

WORLD PREMIERE

SAPPHO: TELL EVERYONE

COMPOSED BY DANIKA LORÈN



7:30 PM
AUGUST 4 2023

SALLE JOSEPH-ROULEAU
JEUNESSES MUSICALES DU CANADA



PROGRAM

7:30 Pm

Pre-concert discussion: On the Ventriloquy of
Sappho with Hillary Muller

Op. 94, Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

IV. Sapphische Ode

Sapho, Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

VII. O ma lyre

Introduction: Danika Lorèn, composer

Sappho: Tell everyone, Danika Lorèn

World Premiere

I. Remember

II. Lyre

III. Sweat

IV. Bless you

V. New pillows

VI. Drop by drop

VII. In bed alone

VIII. Her leaving

IX. The word

X. Honeybee

XI. Tell everyone



DANIKA LORÈN, COMPOSER

Danika Lorèn, a versatile artist and accomplished composer, captivates global audiences with their innovative and heartfelt musicality. After earning a master's degree in opera performance from the University of Toronto, Danika further refined their vocal skills as part of the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Program. Recently joining Barbara Hannigan's Equilibrium Young Artists, they are forging a distinctive career as a composer and vocalist, guided by the esteemed soprano. Danika's extraordinary talent has garnered performances with renowned orchestras and ensembles worldwide, solidifying their position as a leading voice in contemporary classical music.

Danika's compositions have been showcased across Canada by esteemed organizations such as the CBC, Toronto Summer Music Festival, Canadian Art Song Project, Canadian Opera Company, Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, Pacific Opera Victoria, and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. Their work has also been featured internationally at notable venues including the National Sawdust Theatre, Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Leeds Lieder Festival, and Wigmore Hall.

By translating personal experiences into musical poetry, Danika's compositions resonate in a deeply modern way. They are currently preparing to release their debut album, "Unbecoming," featuring four original song cycles composed and performed by Danika. Stay updated on this album and future releases by following @gentlefreak.dl on Instagram

NICOLE ROSS, SOPRANO & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

“C'est vraiment jolie, une belle voix” (CBC Radio Canada, la matinale) Coloratura soprano Nicole Ross is a recent graduate of McGill University’s Schulich School of Music. She has been recognized for her performances at the Classical Singer Competition (2019) where she placed 3rd, and 2nd in Voice at the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals National Music Festival (2019). Nicole is a 3 time recipient of support from the Canada Council of the Arts. Her opera credits include Grace Davis in *Street Scene* (Opera McGill), Flora in *The Turn of the Screw* (Opera McGill) and Musetta in *La Bohème* (Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance). Nicole has a keen interest in contemporary classical music, and has performed chamber operas *The Blind Woman* by James Rolfe and *Miss Quickly* by Iman Habibi with Tapestry Opera. Most recently Nicole participated in a musical workshop of *Raccoon Opera*, a new opera by Rachel and Rebecca Gray. Nicole has been a soloist with Oasis Musicale, the McGill Contemporary Music Ensemble, Ensemble Allure, the Despax Quartet and the festival orchestra of the Festival L'Art de la Musique. In addition to her performance activities, Nicole is presently an Artistic Associate of Musique 3 Femmes.

GRACE SKEHAN, MEZZO-SOPRANO & ARTISTIC PARTNER

Grace Skehan is a Montréal based mezzo-soprano and graduate of McGill University's Schulich School of Music. In 2022, she completed her second, and final season with Opera McGill where she had the pleasure of performing as a featured chorus member in Mozart's Don Giovanni. She also enjoyed workshopping Tong Wang's new opera, Labyrinth of Tears, as a part of the Opera McGill Beta Lab Project. Grace is the recipient of several prestigious awards including the Phyllis and Bernard Shapiro Fellowship in Opera and the Evangelyna Etienne Award from the Handel and Haydn Society.

As an ensemble musician, Grace has toured Canada with McGill's Schulich Singers. Stateside she has performed with the Handel and Haydn Society on various major programs including NPR's From the Top and the BBC's Great American Railroad Journeys.

As a music administrator, Grace has worked with the Boston Early Music Festival, Boston Baroque, and McGill's Schulich School of Music where she recently finished her two year term as the administrative assistant to the Voice Area.

Upcoming projects include a "Night at the Opera" concert series which Grace is producing in partnership with her neighborhood bookstore. Grace is currently a student of Ariane Girard.

MARTINE JOMPHE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Originally from Fredericton, pianist Martine Jomphe is a versatile and sought-after collaborator. A graduate of Mount Allison University and the University of Ottawa, her interest in vocal art led her to participate in various professional development programs, including Musique sur mer en Acadie, l'Académie de l'Été musical de Barachois, and Orford Music, among others. In the Fall of 2023, she will be on tour with Jeunesse Musicales' production of the operetta La fille du Régiment. Martine is pursuing her doctoral studies in vocal accompaniment at the University of Montreal with Francis Perron and Liz Upchurch.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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