




## 2017/18 Season Finale Concert

May 26, 2018 | 7:00 pm

 May 26, 2018 (Sat.)  
7:00 pm

 **St. John's Shaughnessy Church**  
1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver  
(Granville & Nanton near W26th Ave.)

 **FEATURING**  
**Barry Tan** Senior Category Winner  
**Austin Ng** Junior Category Winner  
**Ken Hsieh** Conductor

Fifteen years ago, the VMO was founded with a vision of providing superior artistic, personal and professional mentorship to outstanding young musicians. Today, on the occasion of its Crystal 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the orchestra has firmly established its place among the great and respected music ensembles of our metropolis. To culminate this tremendous milestone season, Award-Winning Canadian Conductor Ken Hsieh takes to the podium to lead the VMO in a performance of works by Mozart, Rachmaninoff, and Brahms. The featured soloists are the Junior and Senior Category winners of the 2017 VMO Clef Concerto Competition: pianists Austin Ng and Barry Tan. The Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra presents the **2017/18 Season Finale Concert** on Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm at St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church, Vancouver.

Mozart's piano concertos were largely composed for himself to premiere and perform. Not only was he an incredible composer, but also a much sought after performer, maintaining a rigorous performing schedule where his piano was carted nearly every day from his home to a concert. The *Piano Concerto No. 21* was composed within a four-week period in 1785 when Mozart was 29 years old. With this concerto and the *Piano Concerto No. 20* before it, Mozart was shifting the piano concerto genre towards a more symphonic sound with a broader scope. To this day, *Piano Concerto No. 21* remains a popular and virtuosic choice for concert pianists. VMO's Clef Concerto Competition Junior Category winner Austin Ng will perform the majestic and poised 1st movement at this concert.



Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2* could be argued as one of the greatest piano concertos in the repertoire and is certainly one of the most popular by audience vote. Rachmaninoff composed this incredible concerto on the upswing after a long period of deep depression from the disastrous premiere of his *Symphony No. 1*. He dedicated the work to his hypnotherapist Dr. Nikolai Dahl, who played a major role in his recovery. From its opening bell-like tolling of the piano giving way to an undoubtedly dramatic Russian melody, the work is sure to take the listener on an epic journey of exquisite beauty and thrilling virtuosity. Senior Category winner Barry Tan will take your breath away with his passionate artistry.

It only took Brahms the summer of 1877 to compose the entirety of his *Symphony No. 2*, an incredibly short amount of time when compared to the 21 years it took for him to compose his *Symphony No. 1*. Brahms was spending his summer in the picturesque Austrian village of Pörtlach am Wörthersee to bring him inspiration, and its influence can clearly be felt in the music. Upon hearing the music, a friend of Brahms remarked that it conjured images of "rippling streams, blue sky, sunshine, and cool green shadows", just like in the village. Naturally, people began to refer to the work as Brahms' *Pastoral Symphony*, which is a reference to his predecessor Beethoven's *Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral"*. From the day the work premiered in Vienna in 1877, it has been an instant hit everywhere it has been performed.

We are so excited to have you join us at this concert to celebrate the conclusion of our memorable Crystal Anniversary season!

## LOCATION

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1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver  
(Granville & Nanton near W26th Ave.)

## DATE & TIME

May 26, 2018 (Sat.)  
7:00 pm

## PRICING

General \$30  
Student & Senior \$5 discount

## TICKETS

[tickets.vmocanada.com](http://tickets.vmocanada.com)

## PROGRAMME\*

### Pre-concert Talk

#### Mozart

Piano Concerto No. 21, K.467, 1st movement

#### Rachmaninoff

Piano Concerto No. 2, Op. 18

#### Brahms

Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73

(\*Subject to change without notice)

## CONTACT

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