26
27 Concert Season

gallery players of Niagara

Intimate and informal concerts in the Niagara region.

Welcome to our 2026-2027 Season of Concerts!

Dear Friends,

Every Gallery Players season begins with a spark of possibility, and this year that spark flows from a single idea: **water**. Like music, water connects us, sustains us, shapes our environment, and crosses every boundary. And like water, music has the remarkable ability to flow across generations, cultures, and communities, enriching everyone it touches.

What an exciting time! Our community of music lovers is growing more vibrant, and we start this season with something new. **The Bach Walk** - an Ontario Culture Days event - invites you on a free, one-of-a-kind musical adventure through downtown St. Catharines, where Bach's six beloved 'cello suites will unfold in six unexpected venues, performed on an array of instruments. It's the perfect launch - please read on to explore our concerts.

We're equally excited to expand our commitment to accessibility by increasing our free adaptive concerts from three to six, ensuring even more people can experience the joy of live chamber music in a relaxed, inclusive environment.

Join Us and Subscribe

The best way to experience the richness of our 2026-2027 Main Stage season is an **All Access Subscription**. At just **$140**, you'll enjoy all seven live concerts plus our four-concert virtual series - a savings of **50%** compared with purchasing individual tickets.

Like water, music has a way of bringing people together. We hope you'll join us for another season of inspiring performances and memorable musical experiences.

Thank you for being part of the Gallery Players family. We can't wait to share this journey with you.

Margaret Gay
Artistic & Administrative Director

Schmaltz & Pepper

A uniquely virtuosic and entertaining chamber ensemble performing original music inspired by Klezmer, Yiddish Swing, Jazz and Classical music. Hailed as *"soul-stirring, innovative and just plain fun"* by WholeNote magazine, Schmaltz & Pepper creates concerts that feature engaging anecdotes, Juno and Grammy award-winning musicians, and vibrant, cross-cultural musical connections.

PERFORMERS: Jeremy Ledbetter, piano; Drew Jurecka, arranger, multi-instrumentalist, composer; Eric Abramovitz, clarinet, composer, arranger; Rebekah Wolkstein, violin, vocals, composer; Michael Herring, double-bass.

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SUNDAY

November 15, 2026 3:00 pm

FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre

Recital Hall, 250 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines

Celtic Noël

Celebrate the season with an enchanting afternoon of lilting carols, spirited fiddle tunes, and captivating stories from Celtic traditions. Glissandi and Guy Bannerman weave together music and tales that evoke the warmth, humour, and magic of a winter gathering.

PERFORMERS: Douglas Miller, flutes; Guy Bannerman, narrator; Deborah Braun, harp; David Braun, violin; Nick Braun, percussion.

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SUNDAY

December 13, 2026 3:00 pm

Linwell Church

335 Linwell Road, St. Catharines

Razumovsky Court Treasures

Experience the musical splendour and innovative spirit of the court of Count Razumovsky. Andrey Razumovsky, the Ukrainian-born Russian ambassador to Vienna, is best known today for commissioning Beethoven's *Op. 59 Quartets*, as well as his *Symphonies No. 5 & 6*. The Eybler Quartet will showcase the count's broad, cutting-edge musical tastes through unjustly neglected quartets by Franz Weiss, Louis Spohr, and Franz Krommer, before rounding out the afternoon with Beethoven's tour de force, *Op. 59 No. 3*.

PERFORMERS: Eybler Quartet: Julia Wedman & Patricia Ahern, violins; Patrick Jordan, viola; Margaret Gay, 'cello.

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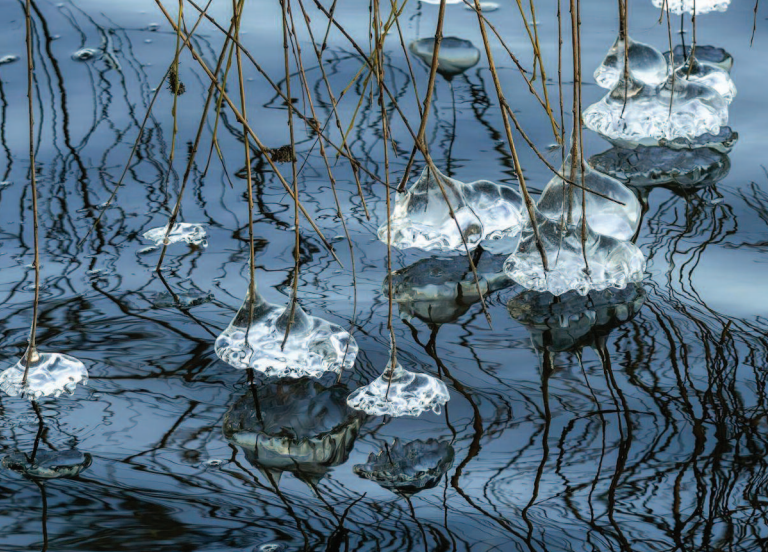
SUNDAY
February 7, 2027 3:00 pm
Silver Spire United Church
366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines



Apollo's Vengeance: A Roman Serenata

Co-production with Capella Intima & North Wind Concerts

The spirit of Queen Christina of Sweden's cultivated gatherings comes to life in this beautifully curated programme. During her patronage, she was a magnet for the intimate yet theatrical musical culture of Baroque Rome. A 17th-century Roman Serenata inspired by the figure of Apollo weaves together instrumental works, operatic excerpts, readings and canzonettas to evoke an afternoon's musical entertainment of the period.

PERFORMERS:

Capella Intima: Sheila Dietrich & Len Torrie, sopranos; Jennifer Enns Modolo, alto; David Roth, baritone; Bud Roach, tenor, Artistic Director.

Gallery Players: Michelle Odorico, baroque violin; Alison Melville & Romina Abadi, recorders; Jonathan Stuchbery, theorbo; Borys Medicky, organ/harpsichord. *Patricia Ahern, baroque violin; *Margaret Gay, baroque 'cello, Artistic Director *photos concert 3.

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SUNDAY

February 28, 2027 3:00 pm

Linwell Church

335 Linwell Road, St. Catharines

MOVIE NIGHT:

Kid Boots

(Frank Tuttle 1926)
6:45 pm pre-screening talk
7:00 pm screening

Kid Boots, an American silent comedy classic, stars Eddie Cantor in his hilarious silent-film debut, alongside Clara Bow, who was just becoming one of Hollywood's biggest stars. Filled with romance, slapstick, and madcap misadventure, the film was adapted from the hugely successful 1923 Broadway musical of the same name, also starring Cantor.

We welcome film historian Liz Clarke who introduces the film; then our musicians will create a completely improvised live score, making every laugh, chase, and heartfelt moment a unique cinematic experience.

PERFORMERS: Douglas Miller, flutes; Nick Braun, percussion & keyboard; Michael Bridge, accordian; Liz Clarke, film historian

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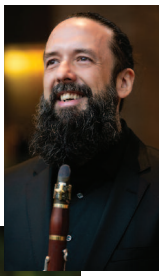
SATURDAY
March 13, 2027 6:45 pm
Mandeville Theatre
Ridley College, 2 Ridley Road, St. Catharines, Ontario

French Voices, New Perspectives

This concert explores French repertoire through transcriptions by Daniel Warren of works by Berlioz, Debussy, and Fauré. Heard in a more intimate scale, *Les Nuits d'été*, *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*, and *Pelléas et Mélisande* reveal new perspectives on colour, texture, and line.



PERFORMERS: Maria Vetere, soprano; Andrew Chung, violin; Dominic Desautels, clarinet; Leslie Allt, flute; James Mason, oboe; Anna Ronai, piano; Margaret Gay, 'cello.

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SUNDAY
April 4, 2027 **3:00 pm**
Silver Spire United Church
366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines

Unspoken Poetry

The organic and quiet transformation of Roydon Tse's *Sprout* launches a programme that traces the extraordinary ability of music to express what lies beyond words. The unique perspectives of women composers are given voice in *Unspoken Poetry*. We conclude with Shostakovich's *String Quartet No. 8*, a work of haunting power and enduring humanity. Together, these works invite listeners on a journey through nature, identity, and memory, revealing the many ways music gives voice to our most profound experiences.

PERFORMERS: Interro Quartet: Dr. Steve-Sang Koh, violin; Dr. Eric Kim-Fujita, violin; Dr. Maxime Despax, viola; Sebastian Ostertag, ‘cello.

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SUNDAY
May 16, 2027 3:00 pm
Silver Spire United Church
366 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines

Your Gallery Players Experience

- Check your venue location - we get around!
- Tickets are held at the door
- Box office opens one hour before each concert
- All venues are accessible
- Digital concert programmes are distributed via email prior to each concert
- Pay-What-You-Choose tickets available at all concerts, thanks to our *Open Doors Partner* **Prose HR**
- Four concerts (nos. 3, 4, 6, and 7) will be recorded and available for online viewing
- **More!** We now offer 6 Adaptive Performances
- Performers welcome the chance to chat after concerts – please say hello!
- **New! The Bach Walk, Sept. 19**, part of Culture Days, details on our website
- Visit our website: Learn more and join our email list to receive our quarterly newsletters

Subscribe and save up to 50%
Single tickets also available
(905) 468-1525
GalleryPlayers.ca/Shop/Tickets

Ticket revenue, government funding, and corporate sponsorship cover only a small percentage of our costs. Please consider a donation. We are truly grateful for your support.

The Gallery Players of Niagara is a Not-for-Profit charitable organization and provides tax receipts. Charitable # 88582 0019 RR000

Adaptive Performances

Our Doors are Open

A free series of Adaptive Performances presented in partnership with the **Thorold Public Library** & the **Thorold Centre 50+.**

What do we mean by Adaptive Performances? Family-friendly, accessible, and inclusive performing arts experiences for music lovers from the neurodiverse and disability communities, or anyone simply wanting a more relaxed concert experience.

ALL CONCERTS PERFORMED AT

Thorold Centre 50+, 8 Carleton St. South, Thorold

SATURDAYS AT 2:00 pm

- **October 3, 2026**
  Jennarie
- **November 21, 2026**
  declassified
- **February 6, 2027**
  Eybler Quartet
- **April 17, 2027**
  Bridge & Wolak
- **June 12, 2027**
  Tafelmusik

THOROLD CENTRE 50+

Thorold Public Library

ONTARIO CREATES

Made possible with the support of Ontario Creates

It's Free! to attend our Adaptive Performances, but to be guaranteed a spot you **must reserve a seat.**

RESERVE SEATS: Use the QR code, or
info@galleryplayers.ca | (905) 468-1525

gallery players of Niagara

www.GalleryPlayers.ca

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