*, and toe-tapping Bossa Nova tunes by Antonio Carlos Jobim and Luiz Bonfá. **Performers:** Timothy Phelan, guitars; Douglas Miller, flutes; Michele Jacot, clarinets & saxophones; Margaret Gay, 'cello; Mike Phelan, percussion. **Online 48 hours after the concert.**

***Special offer -Add this concert to a 2022-2023 subscription package and save \$15 off the single ticket price**

A few concert-going notes

This season all performances will start at 3:00pm (except movie night), and run 60-75 minutes in length, without intermissions.

Mask wearing will be optional but encouraged for patrons this season, unless otherwise mandated. We will also faithfully adhere to any additional policies the venues or public health officers may choose to impose in the future, including (but not limited to) lower capacity limits.

Please make note of the **venue** for each concert. This season we will perform at Silver Spire United Church, 366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines (concerts 1, 4 & 6), the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, 250 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines (concerts 3 & 5), and for the first time, at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church, 335 Linwell Road (concerts 2 & 7).

Access to online performances of concerts #1, #4 and #6 will be available 48 hours following the live presentation. This season the online concerts will not be live.

A 3-concert virtual subscription and single virtual tickets are available.

Digital concert information, including detailed programme notes, will be distributed by email prior to each performance.

If a concert is cancelled, tickets may be exchanged for a future concert, a tax receipt, or a refund.

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