

## Maria-Sophia Pera

Originally from Ottawa, Maria-Sophia Pera is currently studying in Montreal, where she obtained her Bachelor in Violin Performance at the University of Montreal. Her role as the faculty orchestra's concertmaster gave her the opportunity to collaborate with Maestro Kent Nagano, Maestro Alain Trudel and Marie-Nicole Lemieux. She has also participated in the Kronberg Academy, Orford Musique, and Orpheus (Vienna) summer festivals, during which she worked with Professors Michael Frischenschlager and Mauricio Fuks. This year, Maria-Sophia completed her Masters degree at McGill's Schulich School of Music. As a member of Professor Violaine Melançon's studio, she will remain at McGill to complete the Graduate Diploma in Performance. Looking forward, Ms. Pera plans to continue preparing for competitions. In May 2021, she received the 3rd prize in the Concerto category of the Festival-Concours de musique de Sherbrooke. Previously, she has participated in the finals of the Marta Hidy competition in Toronto and she received 1st place in her category at the Canadian Music Competition.

## Kevin Chen

Kevin Chen began his piano studies at the age of five and was admitted to Marlene Finn's piano class at the *Conservatory of Music of Quebec* in Gatineau in 2012, at the age of eight. National finalist several times at the *Canadian Music Competition* and winner of numerous awards at the *Kiwanis Music Festival* in Ottawa, he also won the first prize as well as the public prize in the junior category of the *Thousand Islands International Piano Competition* in New York in 2019. In 2021, he was the recipient of a scholarship from the *Grande Finale Desjardins* of the *Festival-Concours de Musique Classique* in Sorel-Tracy as the first-prize winner of the 17 years old and under category.

At the Conservatory, Kevin won the Bravissimo competition twice, the 2017 CMG Concerto Competition as well as the 2020 OSG Concerto Competition, subsequently performing Edvard Grieg's Concerto with the Conservatory Symphony Orchestra and Ludwig van Beethoven's Concerto No.3 with the Gatineau Symphony Orchestra. In 2015, he performed with the well-known pianist Lang Lang at the National Arts Center. He also took part in TV shows such as *Virtuose* from *Radio-Canada* and *La Fabrique culturelle* from *Télé-Québec*.

Kevin often performs as a soloist, chamber musician and accompanist at the Conservatory as well as part of the Young String Performers' Foundation series. He has worked with many professors such as André Laplante, David Jalbert, Denise Trudel, Hugues Cloutier, Michel Fournier, Pierre-Richard Aubin, Richard Raymond, Suzanne Beaubien and Suzanne Goyette. Kevin is currently studying to obtain a double DEC in music and science.



## Young String Performers in Concert

presents

## A Special Mother's Day Concert

**Sunday May 8th, 2022  
at 7:30 p.m.**

First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa  
30 Cleary Avenue



For more information, please call:  
**613-238-3434**  
[www.yspf.ca](http://www.yspf.ca)

## Young String Performers in Concert – Program – 8 May 2022

♪ Sonata No 6 in A major G. 4 ..... L. Boccherini  
I. *Adagio*  
II. *Allegro*  
Sandrine Long-Albert, 'cello  
Liko Yamane, piano

♪ Concerto for 2 violins in D minor BWV 1043 ...  
..... J.S. Bach  
I. *Vivaci*  
Catherine Kim and Lily Dimitrov, violins  
Judith Ginsburg, piano

♪ *Fantasiestücke* Op. 12 ..... R. Schumann  
1. *Zart und mit Ausdruck*  
2. *Lebhaft leicht*  
3. *Rasch und mit Feuer*  
Aurélie Dubé, 'cello  
Scott Richardson, piano

♪ Concerto in C major Op. 48 .... D. Kabalevsky  
I. *Allegro molto e con brio*  
Kien Nguyen-Vu, violin  
Judith Ginsburg, piano

♪ Prelude and Fugue No. 8 in E-flat minor *from*  
The Well Tempered Clavier BWV 853 .....  
..... J.S. Bach  
Étude No. 12 Op. 8 ..... A. Scriabin  
Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35 .....  
..... F. Chopin  
I. *Grave-Doppio movimento*  
Kevin Chen, piano

♪ Fantasia on Themes from Gounod's *Faust*  
Op. 20 ..... H. Wieniawski  
Maria-Sophia Pera, violin<sup>1</sup>  
Judith Ginsburg, piano  
<sup>1</sup> YSPF Alumna

The YSPF would like to thank  
**Nicole Presentey**  
for agreeing to be our Guest Host this evening

We gratefully acknowledge a generous  
donation towards our Bursaries by the *Friends*  
*of the National Arts Centre Orchestra*



\*\*\*\*\* INTERMISSION (10 minutes) \*\*\*\*\*

### We express our appreciation to:

#### our dedicated teachers of this evening's performers:

Anne Contant                      Jean-Hee Lee  
Marlene Finn                      Violaine Melançon  
Joan Milkson

#### and our devoted directors:

**HONORARY CHAIR**  
The Rt. Hon. Beverley McLachlin, P.C.

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Bodo Gospodnetic                      Khai Tran  
Jonathan Irwin                      Leslie Wade

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