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September 2023 to May 2024
Welcome to Our 2023/24 Season

On behalf of all of us at the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, I am very pleased to welcome you to our 2023/24 season. This season's program is special for all of us and, as I selected the music we'll feature, I couldn't help but reflect on the past five years with this spectacular orchestra. I am fortunate to work with musicians who inspire me daily, and I am so proud of what we have achieved and what we will present to you this season.

The 2023/24 season features the very best of our talents alongside exceptional guests whom we're proud to introduce to audiences in the K-W region. As part of our Signature series, we're pleased to welcome back cellist Johannes Moser for our season opener. We also welcome the exceptional Van Cliburn International Piano Competition winner Vadym Kholodenko, who will make his KWS debut with Shostakovich and Prokofiev concertos. We will also showcase virtuosic marimba player Ji Su Jung, violinist Ben Beilman, and pianist Teo Gheorghiu.

Our beloved Pops series will add sparkle to our 2023/24 season. It opens with A Night at the Movies, where Academy Award-winning compositions will take the spotlight. Plus, audience-favourite Movie and Orchestra returns, this year featuring Back to the Future in Concert. To close the series, we are thrilled to have Patrick Watson join the KWS in concert, the perfect setting for his distinctive talent and beautiful songs.

As always, our Baroque & Beyond, Family, and Kinderconcerts series ensure there's something for all audiences and tastes. These concerts appeal to early music lovers and the youngest members of our community, and offer our orchestra the immense pleasure of performing music from a variety of genres and periods.

First and foremost, this season was designed to be enjoyed collectively by live in-person audiences. The experience of sitting in a concert hall in calm silence taking in a beautiful musical performance surrounded by friends and strangers is one that cannot be imitated. This feeling is special for world-class musicians and first-time concertgoers alike, and we can’t wait to share that experience with our audiences in 2023/24.

We're looking forward to welcoming you back to another remarkable season of music.

Season Highlights

Feher Conducts Boléro
Back to the Future in Concert
Sibelius Symphony 2
Patrick Watson with the KWS
Feher Conducts Beethoven Eroica
Yuletide Spectacular
Mozart’s Haffner Symphony
Magic & Musicians

ANDREI FEHER
KWS Music Director
Reasons to Subscribe

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Katherine Robertson, Martin Limoges, and other musicians of Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.
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Signature series

Subscribing is your best value. Saturday and Sunday 8- or 4-concert packages!

8-Concert Series
- Saturday 8-Series includes: All 8 concerts
- Saturday 4A-Series includes: Concerts 1, 3, 5 & 7
- Saturday 4B-Series includes: Concerts 2, 4, 6 & 8
- Sunday Matinee 8-Series includes: All 8 concerts
- Sunday Matinee 4A-Series includes: Concerts 1, 3, 5 & 7
- Sunday Matinee 4B-Series includes: Concerts 2, 4, 6 & 8

FEATURING
FEHER CONDUCTS BOLÉRO
PROKOFIEV & SHOSTAKOVICH WITH FEHER
SIBELIUS SYMPHONY 2
POETRY FROM BÉNÉDICTE
HYMN OF PRAISE
MOZART’S HAFFNER SYMPHONY
FEHER CONDUCTS BEETHOVEN EROICA
SCHUMANN PIANO CONCERTO & BRAHMS

Call 519-745-4711 or 1-888-745-4717 | Visit kwsymphony.ca | SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
CONCERT 1 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

Feher Conducts Boléro

SAT SEPTEMBER 30 8 PM
SUN OCTOBER 1 2:30 PM

ANDREI FEHER conductor
JOHANNES MOSER cello

Our season opener provides a thrilling showcase for the full palette of orchestral colour in all its glory. Andrei Feher directs Iberian-inspired works by Rimsky-Korsakov, De Falla, and Ravel, along with The Prairies by Canadian composer Karen Sunabacka. The brilliant cellist Johannes Moser joins the orchestra for Tout un monde lontain... a rapturous concerto by the 20th-century master Henri Dutilleux.

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Capriccio espagnol
DUTILLEUX Tout un monde lontain...
(A Whole Remote World)
KAREN SUNABACKA IV. The Prairies
DE FALLA El sombrero de tres picos
(Three-Cornered Hat)
RAVEL Boléro

CONCERT 2 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

Prokofiev & Shostakovich with Feher

SAT OCTOBER 28 8 PM
SUN OCTOBER 29 2:30 PM

ANDREI FEHER conductor
VADYM KOLODENKO piano

Van Cliburn International Piano Competition winner Vadym Kholodenko makes his KWS debut performing concertos by Shostakovich and Prokofiev, two of the most significant composers of the 20th century. Andrei Feher leads the orchestra in a pair of works that celebrate the spirit of human resistance—Soul Force by African American composer Jessie Montgomery, and the cleverly subversive Symphony No. 9 by Shostakovich.

JESSIE MONTGOMERY Soul Force
SHOSTAKOVICH Concerto No. 1 for Piano, Trumpet and Strings
PROKOFIEV Piano Concerto No. 1
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 9
CONCERT 4 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

Poetry from Bénédicte

SAT JANUARY 13  8 PM
SUN JANUARY 14  2:30 PM

SHI-YEON SUNG conductor
BÉNÉDICTE LAUZIÈRE violin

The trailblazing South Korean conductor Shi-Yeon Sung makes her KWS debut with this program of contrasts, including Subito con forza by her compatriot Unsuk Chin, and Dvořák’s richly orchestrated Symphony No. 6. Our brilliant concertmaster Bénédicte Lauzière is featured in Chausson’s dramatic Poème for Violin & Orchestra, inspired by a novella by Ivan Turgenev.

UNSUK CHIN  subito con forza
CHAUSSON  Poème for Violin & Orchestra
DVOŘÁK  Symphony No. 6

CONCERT 3 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

Sibelius Symphony 2

SAT NOVEMBER 25  8 PM
SUN NOVEMBER 26  2:30 PM

JEAN-MARIE ZEITOUNI conductor
JI SU JUNG marimba

Known for his eloquently passionate interpretations, Jean-Marie Zeitouni conducts Fauré’s Pelléas et Mélisande suite and the Symphony No. 2 by Finnish hero Jean Sibelius, composed under the shadow of Russian expansionism. Making her KWS debut, the award-winning percussionist Ji Su Jung takes centre stage in a rare marimba concerto by Kevin Puts.

FAURÉ  Suite from Pelléas et Mélisande
KEVIN PUTS  Marimba Concerto
SIBELIUS  Symphony No. 2
CONCERT 5 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

Hymn of Praise

SAT FEBRUARY 10 8 PM
SUN FEBRUARY 11 2:30 PM

ANDREI FEHER conductor | MAGALI SIMARD-GALDÈS soprano
MATTHEW DALEN tenor
GRAND PHILHARMONIC CHOIR AND LAURIER SINGERS

Andrei Feher directs this journey inspired by the art of song, from the haunting sounds of medieval sacred chant to the gorgeous polyphony of Palestrina arranged for brass. Mendelssohn's Lobgesang features solos by exceptional Canadian singers, including Magali Simard-Galdès, soprano, and Matthew Dalen, tenor. The combined voices of two local choirs join us for this vocal extravaganza.

GREGORIAN CHANT  Missa de Angelis: Kyrie
PALESTRINA/ARR. A. FEHER  Sicut Cervus
MENDELSSOHN  Lobgesang (Hymn of Praise)

Buy all 8 concerts. It’s like getting 2 FREE!

CONCERT 6 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

Mozart’s Haffner Symphony

SAT MARCH 9  8 PM
SUN MARCH 10  2:30 PM

REBECCA TONG conductor
SHAWN MATIVETSKY tabla and electronics

Join us for the long-awaited world premiere of Jordan Pal's Upwell for tabla, electronics, and symphony orchestra, commissioned by the KWS and featuring Shawn Mativetsky, one of Canada’s leading ambassadors of the tabla. Rebecca Tong, winner of the inaugural La Maestra Conducting Competition, directs this eclectic program that includes Beethoven’s Overture to The Ruins of Athens and Mozart’s youthfully exuberant Symphony No. 35, Haffner.

JORDAN PAL  Upwell
MOZART  Symphony No. 35 (Haffner)
BEETHOVEN  Overture to The Ruins of Athens
HAYDN  Symphony No. 104 (London)
CONCERT 8 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

**Schumann Piano Concerto & Brahms**

**SAT MAY 11** 8 PM  
**SUN MAY 12** 2:30 PM

**ANDREI FEHER** conductor  
**TEO GHEORGIU** piano

The “vivid and vital” pianist Teo Gheorghiu (Musicweb) returns for our 2023/24 season grand finale featuring large-scale works directed by Andrei Feher. Opening with a 2021 composition by Camille Pépin, the program includes Schumann’s immensely popular Piano Concerto in A major and wraps up with the Piano Quartet No. 1 by Brahms, orchestrated by Schoenberg.

**CAMILLE PÉPIN**  *Aux Confinis de l’orage*  
**SCHUMANN**  *Concerto for Piano & Orchestra*  
**BRAHMS**  *Piano Quartet in G minor (orchestrated by Schoenberg)*

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CONCERT 7 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

**Feher Conducts Beethoven Eroica**

**SAT APRIL 13** 8 PM  
**SUN APRIL 14** 2:30 PM

**ANDREI FEHER** conductor  
**BEN BEILMAN** violin

Andrei Feher directs this concert inspired by the revolutionary spirit. Beethoven’s Symphony No. 3, *Eroica*, forms the backbone of the program, which opens with *Mighty River*, Errollyn Wallen’s gospel-imbued reflection on human resilience. The “monstrously talented” (Philadelphia Inquirer) violinist Benjamin Beilman returns as soloist in Berg’s Concerto for Violin & Orchestra, dedicated “to the memory of an angel.”

**ERROLLYN WALLEN**  *Mighty River*  
**BERG**  Concerto for Violin & Orchestra  
**BEETHOVEN**  *Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)*
Carousel Dance Company dancers join Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony in the audience-favourite Yuletide Spectacular.
Everything from Academy Award–winning scores to Indie award-winning artists, jazz to Latin love songs, and show-stopping spectulars.

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6-Concert Series
- Friday 6-Pack includes: Concerts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8
- Friday 3A-Pack includes: Concerts 1, 4 & 8
- Friday 3B-Pack includes: Concerts 3, 5 & 6
- Sat & Wed 6-Pack includes: Concerts 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 7
- Sat & Wed 3A-Series includes: Concerts 1, 4 & 7
- Sat & Wed 3B-Series includes: Concerts 2, 5 & 6

FEATURING
A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES
ADI BRAUN PERFORMS COLE PORTER
LATIN LOVE SONGS
YULETIDE SPECTACULAR
BACK TO THE FUTURE IN CONCERT
MAGIC & MUSICIANS
DWAYNE GRETZKY WITH KWS
PATRICK WATSON WITH KWS
CONCERT 1 | PART OF THE A-SERIES
A Night at the Movies

FRI SEPTEMBER 22  8 PM
SAT SEPTEMBER 23  8 PM

EVAN MITCHELL conductor

Join us for our tribute to Academy Award-winning film music, from classics like Nino Rota’s score for The Godfather to John Williams’ music for Star Wars. Evan Mitchell returns to conduct our symphonic salute to the silver screen featuring scores that helped make the James Bond movies and films like Star Wars and Titanic so memorable.

SUBSCRIBERS ALWAYS GET THE BEST SEATS!

CONCERT 2 | PART OF THE B-SERIES
Adi Braun Performs Cole Porter

WED NOVEMBER 1  8 PM

MARTIN MacDONALD conductor
ADI BRAUN jazz singer

The high-octane jazz singer Adi Braun headlines this concert devoted to the iconic tunes of the legendary Cole Porter. Braun and her trio join the orchestra led by Martin MacDonald in specially created orchestral arrangements of such era-defining, toe-tapping classics as “I’ve Got You Under My Skin.”
CONCERT 3 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

Latin Love Songs

FRI NOVEMBER 3 8 PM

RODRIGO MACIAS conductor
ERNesto RAMIREZ tenor
ROMULO DELGADO tenor

Could there be a more perfect pairing than music and love? This romantic Latin-flavoured program of boleros, concert songs, and salon music features Mexican conductor Rodrigo Macias in his KWS debut. Guest tenor soloists Ernesto Ramirez and Romulo Delgado turn up the heat in a concert that is perfect for date night!

CONCERT 4 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

Yuletide Spectacular

FRI DECEMBER 15 8 PM
SAT DECEMBER 16 2:30 & 8 PM
SUN DECEMBER 17 2:30 PM

TODD ELLISON conductor
GRAND PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
K-W SKATING CLUB
CAROUSEL DANCE COMPANY

Bring on the festive season with our Yuletide on Ice spectacular! Joining the orchestra for this concert of holiday favourites are several groups from the local community, including skaters from the Kitchener-Waterloo Skating Club, the Carousel Dance Company, and the Grand Philharmonic Choir—all directed by Todd Ellison, “one of Broadway’s electric conductors” (New York Times).
CONCERT 5 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

Back to the Future in Concert

FRI FEBRUARY 16  8 PM
SAT FEBRUARY 17  2:30 PM & 8 PM

DANIEL BLACK conductor

Hop onto the KWS time machine and experience the 1985 cult movie Back to the Future like never before! Michael J. Fox stars in this pop culture classic where past, present, and future collide. Conductor Daniel Black leads the orchestra as they perform Alan Silvestri’s award-winning score in this live-to-picture blockbuster.

CONCERT 6 | PART OF THE B-SERIES

Magic & Musicians

FRI MARCH 22  8 PM
SAT MARCH 23  8 PM

DANIEL BARTHOLOMEW-POYSER conductor
NICHOLAS WALLACE magician

Magic on a major scale! Award-winning illusionist Nicholas Wallace makes his KWS debut with a mesmerizing combination of music and magic. A master of subtle illusions and a gifted storyteller, Wallace seamlessly mixes magic, music, and storytelling in a way that is entertaining and thought-provoking. The brilliant and multi-talented Daniel Bartholomew-Poyer returns to conduct this enchanting concert.
CONCERT 7 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

Dwayne Gretzky with the KWS

WED APRIL 24  8 PM

LUCAS WALDIN  conductor
DWAYNE GRETZKY  band

“Rarely do you hear ‘cover band’ and ‘national treasure’ in the same sentence, but when referring to Dwayne Gretzky, the association just makes sense” (Exclaim). Experience the emotion of singing along as the hit band joins the KWS for the first time to perform a setlist of all-time favourites. Conductor Lucas Waldin returns to direct what promises to be the ultimate tribute concert.

CONCERT 8 | PART OF THE A-SERIES

Patrick Watson with the KWS

FRI APRIL 26  8 PM

ANDREI FEHER  conductor
PATRICK WATSON  singer-songwriter

“Musical omnivore Patrick Watson has given us some of the most beautiful songs written this century,” says The Journal of Music. Montreal’s world-renowned singer-songwriter joins the KWS led by Andrei Feher for an unforgettable program that frames Watson’s luminous melodies against a lush orchestral backdrop. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear one of Canada’s greatest artists as never before!
Baroque & Beyond series

Journey through one of the richest and most diverse periods in music.

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Mathieu Lussier, Artistic Director of Arion Baroque Orchestra, returns to direct music by two baroque masters. J.S. Bach's sparkling Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 is paired with works by Telemann, a composer who was deeply influenced by Bach. The impressive bass Stephen Hagedus is featured in excerpts from some of Bach's best-known cantatas and oratorios.

FEATURES WORKS BY Telemann and Bach, including excerpts from St. Matthew Passion
CONCERT 4
Lyrical Handel & Vivaldi

WED MAY 1 8 PM | WAT
FRI MAY 3 8 PM | GUE
SAT MAY 4 8 PM | CAM

ANDREW McANERNEY conductor
MEGHAN LINDSAY soprano
VICKY DVORAK curator

We welcome Andrew McAnerney, Artistic Director of Le Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal, who makes his KWS debut as guest conductor. Our program explores the synergy between the instruments and the human voice that fascinated baroque and classical composers, including Scarlatti, Handel, Vivaldi, and Mozart. Soprano Meghan Lindsay joins the KWS strings for some of the most gorgeous arias ever written, including Ombra mai fu and Lascia ch’io pianga.

FEATURES WORKS BY
Handel, Vivaldi & Mozart

CONCERT 3
Strings Through the Ages

WED APRIL 3 8 PM | WAT
FRI APRIL 5 8 PM | GUE
SAT APRIL 6 8 PM | CAM

ANDREI FEHER conductor
JUNG TSAI curator

Andrei Feher and the KWS strings accompany us on a journey from the English baroque to the 20th century, starting with the suite from Purcell’s opera Dido and Aeneas. We travel ahead in time with an excerpt from Stravinsky’s The Fairy’s Kiss, and close with Schoenberg’s dramatic Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night), inspired by a poem about a momentous confession between two lovers.

PURCELL
Suite from Dido and Aeneas Z.626

STRAVINSKY ARR. JAMES LEDGER
Divertimento from Le Baiser de la fée (The Fairy’s Kiss)

SCHOENBERG
Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night)

3 VENUES
WAT is First United Church, Waterloo
GUE is Harcourt Memorial United Church, Guelph
CAM is Central Presbyterian Church, Cambridge
The four ensembles of the nationally acclaimed Youth Orchestra Program continue to inspire and generate music enthusiasts and future musicians! Join us to explore the unique opportunity this program provides and to experience the spirited and energetic performances of over 100 young musicians!

Concert 1
**SAT DECEMBER 2 3:30 PM**
Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, **KITCHENER**
Featuring Preludium Strings, Youth Strings, and Youth Sinfonia.

Concert 2
**SUN DECEMBER 3 3:30 PM**
Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, **KITCHENER**
Featuring the Youth Orchestra.

Concert 3
**SUN MARCH 24 4:30 PM**
Centre In The Square, **KITCHENER**
All the ensembles unite on the stage at Centre In The Square to celebrate the end of the season.

For information about the Youth Orchestra Program, visit kwsymphony.ca/youth-orchestra

**PLEASE NOTE:** All seats are the same price. These concerts cannot be included in any subscription packages.
CONCERT 1

**Building the Score**

**SAT SEPTEMBER 23**  2:30 PM

**EVAN MITCHELL** conductor

Have you ever wondered how a film soundtrack comes to life? Step by step, our family-friendly concert—complete with projected film clips—takes us through the process, from initial concept to full orchestral score. Conductor Evan Mitchell and the orchestra show us how music heightens the action while enhancing every aspect of our favourite movies.

CONCERT 2

**Building the Orchestra**

**SAT MARCH 23**  2:30 PM

**DANIEL BARTHOLOMEW-POYSER** conductor

The dynamic conductor Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser leads a fascinating, kid-friendly exploration of how orchestral music has evolved over almost three centuries. Hear how orchestral sound was built over time, layer after layer—from dance-inspired rhythms favoured by baroque composers like Praetorius, Vivaldi, and Bach to the classical elegance of Mozart, and from the epic power of Beethoven and Dvořák to the lyrical intensity of Mascagni and Bizet.

Subscribing is your best value.

2 Concert Series + BONUS Concert!

Includes: Concerts 1 & 2 plus *Back to the Future* in Concert (on Saturday, February 17, at 2:30 pm)
Created especially for children aged five and under, our Kinderconcerts are just the ticket for the youngest audiences attending their first live orchestra performances. This season, we have invited local storytellers Beryl Bain, Lindsay Wu, and Cecilia Vizcaino to create a series of three concerts around specific themes, starting with Giving Thanks for Program 1, continuing with Family Symphony for Program 2, and concluding with Our Musical Planet for Program 3.

CONCERT 1
Giving Thanks
SAT OCTOBER 14 10:30 AM | CCPA
SAT OCTOBER 21 10:30 AM | STORK

CONCERT 2
Family Symphony
SAT FEBRUARY 3 10:30 AM | CCPA
SAT FEBRUARY 24 10:30 AM | STORK

CONCERT 3
Our Musical Planet
SAT APRIL 20 10:30 AM | CCPA
SAT MAY 4 10:30 AM | STORK

2 VENUES
CCPA is Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, Kitchener
STORK is Stork Family YMCA, Waterloo

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<td>13</td>
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### JANUARY 2024

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### FEBRUARY

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<td>20</td>
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<td>Youth Orch</td>
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<td>Our Musical Planet</td>
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### MAY

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### VENUES

- **CAM** is Central Presbyterian Church, Cambridge
- **CCPA** is Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, Kitchener
- **CITS** is Centre In The Square, Kitchener
- **GUE** is Harcourt Memorial United Church, Guelph
- **STORK** is Stork Family YMCA, Waterloo
- **WAT** is First United Church, Waterloo

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PRICES INCLUDE HST & CRF†

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Guaranteed same seats for each concert for Signature and Pops packages, except for exchanged tickets. Seats can be assigned at time of purchase, pending availability. Child subscriptions are available upon request and are charged at the child single ticket rate of $13 per concert.

CREATE-YOUR-OWN SIGNATURE & POPS—TOTAL FLEXIBILITY!

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Choice of any Signature or Pops concerts. Guaranteed same section but not same seats for each concert. Seats will be assigned after the May 31, 2023, renewal deadline.

BAROQUE & BEYOND SERIES

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†Capital Restoration Fee (CRF) charged by Centre In The Square on each ticket except at Kinderconcerts locations ($1 per ticket at Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, and no charge at other Kinderconcerts locations).
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