



The diverse and deeply expressive music on this programme represents part of a very personal journey. I am Armenian-Canadian, born in Canada to Armenian parents. My father's parents were both orphans of the Armenian genocide. In the spring of 2022, I travelled to Armenia for the first time. There I connected to music by living Armenian composers and charted new emotional territory for myself.

Through this programme, I am seeking a point of intersection between my Armenian heritage and my musical practice.

The unique music on this programme explores the piano through an Armenian folkloric lens, grounding itself

in a work by Komitas Vardapet (the godfather of Armenian music), and includes works by living composers from Armenia and the Armenian diaspora: Vatche Sharafyan (Armenia), Mary Kouyoumdjian (USA), Narine Khachatryan (Germany), Boghos Gelalian (Lebanon), Tigran Mansurian (Armenia) and myself.

Armenian history is a complicated one. Through the genocide and subsequent diaspora we have lost ties to our historic past. I hope to find a musical place for myself between remnants of the past and the energy of the present to create a musical place of my own. Though I will never be able to return to my ancestral home without being fully aware of its violently destructive past and uncertain future, I hope to find something safe for me nestled within its extraordinarily rich and ancient culture."

Programme:

Tigran Mansurian (b. 1939) *Lullaby for the Knight* (2010)
Vatche Sharafyan (b. 1966) excerpts from *Goat Rite* (2014)
Boghos Gelalian (1927-2011) *Tre Cicli* (1969)
Mary Kouyoumdjian (b. 1983-) *Aghavni (Doves)* (2009)
Narine Khachatryan (b. 1979) *4 Monodien fur Klavier* (2011)
Eve Egoyan (b. 1964) *Ghosts beneath my Fingertips* (for Viva) (2020)
Komitas Vardapet (1869-1935) *Seven Dances for Piano*

PRESENTER PROVIDES: *grand piano (in good condition), amplification.*

RESOURCES:

[PERFORMANCE VIDEO LINK](#) (*Ghosts beneath my Fingertips*) | [EVE EGOYAN](#)

[TIGRAN MANSURIAN](#) | [VATCHE SHARAFYAN](#) | [BOGHOS GELALIAN](#)
[MARY KOUYOUMDJIAN](#) | [NARINE KHACHATRYAN](#) | [KOMITAS VARDAPET](#)