



**CMC Presents**

**2021/2022**

*A concert series of innovative contemporary music  
Curated by Nick Storing in association with Riparian Acoustics*

**Eckhardt-Gramatté  
National Music Competition  
Winner  
Julien Siino**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021  
7:00pm**

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# PROGRAMME

Cusson* (b.1981)	La Pièta for solo cello (2020)
Lutoslawski (1913 – 1994)	Sacher Variation for solo cello (1976)
Eckhardt-Gramatté* (1899– 1974)	Duo Concertante Cello and Piano E. 146 (1959) I. Giocososo, molto ritmico II. Cantabile e semplice III. Vivo e molto preciso
Good* (b. 1972)	Song of Longing (2017)
Britten (1913 – 1976)	Sonata for Cello and Piano in C op. 65 (1961) I. Dialogo II. Scherzo-Pizzicato III. Elegia IV. Marcia V. Moto perpetuo

\*Canadian Composer

*The E-Gré Competition acknowledges the support of the **Canada Council for the Arts**.*

*Le Concours E-Gré remercie **le Conseil des arts du Canada** de son soutien.*



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*The 2022 Eckhardt-Gramatté Music Competition is open to pianists (See <http://e-gre.ca> for details). The first-place winner will receive a cash prize of \$6,000 and a Canadian tour (recital fees approximately \$5,000).*

# PROGRAMME NOTES

**Ian Cusson's** *La Pieta for Solo Cello\** was commissioned in 2020 by the 44th Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition for strings, with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts. It consists of Cusson's musical reflection on the 2018 painting *La Pieta* by Kent Monkman. Premiered in September 2021 by the six E-gré finalists, the piece profoundly captures the love, violence, darkness, vulnerability, desperation, resilience, and strength felt through the characters, their actions and expressions, as well as the overall tone of the artwork.



**Witold Lutoslawski's** *Sacher Variation* is a short piece for solo cello, part of a 12-work cycle composed in 1976 as a tribute to the Swiss patron and conductor Paul Sacher. 12 different composers each manipulated the eS-A-C-H-E-Re musical cryptogram (E flat, A, C, B, E and D in German notation) in their own way, and this piece by Lutoslawski is one of the most fascinating of the bunch.

**Sophie-Carmen Eckhardt-Gramatté's** *Duo Concertante for Cello and Piano E. 146\** is a three-movement work composed in 1959 that follows the fast-slow-fast structure. The first movement feels like an amusing argument between the two instruments. The second movement goes into a deeper, more introspective moment of reflection. In the last movement, the duo seems to courageously face together the twists and turns of their common struggles and challenges.

**Scott Good's** *Song of Longing\** was co-commissioned in 2017 by the Canadian Music Competition-Canimex and the Ensemble contemporain de Montréal. It is written for any melodic instrument or voice and piano. The melodic part of the work is based on the "maqam Saba" (Saba melodic mode). The treatment of this mode is not fully indicative of the Arabic tradition in which it is rooted, and also pulls influence from the Hindustani Classical music and modern Western sensitivities. The piano supports and sustains the melody played by the melodic instrument by providing a continuous harmonic drone, imitating the tanpura, a plucked string instrument from India.

**Benjamin Britten's** *Sonata for Cello and Piano in C op. 65* was written in 1961 and dedicated to the great Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich. This creative work is in five unique movements, including one where the cellist puts the bow down and only plucks the strings. The final movement uses the D-eS-C-H (D, E flat, C, B in German notation) motif, which refers to Dmitri Shostakovich's initials (D. Sch.) as a tribute to the composer who inspired Britten to write for cello.

## Biographies



Canadian cellist **Julien Siino** obtained his bachelor's degree in Cello Performance with Leslie Snider at the Quebec Conservatory of Music. He then continued his studies in Europe at the Koninklijk Conservatorium Den Haag (Holland Scholarship) and the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Paris. His principal teachers have been Morag Northey, Leslie Snider, Michel Strauss, Jan-Ype Nota, Guillaume Paoletti and Bruno Cocset. He has won First Prize at various competitions, including the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Competition (Canada), the International Agustin Aponte Competition (Spain), the Canadian Music Competition, and the Petit Mozart Audi Sainte-Foy competition (Canada). As a soloist, chamber musician, and member of orchestras such as the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, the Orchestra of the Americas, the Collegium Musicum Schloss Pommersfelden (Germany) and the Nationaal Jeugd Orkest (Netherlands), he has performed in great North American and European concert halls. He is also regularly invited to perform with the Violons du Roy, Orchestre symphonique de Québec, Orchestre philharmonique de Radio-France, as well as the Paris National Opera and Dutch National Opera. He plays on a cello made in Paris by Auguste Sébastien Bernardel in 1838 with a bow by Victor François Fétique generously loaned to him by Canimex Inc. Having just completed artistic residencies at the Academy of the Paris National Opera and the Académie musicale Philippe Jaroussky, he is currently 2nd Solo Cellist at the Orchestre national de Montpellier (France).



Japanese pianist **Chiharu Iinuma** has been increasingly in high demand as a teacher, coach and ensemble pianist. A founding member of the Ridge Trio, the Chamber Ensemble Bloomington and the Duo Gillham-Iinuma, for many years she was the studio pianist for Joseph Gingold, Janos Starker, Franco Gulli, Neli Shkolnikova, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Miriam Fried, Yuval Yaron, James Campbell and IU String Academy at Indiana University's Jacobs School. In 1993, she was invited to participate in the inaugural Isaac Stern Chamber Music Workshop at Carnegie Hall in New York. She has been heard on NHK and CBC radios over the years. In recent years, she has played in concerts and festivals in Germany, Sweden, Scotland, China, Taiwan, Japan, as well as across U.S. and Canada collaborating with Arianna String Quartet, Pendereki String Quartet, Adrian Anantawan, Dale Barltrop, Ariel Barnes, Rachel Barton-Pine, Martin Beaver, James Campbell, Timothy Chooi, Marc Coppey, Mark Fewer, David Gillham, Tom Landschoot, Blair Lofgren, Antonio Lysy, Johannes Moser, Philippe Muller, Christoph Schickedanz, Alan Stepansky, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Rafael Wallfisch, Rob Weir, Thomas Wiebe, Eric Wilson, Min-Ho Yeh, among others.



From 2001 to 2004, she was the Director of Accompanying at the University of Central Arkansas where the Duo Gillham-Iinuma was "Duo in Residence". Chiharu has served as a staff pianist and coach at institutes such as the Meadowmount School of Music, Indiana University Summer String Academy and currently at the Domaine Forget International Music and Dance Academy in Quebec, Canada, where she is also on a faculty for the Collaborative Piano Program. She has recorded "Edvard Grieg: The Three Sonatas for Violin and Piano" with David Gillham for Centaur Records (CRC2873), and "Johannes Brahms: The Complete works for Violin and Piano" with Christoph Schickedanz also for Centaur Records (CRC3498). Currently, she is on a piano faculty at the Vancouver Academy of Music.



Photo Credit: John Arano

**Ian Cusson** is a Canadian composer of art song, opera and orchestral work. Of Métis (Georgian Bay Métis Community) and French Canadian descent, his work explores the Canadian Indigenous experience, including the history of the Métis people, the hybridity of mixed-racial identity, and the intersection of Western and Indigenous cultures. He studied composition with Jake Heggie and Samuel Dolin and piano with James Anagnoson at the Glenn Gould School. He is the recipient of numerous awards and grants including the Chalmers Professional Development Grant, the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation Award, and several grants through the Canada Council, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council. Ian was an inaugural Carrefour Composer in Residence with the National Arts Centre Orchestra from 2017-2019. He is currently the Composer-in-Residence for the Canadian Opera Company for 2019-2021. He is an Associate Composer of the Canadian Music Centre and a member of the Canadian League of Composers. He lives in Toronto with his wife and four children.

## About the Canadian Music Centre

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**NOV 3** **ECKHARDT-GRAMATTÉ NATIONAL COMPETITION WINNER**  
Julien Siino, cello • Chiharu Iinuma, piano  
• Venue: The CMC + Online Livestream

**NOV 30** **STRANGER STILL**  
Pete Johnston, composer / guitar • Randi Helmers, voice  
Laura Swankey, voice • Rob Clutton, bass

**COUNTRY PHASERS**  
Kurt Newman, pedal steel guitar • Andrew Furlong, bass • Blake Howard, drums  
• Venue: The CMC + Online Livestream

Upcoming concerts include creative and dynamic Canadian artists featuring contemporary music. Information about the 2022 concerts coming soon!

As we begin to welcome audiences back to our venue, the CMC is following guidance provided by the public health guidelines. Please be advised that these guidelines may change, and we will keep patrons updated. Mandatory Proof of Vaccination and Masks are required.

## Tickets

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