



January 9, 2020

VCM Presents: Ensemble Made In Canada

Victoria – On January 30, the Victoria Conservatory of Music (VCM) is proud to stage their first VCM Presents Concert of 2020, showcasing one of Canada’s premier piano quartets, Ensemble Made In Canada (EMIC).

The members of the group, Angela Park (piano), Elissa Lee (violin), Sharon Wei (viola), and Rachel Mercer (cello) have been forging outstanding individual careers and bring together a wealth of experience teaching and performing at prestigious festivals across Canada and the United States. They were awarded the 2006 CBC Galaxie Stars Award from the Banff Centre for the Arts, and featured as “Women to Watch” by Chatelaine Magazine.

Throughout 2018-2020, Ensemble Made in Canada is on a national concert tour celebrating the diversity and richness of Canada through the Mosaïque Project. The Project is a newly commissioned suite of piano quartets by 14 Canadian composers, each inspired by a particular region of Canada. The national concert tour will visit all 10 Canadian provinces and 3 territories. The project also features a specially designed website that showcases audience generated artwork inspired by the musical commission.

EMIC’s visit to the VCM will also include a residency. The VCM will present 6 workshops curated by EMIC’s violinist Elissa Lee, on the highly acclaimed Mosaïque Project in local schools. These workshops began in Nov. 2019 and feature a live interactive session with one of the 14 contributing composers of Mosaïque. The final two workshops will take place in the week leading up to EMIC’s VCM Presents concert and will feature a guest appearance by the ensemble itself, and include discussion about, and performance of 2-3 selections of the Mosaïque project. During the EMIC’s residency, the ensemble will generously offer masterclasses to the students in the VCM’s Young Artists Collegium Program.

The VCM Presents performance will offer a new “mosaïque” program, representing the origins of Canadians through works by Mahler (Czech/Bohemia), Bridge (UK), Turina (Spain), Brahms (Germany), and also a piece from the Mosaïque Project, by BC composer Ana Sokolović (Serbia/Canada-BC). Cellist Trey Lee will replace Rachel Mercer at the VCM Presents concert.

The group is grateful for support from FACTOR, the Canada Council for the Arts and the Ontario Arts Council. EMIC has been Ensemble-in-Residence at Western University since 2014.

Victoria Conservatory of Music thanks the Gail O’Riordan Fund (Victoria Foundation) for their very generous support and Peninsula Co-op for generously sponsoring this concert.

WHAT: VCM Presents: Ensemble Made In Canada (EMIC)

WHERE: Victoria Conservatory of Music’s Robin and Winifred Wood Recital Hall, 907 Pandora Avenue, Victoria

WHEN: Thursday, January 30, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$24.68 – \$26.15 including tax and fees)

WHERE TO BUY TICKETS: Order online <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ensemble-made-in-canada-tickets-83707183439>

Order by Phone: 250.386.5311, or tickets available at VCM Front Desk, 900 Johnson St. Victoria, BC

About the Victoria Conservatory of Music: Founded in 1964, the Victoria Conservatory of Music is one of Canada’s most innovative and progressive music schools. Its mission is to enrich lives through music in a thriving community accessible to all. The VCM is a Centre for Excellence and enjoyment of music through education, performance and music therapy, serving its community of over 3700 students and music therapy clients of all ages, through six outstanding program areas: The Ann & George Nation Conservatory School of Classical Music; The Chwyl Family School of Contemporary Music; the School of Music Technology and Creativity; and the departments of Postsecondary Studies, Music Therapy, and Early Childhood Music. VCM’s Music Outreach initiatives further enrich the lives of over 1000 children in day-cares, preschools, and Elementary schools throughout the Greater Victoria Area. The VCM is a non-profit organization located in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. For more information visit us online at: vcm.bc.ca

-30-

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