



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

100 YEARS
1918-2018

WHAT MAKES IT GREAT?[®] Schumann's Piano Quintet

Rob Kapilow

Wilma and Clifford Smith Visitor in Music

with the Gryphon Trio & Friends

Monday October 29, 2018

7:30 pm

Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates.

For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat,
the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River.

Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across
Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

WHAT MAKES IT GREAT?® Schumann's Piano Quintet

with Rob Kapilow, Wilma and Clifford Smith Visitor in Music
Gryphon Trio

Annalee Patipatanakoon, violin

Roman Borys, cello

James Parker, piano

and guests Alessia Disimino, violin and Maxime Despax, viola

PROGRAM

Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, Op. 44

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

- i. Allegro brillante
- ii. In modo d'una Marcia. Un poco largamente
- iii. Scherzo: Molto vivace
- iv. Allegro, ma non troppo

The Faculty of Music is very pleased to welcome Rob Kapilow of What Makes It Great® fame to the University of Toronto as our Wilma and Clifford Smith Visitor during our 100th anniversary season. Rob will be presenting three public events at the Faculty of Music this season: tonight's performance with the Gryphon Trio and Friends; February 7 with the U of T Jazz Orchestra (on Duke Ellington), and March 4 with the U of T Strings (on Tchaikovsky's Serenade).

Rob's superb combination of in-depth musical knowledge and gifted communication skills matches U of T Music's mission of sophisticated musical creation, performance, and research coupled with our mandate for educational outreach in the university, the city, and the world.

We are delighted to have him with us for our 100th anniversary season.

Don McLean, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Music

BIOGRAPHIES



Photo © Peter Schaaf

For over 20 years, **Rob Kapilow** has brought the joy and wonder of classical music – and unravelled some of its mysteries – to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Characterized by his unique ability to create an “aha” moment for his audiences and collaborators, whatever their level of musical sophistication or naiveté, Kapilow’s work brings music into people’s lives: opening new ears to musical experiences and helping people to listen actively rather than just hear.

Rob Kapilow’s range of activities is astonishingly broad, including his What Makes It Great?® presentations (now for over 20 seasons in New York and Boston), his family compositions and Family Musik® events, his “Citypieces,” corporate programs, and residencies with institutions as diverse as the National Gallery of Canada and Stanford University.

Kapilow has appeared on NBC’s *Today Show* with Katie Couric and

presented a special What Makes It Great?® for broadcast on PBS’s *Live From Lincoln Center*. He has written two books: *All You Have To Do Is Listen*, which won the PSP Prose Award for Best Book in Music and the Performing Arts, and *What Makes It Great* (2011), the first book of its kind designed for the iPad with embedded musical examples. He is currently finishing a new book on the American Songbook.

Rob Kapilow also writes and composes new music. He was the first composer to be granted the rights to set Dr. Seuss’s words to music, and his *Green Eggs and Ham* has been called “the most successful piece written for families this half century.” He is currently working on a new piece for the 25th anniversary of Ottawa Chamberfest based on Louise Bourgeois’ spider sculpture “Maman.” He was featured on Chicago Public Radio’s *Composers In America* series, and is a recipient of an Exxon Meet-the-Composer grant and numerous ASCAP awards.

Rob Kapilow has conducted many of North America’s orchestras, as well as new works of musical theatre, from the Tony Award-winning *Nine* on Broadway to the premiere of *Frida* for the opening of the Brooklyn Academy of Music’s Next Wave Festival, and premieres of works for the American Repertory Theater.



Photo by Bo Huang

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the **Gryphon Trio** has impressed international audiences and the press with its highly refined, dynamic performances and has firmly established itself as one of the world's preeminent piano trios. With a repertoire that ranges from the traditional to the contemporary and from European classicism to modern-day multimedia, the Gryphons are committed to redefining chamber music for the 21st century.

The Trio tours regularly throughout North America and Europe and their 20 recordings are an encyclopedia of works for the genre. They have commissioned over 75 new works, and regularly collaborate on projects that push the boundaries of chamber music. Honours include two Juno Awards for Classical Album of the Year, and the prestigious 2013 Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts from the Canada Council.

Deeply committed to the education of the next generation of audiences and performers alike, the Gryphons frequently conduct master classes and workshops at universities and conservatories, and are Artists-in-Residence at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music and Trinity College.

Gryphon cellist Roman Borys is Artistic Director of Ottawa's Chamberfest. Annalee Patipatanakoon and James Parker serve as the festival's Artistic Advisors in addition to their responsibilities at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, where they are Associate Professor of Violin and Rupert E. Edwards Chair in Piano Performance, respectively.

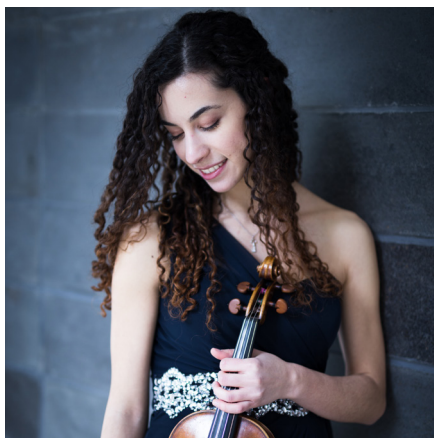


Photo by Alice H. Photography

Toronto-based violinist **Alessia Disimino** is recognized for her thoughtful musicality and instinctive interpretations. Described as "one of Toronto's finest violinists" (*Snapd* Beaches/Danforth), she is the co-founder and violinist of the

Bedford Trio, concertmaster of the North York Concert Orchestra, and founder and Director of Strings at the North York String Academy. Alessia is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Master of Music in Performance (Hons.) as a scholarship student of Timothy Ying, and also obtained her Bachelor of Music in Performance (Hons.) with a Minor in English, with Annalee Patipatanakoon of the Gryphon Trio. Most recently, the Bedford Trio was announced as the inaugural Irene R. Miller Piano Trio Residency ensemble at the University of Toronto for 2018-2019 and also named Ottawa Chamberfest's 2018 Career Development Residency ensemble.

A recipient of numerous awards, Alessia Disimino was awarded a Gordon Cressy Leadership Award and an Ontario Graduate Scholarship. She has served as concertmaster of the U of T Symphony Orchestra and Opera, and performs throughout Toronto as a soloist, orchestral, and chamber musician.

Originally from Gatineau, Quebec, violist **Maxime Despax** studied at the Conservatoire de musique de Gatineau, the Conservatoire de music de Montréal and the University of Toronto, where he studied with Emmanuel Beaudet, Jocelyne Bastien and Teng Li. He completed his Master's degree in Viola Performance at the University

of Toronto on full scholarship, studying with Teng Li with whom he is now pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts. Currently, his career is focused on orchestral and chamber music. Maxime has subbed with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and is a member of the Orchestre Symphonique de Gatineau. He often collaborates with current composers from Canada, and performed the national premiere of the opera *Luci Mie Traditrici* by Italian composer Salvatore Sciarrino in Toronto. Maxime also has a family string quartet, the Quatuor Despax. They have been invited to perform in several festivals such as Ottawa Chamberfest, and have performed throughout Quebec and Ontario, as well as in France and Italy.

Maxime Despax has attended the Orford Quartet Program, the Domaine Forget, the St. Lawrence String Quartet Seminar at Stanford University, the Banff Centre and the Mozarteum Summer Academy in Salzburg.



Photo by Alice Hong



Photo: George Kash

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This evening's program would not be possible without the generous support of donors to the Faculty of Music. The Chamber Music Program is thriving with exciting work happening on stage and in the classroom. For the stage, we have appearances on the Chamber Music Series by both Ensembles in Residence and Visiting Artists. In the classroom, in addition to their regularly scheduled lessons and coachings, our students have the opportunity to work with our visitors in master classes and private coaching sessions.

We need your help – it is our hope that we can continue to present a variety of chamber ensembles and subsequently provide the opportunity for our students to work with these acclaimed musicians.

Opportunities exist for individuals to sponsor a visiting ensemble, an ensemble in residence, a master class, a concert or a series of concerts. Your tax receiptable gift will help to build and enhance the Chamber Music program.

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Thank you for your support!

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