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# Resonance

Calgary | July 19-23 | 2023



CHAMBERFEST  
WEST

## Emotional Echoes

Thursday July 20, 2023 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.  
The Bow Tower

**Respighi** Il Tramonto

**Helen Grimes** Aviary Sketches String Trio

**Golijov** Last Round

**Mendelssohn** String Quartet No. 6 in F Minor

Calgary's 'The Bow' is topped by a stunning multi-story atrium boasting incredible views and truly excellent acoustics. Hearing great chamber music in this setting will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. **SOLD OUT!** Respighi Il Tramonto is a miniature tone painting of a sunset, decked with lush harmonies and pastel-hued Romanticism. Aviary Sketches, a musical version of artist Joseph Cornell's assemblage boxes, uses a string quartet to create "miniature worlds... immediate and alluring," and Last Round is an elegiac suite to nuevo tango master Astor Piazzolla. Finally, a dramatic force celebrated for its blistering intensity: Mendelssohn's last string quartet, written shortly after his beloved sister's death and just two months before his own.

*\* Due to restricted seating at this venue, we have scheduled early and late concerts to allow as many patrons as possible the opportunity to enjoy this amazing venue. Please choose ONE concert only!*



## Early concert at The Bow is almost sold out!!

There are still about 50 seats left for *Emotional Echoes* at 8:30 p.m. A no host bar will open between 8 and 8:30 in the atrium, so audience members can mingle and enjoy the view after the early concert, or before the later one.

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## *Resonance* features newly commissioned work

When Pianist-Composer Michael Stephen Brown reached out to ChamberFest West's artistic directors to propose a commissioned work for our 2023 festival, there was no debate.

"Michael is an exceptional musician with a unique compositional voice," says co-artistic director Roman Rabinovich. "We were absolutely thrilled to accept his offer."

Brown's new song cycle, *Love's Lives Lost*, takes inspiration from Schumann's

capture the cyclical essence present in Schumann's songs, Brown collaborated with his close friend, the gifted pianist and poet Evan Shinnars, who crafted a collection of eight poems.

Dedicated to soprano Susanna Phillips, Brown writes, “the cycle serves as both a tribute to her artistry and a wistful homage to the fleeting connections we encounter throughout our lives.”

Phillips continues to establish herself as one of today’s most sought-after singing actors and recitalists. A recipient of the prestigious Met Opera 2010 Beverly Sills Artist Award, Phillips has sung at the Metropolitan Opera for 12 consecutive seasons in roles including Musetta and Countess Almaviva.

*Love's Lives Lost* will receive its world premiere, with Phillips accompanied by Brown on piano, at ChamberFest West’s final concert – *If Music Be the Food of Love* – on Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Bella Concert Hall.

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## **Loops promises a unique audience experience – sharing the stage!**

Jack Singer concert hall holds musical memories for most of us, but not many of those memories are from “on stage”. ChamberFest West isn’t suggesting you perform, but we are inviting you to share the stage with our musicians. It’s a unique experience our Board Chair, Heather Bourne, describes as “like being in the middle of the performance.”

“With tiered seating on the stage or from the choir loft seats above, and subdued lighting in the hall itself, you are suddenly very close to the artists,” says Bourne. “And that’s exactly what makes chamber music so special. It brings us closer to the musicians and their creativity. We feel



Being in the middle of William Byrd's *The Bells*, György Ligeti's *Hungarian Rock*, John Adams' *Shaker Loops* and Beethoven's *Archduke Trio*, will be an experience you don't want to miss. Whether on the stage or just above in the choir loft, you'll experience chamber music up close.



## ChamberFest West's Diana Cohen wins Alumni Achievement Award

Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) recognized CFW's co-artistic director, Diana Cohen, with an Alumni Achievement Award, for her "significant professional contributions to the field of music". Diana received her award during CIM's Honors Convocation ceremony on May 19. Diana was featured as a keynote speaker at the ceremony, and performed with husband and CFW co-artistic director Roman Rabinovich at CIM's third annual Luminaries Benefit Concert.



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