



PROGRAM

Three Songs

- I. Eulogy
- II. Song without words
- III. Barcarolle

Mykola Lysenko (1842-1912)

Partita

- I. Madrigal
- II. Minuet
- III. Concertino
- IV. Canzone
- V. Finale

Mark Karmynsky (1930-1995)

Ostinato

Volodymyr Ptushkin (1949-2022)

INTERMISSION

Nocturne: Lament for the People of Ukraine

David Jaeger (b.1947)

Partita No. 5

- I. Prelude
- II. Walz
- III. Choral
- IV. Aria
- V. Finale

Myroslav Skoryk (1938-2020)

Melody

Myroslav Skoryk (1938-2020)

Amhráin Chaointe: I. Caoineadh Eibhlín
(Keening Songs: I. Eileen's Lament)

Anna Pidgorna (b. 1985)
text: Eibhlín Dubh Ní Chonaill

with Rachel Krehm, soprano

Anna Sagalova

Pianist Anna Sagalova is an Honored Artist of Ukraine and Associate Professor at Kharkiv I.P. Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts. She is an internationally recognized artist and a laureate of a number of competitions in Italy, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Canada and Germany. She frequently plays as a soloist with symphony orchestras throughout Ukraine under the baton of conductors from Ukraine, USA, Switzerland, Great Britain, Austria, etc. She has given concerts at the state radio studio in Bern, the International Museum of the Red Cross in Geneva (Switzerland), the Bozendorfer Hall in Vienna (Austria), the House Museum of F. Liszt, the concert hall in Altenburg in Weimar (Germany), among others. She has taken part in a number of festivals, including the Days of Ukrainian Culture festival in Poznan (Poland), the International Music Festival in Lubostron (Poland), the International festival of chamber music in Shanghai (China), Kiev-Music-Fest (Ukraine), and Kharkiv Assemblies (Ukraine). Her performances have been broadcasted on radio and television. She has recorded two compact discs.

In 2016 Anna was elected chairman of the advisory department in the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine "Council of Young Scientists". She is also a member of the National Council on issues of cultural and art education under the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine. Anna is the artistic director of the International competition of musical art "Kharkiv Assemblies", co-founder of the project "Music against cancer", and a producer of multiple events and concerts.

Anna studied with the People's Artist of Ukraine T.B. Vyerkina at the I.P. Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts in Kharkiv, and completed a postgraduate course with G. Otto at the University of Music Franz Liszt in Weimar (Germany). She participated in international piano masterclasses in Ukraine, Switzerland, China and France.

Rachel Krehm

A multi-faceted artist, soprano Rachel Krehm is the co-founder and General Director of Opera 5. As a performer she works in opera, new music, art song, improvisation, and voice and web-series acting. Along with performing, she is a writer and producer. In 2019, Rachel performed the title role of Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Highlands Opera Studio where her performance was described as "soulful" by Opera Canada. She has performed Poulenc's *La voix humaine* multiple times, most recently with Toronto City Opera, where her performance was described as "a breathtaking virtuoso performance of boundless passion and seemingly limitless musicality" by Opera Going Toronto.

An avid believer in new creation, Rachel works in commissioning, workshopping, and creating Canadian art song and opera. In 2018, she premiered an orchestral song cycle by Vancouver based composer Ryan Trew on texts by her late sister Elizabeth Krehm called *Come Closer*. Rachel has now created a libretto to expand this work into a chamber opera with Ryan Trew. The opera explores the relationship of sisters complicated by drug addiction and separated by death, and includes writing by both of the sisters weaved together through memories, dreams, and conversations. *Come Closer* saw development workshops with Pacific Opera Victoria' Artist Residency program in June 2022 and Opera McGill's Beta Lab in the spring of 2022. The commission is generously supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

Through the pandemic, Rachel co-wrote, produced, and performed in the *Threepenny Submarine* pilot, which is Opera 5's new web series that follows puppets Lydian and Iona on deep sea adventures and combines puppetry and opera in collaboration with Gazelle Automations. Supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, eight more episodes will be created and produced in 2022. In the fall of 2021 Rachel sang Trew's *Come Closer* with the Kingston Symphony, and performed selections from Anna Pidgorna and Maria Reva's new opera *Plaything* with Société de musique contemporaine du Québec and *Musique 3 Femmes*. Rachel travelled to Berlin in the fall of 2022 for a complete performance and the German premiere of *Plaything* with *Musique 3 Femmes* and *ufaFabrik*. Rachel will sing the song cycle *Come Closer* in June of 2023 with North York Concert Orchestra.

Anna Pigdorna

Anna Pigdorna is a Ukrainian-Canadian composer, vocalist and multi-media artist who combines sound, visual arts, video, theatre and writing in her work. She is strongly influenced by Ukraine's folk music, incorporating elements of this singing and poetic tradition into her own vocal practice and instrumental composition. With funding from Canada Council for the Arts, she travelled through rural Ukraine to record local singing practices in 2012 and 2013. Anna draws a great deal of inspiration from the natural soundscape often imitating birds and animals in her work. Having studied visual arts from an early age, she incorporates visual elements into some of her manuscripts.

Along with librettist Maria Reva, Anna is a recipient of the Mécénat Musica Prix 3 Femmes 2020 Award. The duo has written two operas together: *Our Trudy*, commissioned by the Ad Astra Festival in Russell, Kansas, and *Plaything*, developed by Musique 3 Femmes and premiered at UfaFabrik in Berlin. Anna is currently working on a theatrical collaboration with Irish composer Brian Irvine, co-produced by Red Note Ensemble in Edinburgh and Soundstreams in Toronto. Anna holds two SOCAN Foundation Emerging Composers' Awards and represented Canada at the ISCM World New Music Days 2013 festival in Vienna. Her work has been commissioned, performed and recorded by soloists and ensembles in Canada, USA, Uruguay, Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Greece, Poland, Ukraine and South Korea. She holds a PhD from Princeton University, an MMus from the University of Calgary, and a BA from Mount Allison University. Anna's music is published by Oxingale Music. Website: annapidgorna.com

Kharkiv Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts

Kharkiv Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts is a leading music and drama institution of higher education in Ukraine. The university trains about 900 undergraduates, graduates and postgraduates in music and theatre art. The university has suffered damage from shelling by the Russian Federation targeting civilian infrastructure, including notable cultural monuments and institutions. The university's 66 pianos and other costly instruments are suffering from exposure to the elements. Because Kharkiv is shelled daily, most university activities have moved online. The university continues to function, however, accepting new students, teaching classes, and organizing conferences and special events. Their students and staff are participating in international festivals and conferences. In the spring, the institution celebrated its 105th anniversary with a concert in their beautiful, though damaged hall.

Pickle Underground

Pickle Underground is an informal initiative started by Anna Pigdorna and Korean-Canadian composer Ben Keast to offer financial support to Ukrainian musicians affected by the war. We collect donations and make direct transfers to individuals who have been dislocated, lost work, had their homes destroyed or even lost loved ones because of Russia's invasion of their homeland. We also aim to create international connections for Ukrainian artists.

Canzona Chamber Players

Canzona Chamber Players is an annual classical and jazz chamber music concert series in its 20th year. It has hosted some of Canada's top musicians at various venues on Toronto Island and downtown Toronto. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Canzona broadcast recitals on [YouTube.com/CanzonaChamberPlayers](https://www.youtube.com/CanzonaChamberPlayers), recorded to the highest standard by Evan Mitchell and John S. Gray. The series has featured Winona Zelenka, Joseph Johnson and Jonathan Crow (TSO), Marie Bérard (COC), 2020 Juno recipient Angela Schwarzkopf, Yosuke Kawasaki and Jessica Linnebach (NACO) and many more. Canzona has raised over \$242 000 for the St. Michael's Hospital Foundation and is currently fundraising for the Kharkiv's Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts, Ukraine. Please sign up for our newsletter and enjoy our virtual recitals at CANZONA.ORG

We would like to thank the Arts & Letters Club of Toronto for generously donating this beautiful hall for tonight's fundraising event. We are also grateful to Rachel Krehm for donating her time and beautiful voice to tonight's program.