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**Includes the donations to Louis Sherman fund (LS) and for this season's music (M)**

### **PLATINUM (\$500 +)**

City of Victoria (Music Commission), Richard Backus (M), Linda and Stephen Calder, Claudia Chance (LS), Colin Mailer

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Yariv Aloni, Joan Backus, Truman Legg and Nancy Grant (LS), The Mika Family (LS), Marian and Robert Moody (M), Michael Sherman and Emily Rayson (LS), Harry Sherman (LS), Michael and Irene Sherman (LS)

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### **FRIEND \$10-\$49)**

Heron Quartet (Yasuko Eastman, Allyn Chard, Marian Moody, Trevor MacHattie) (M), Janis Kerr (M), Paula Kiffner, Bruce and Mary Murray, Cathy Reader, Lome Swannell, Jennifer and Ronald Whitney (LS)

Special thanks to Thrifty Foods for the flowers for both concerts.



### **LOUIS SHERMAN CONCERTO COMPETITION**

The Louis Sherman Concerto Competition for Young String Players was established in 2000 with the generosity of Louis' daughter, Claudia Chance, and the Victoria Chamber Orchestra. This honours the memory of an outstanding musician. Born in Toronto, 1907, the eldest of five brothers, Louis died October 1999.

Louis started out playing for silent movies, and soon joined the Toronto Symphony where he played violin for twenty years before moving to Los Angeles. The next twenty years he played and travelled with the Freddy Martin Band and the Percy Faith Orchestra. After a further ten years playing in Las Vegas, he retired to Victoria in 1979.

Louis continued to be active in the Victoria music scene, and is remembered most for his kindness and generosity toward his fellow musicians, particularly talented young string players and emerging artists. As a benefactor, he helped to establish the Victoria Chamber Orchestra, and many of this evening's performers remember him fondly as a friend.

Each year the VCO welcomes young string players under 18 to compete for an opportunity to perform with the orchestra. The first prize winner also receives an award of \$300, and second and third places are awarded \$100 each. This year's competition was January 31 at Copeland Lecture Theatre, St. Michaels University School, and was adjudicated by Yariv Aloni, Martin Bonham and Robert Skelton.

The VCO is very proud of all past winners: Nikki Chooi 2000, Hollis Longton 2001, Jeremy Ferland 2003, Jordan Ofiesh 2004, Kevin O'Riordan 2005, Emily Redhead 2006, Philip Manning 2007, and Nelson Moneo and Jessica Pickersgill in 2009.

The Island String Players Society, Victoria Chamber Orchestra, PO Box 31122, #314-3980 Shelbourne St., Victoria, BC, V8N 6J3. [www.victoriachamberorchestra.org](http://www.victoriachamberorchestra.org)

# *The Victoria Chamber Orchestra*

## **CONCERTO CONCERT**



**Rylan Gajek** violoncello

**Winner of the Louis Sherman Concerto Competition**

**Yariv Aloni**  
Music Director

**Friday, March 12, 2010, 8:00 pm**

First Metropolitan United Church, Quadra at Balmoral

**Saturday, March 13, 2010, 8:00 pm**

St. Elizabeth's Church, 10030 3rd St. Sidney

**A PRESENTATION OF THE ISLAND STRING PLAYERS SOCIETY**

**Edvard Grieg, 1843-1907**



The Holberg Suite Op. 40 is more properly known as *Suite im alten Style*. (*Aus Holberg's Zeit*.) Grieg wrote this initially for piano in 1882 for the bicentenary of the birth of the Norwegian playwright and humanist Ludvig Holberg. It is a suite based on five dances popular in the previous century. Mining older styles has always been a valuable exercise for composers. Liszt's *A la Chapelle Sixtine* and the neoclassical works of the twentieth century are examples. Grieg subsequently arranged the suite for string orchestra, and it is certainly the musical equal of the *Peer Gynt Suite*.

Though in reference to a Norwegian humanist, the music is not as nationalistic as *Peer Gynt*. Grieg's great-grandfather was a Scot, who fled to Norway after the Battle of Culloden and established himself in Bergen. Grieg himself was one of the romantic nationalist voices affirming the culture of Norway which contributed to the peaceful independence from Sweden in 1905. It took four generations to establish the value of local and national culture, something we would like to take for granted in British Columbia with government support for the arts.

**Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809**

The Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major was composed between 1761 and 1765. This was a volatile time for Haydn. He had just been retained as assistant Kapellmeister in the Esterhazy household in Eisenstadt, not far from Vienna, he had entered his disastrous marriage with Maria Anna, he was working through the ideas of C. P. E. Bach, and he was consolidating his hold on the sonata form,



which he used in all three movements of this concerto. The writing is completely idiomatic for the cello, and shines with his usual optimism. The music had been presumed lost, but was recovered in 1961 from the Prague National Museum and has become a staple of the cello literature. Ironically, the score was discovered only seven years after Haydn's skull had finally been reunited with his body in his tomb in the Bergkirche, Eisenstadt. The skull which had substituted for Haydn's for 145 years was left in the tomb. Haydn became the true Janus, looking back to the heritage of music and forward through sonata form to the German Romanticism of the next piece after the intermission.



**GALIANO**  
Ensemble of Victoria

*Yariv Aloni, Music Director*

**10TH ANNIVERSARY GALA**

**Wednesday, June 2, 2010**

**SERENADING THE AUDIENCE**

In celebrating our 10th Anniversary, the members of the Galiano Ensemble wish to give our subscribers a musical "thank you": a concert of Serenades. You have voted and chosen your favorites. Drum roll please... (a bow tremolo in our case). The audience choice winners are...

**Mozart: Serenade in C minor, K. 406**  
**Nielsen: Little Suite for Strings**  
**Suk: Serenade for Strings**

**Ticket information:** To reserve by phone please call:  
(250) 704-2580.  
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Three fine orchestras together onstage in one spectacular concert

# A Sonic Celebration

**The Civic Orchestra of Victoria,**

George Corwin, Conductor

**Sooke Philharmonic Orchestra**

Norman Nelson, Conductor

**Victoria Chamber Orchestra**

Yariv Aloni, Conductor

Soloist: Cary Chow

Tchaikovsky: Romeo & Juliet Overture - Fantasy

Saint-Saëns: Piano Concerto No. 5 ("Egyptian")

Elgar: Enigma Variations

**Saturday, April 17, 2010**

8:00 pm

Farquhar Auditorium, University of Victoria

Tickets are going fast!

Adult: \$25,

Seniors & Students: \$20

Children: \$10 (Ages 12 and under, with adult)

Only at: Uvic Ticket Centre Box Office, 250-721-8480

Online Sales: [auditorium.uvic.ca](http://auditorium.uvic.ca)



**R. Kim Tipper Fine Violins** is offering the working bow of **Louis Sherman** (seen in his photograph) for sale, and will donate the commission for the sale to the Louis Sherman Concerto Competition. It is a beautiful gold mounted bow by Albert Nurnberger, and can be viewed at [http://tipper-violins.com/site/violin\\_bows/0785\\_Nurnberger/0785.htm](http://tipper-violins.com/site/violin_bows/0785_Nurnberger/0785.htm).



## Arthur Honegger, 1892-1955



Born of Swiss parents in France, Honegger spent most of his life in Paris. Before the war he had already established a significant body of work, more structured and less flip-pant than that of Les Six with whom he is frequently associated. He was caught in Paris by the outbreak of WW II, and joined the French Resistance. The war had a profound and depressing effect on him, and this may be seen in the second movement of tonight's work. The second Symphony was commissioned by Paul Sacher in 1937 for the 10th anniversary of the Basel Chamber Orchestra. The war intervened, and first performance was by Paul Sacher and the Collegium Musicum of Zurich May 18, 1942. The work is resolutely bitonal. Imagine picking out a scale on a keyboard using only the white notes. Combine this with another scale

using the black notes; this scale will use some white notes. The combination results in two clusters of semitones, or half steps, using adjacent keys. Moving through these half steps has a profound emotional effect. If the scale is descending, the effect is of deepening melancholy, if ascending, provisional hope. Listen for these emotions, usually of provisional hope followed by melancholy, most noticeable in the second movement.

Honegger used driving rhythm to unite the two scales. This rhythm is ordered and propulsive in the first movement. In the third movement polyrhythms appear. Each voice has its own rhythm, which continues as three against two, five against six, ten against twelve, which results in disorientation, a choppy ocean with no up or down, and a harmony cut loose from convention. When this continuous disruption of life becomes intolerable, suddenly an organ pipe or a trumpet sings out over the turbulence, like a Bach chorale with its offering of a more serene humanity. Despite the new sounds, this symphony is formally structured and significantly influenced by German Romanticism - a reference to the humanistic influence of German culture prior to the second World War?

### R. KIM TIPPER & ASSOCIATES FINE VIOLINS



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**Rylan Gajek**, winner of the Louis Sherman Concerto Competition, was born in Red Deer, Alberta, and began studying the cello when he was six. He is currently a student of distinguished teacher and performer Paula Kiffner and sits as the principal cellist of the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra. Rylan is also a member of the Victoria Conservatory of Music and maintains a consistent drive to push his creative limits as a cellist and composer. Rylan placed 1st in the 2009 Don Chrysler Concerto Competition for the Sooke Philharmonic, 2nd in the 2009 British Columbia Provincial Music Writing Competition, 1st in the 2008 Salt Spring Concert Band Solo Competition, and has been awarded for both cello

and composition in the Great Victoria Performing Arts Festival. In April 2009 he had an original composition for soprano and cello premiered by players from Queensland University at Australian Fashion Week in Sydney, Australia. His compositions have also been played on local and national radio (Radio Canada). In February of 2009, Rylan was invited by a delegate of the American Cello Council to take part in Canada's CelloFest 2009 with pedagogue Ronald Leonard at the Banff Arts Centre in Alberta. In July and August 2009, Rylan studied and performed at the international music festival Domaine Forget in Quebec for one month. Earlier this year Rylan recorded with children's singer Raffi Cavoukian. He has participated in masterclasses with Matt Haimovitz, Hans Jørgen Jensen, Paul Marleyn, Philippe Muller, Yuli Turovsky and John Kadz.



**Yariv Aloni**, director of the Victoria Chamber Orchestra since 1995, is also the founder and music director of the Galiano Ensemble of Victoria and an associate music director for the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra. Acclaimed by critics for his sensitivity and virtuosity, he performs in major concert halls around the world. He received his early training in Israel, where he studied viola with David Chen at the Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem and subsequently with the late Daniel Benyamini, principal violist of the Israel Philharmonic. His chamber music studies took him to the United

States, where he studied with Michael Tree of the Guarneri String Quartet at the University of Maryland. A former member of the Aviv & the Penderecki Quartets, he can be heard on CDs issued by the United, Marquise, Tritonus and CBC labels, and has recorded for the CBC, the BBC, National Public Radio, Radio-France and the Israeli Broadcasting Corporation. Mr. Aloni studied conducting with the Hungarian conductor János Sándor, and he participated in conducting workshops with Gustav Mayer and Helmuth Rilling. As a conductor, he has received praise for conducting his impassioned, inspiring and "magnificently right" interpretations of major orchestral and choral repertoire. Reviewers also describe him as "a musician of considerable insight and impeccable taste."

## Programme

### Edvard Grieg

Suite im alten Style (aus Holberg's Zeit) op. 40

*I. Praelude: allegro vivace*

*II. Sarabande: andante*

*III. Gavotte: allegretto*

*IV. Air: andante religioso*

*V. Rigaudon: allegro con brio*

### Joseph Haydn

Concerto in C major for Violoncello and Orchestra, Hob. VIIb:1

*Moderato*

*Adagio*

*Allegro molto*

Rylan Gajek, Violoncello

~Intermission~

### Arthur Honegger

Symphonie pour orchestre à cordes N. 2

*Moderato-allegro*

*Adagio mesto*

*Vivace non troppo-presto*

### The Victoria Chamber Orchestra

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Violin I:</b>  | Yasuko Eastman, Leader; Lauren Klein, Allyn Chard, Susan Colonval-Klazek, Don Kissinger, Chloe McConchie |
| <b>Violin II:</b> | Sue Innes, principal; Cathy Reader, Fiona Millard, Gwen Isaacs   |
| <b>Viola:</b>     | Marian Moody, principal; Jon O'Riordan, Mary Clarke, Michael Klazek, Catheryn Kennedy                    |
| <b>Cello:</b>     | Mary Smith, principal; Janis Kerr, Ellen Himmer, Karen Whyte, Trevor McHattie                            |
| <b>Bass:</b>      | Richard Backus, principal; Alex Olsen  |
| <b>Oboe:</b>      | Sheila Longton, principal; Jacqueline Gawluk   |
| <b>Horn:</b>      | Mandy Tillmans, principal; Jennifer Lorimer  |
| <b>Trumpet:</b>   | Michelle Footz   |