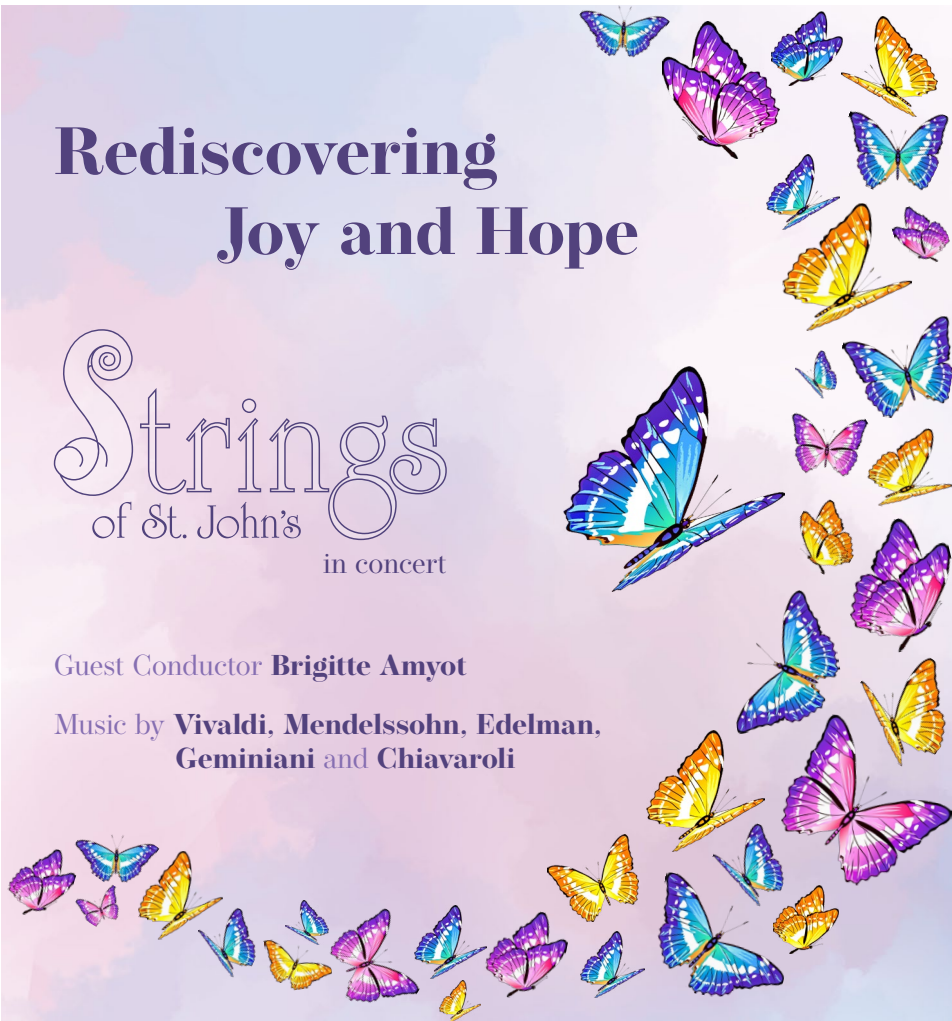


# Rediscovering Joy and Hope

Strings  
of St. John's  
in concert

Guest Conductor **Brigitte Amyot**

Music by **Vivaldi, Mendelssohn, Edelman,  
Geminiani and Chiavaroli**



## Sunday May 8th, 2022 at 2:00 pm

**St John the Evangelist Anglican Church**  
(Elgin St, at Somerset – Ottawa)

**Admission by donation**  
(suggested \$20/adult)

2022  
Strings  
of St. John's

**Ottawa**  
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# Programme

***Confine***

**Maurizio Chiavaroli**

***Concerto Grosso in D Major, op. 7 no. 1***

**Francesco Geminiani**

(1687–1762)

Andante

L'Arte della Fuga à 4 parte Reale (Presto)

Andantino

Allegro moderato

***String Symphony no. 5  
in B flat Major***

**Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy**

(1809–1847)

Allegro vivace

Andante

Presto

***Tranquil***

**Cheryl Edelman**

***Concerto for Strings in G Major  
("Sinfonia all rustica")***

**Antonio Vivaldi**

(1678–1741)

Presto

Adagio

Allegro

# Programme notes

## **Francesco Geminiani (1687-1762)**

*Concerto Grosso in D Major, op. 7 no. 1*

Francesco Geminiani was an Italian violinist, composer, and music theorist. He was once described as largely forgotten in modern times but in his lifetime, he was considered an equal of Handel and Corelli. Born in Lucca, he received music lessons from Alessandro Scarlatti and one of his later violin teachers was Arcangelo Corelli. His best-known compositions are three sets of concerti grossi Opus 2, Opus 3 and Opus 7 (there are 42 concerti in all) which introduce the viola as a member of the concertino group of soloists.

## **Maurizio Chiavaroli**

*Confine*

Maurizio Chiavaroli began studying the piano at the age of eight. He has performed as a solo pianist and accompanist both inside and outside the Abruzzo region of Italy. He continues to be an active pianist, accompanist and composer throughout Italy and Europe as well as presenting workshops to primary school children. He writes: “*Confine* is a suite in two movements for string orchestra written in 2012. Initially it was conceived as an overture for a trilogy of orchestral suites and only subsequently released separately. The piece was structured and conceived as a journey that crosses the “boundaries” of the human soul from one extreme to the other trying to describe, contrasting strong harmonies with delicate phrasing, the eternal contradiction between the will of the soul and rationality.”

## *Programme notes, continued*

### **Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)**

#### *String Symphony no. 5 in B flat Major*

Felix Mendelssohn was a German composer, pianist, organist and conductor of the early Romantic period. He wrote thirteen string symphonies between 1821 and 1823. These symphonies were written for string orchestra alone except for number 11 which contains tympani, triangle, and cymbals. While the string symphonies are believed to be tributes to the classical symphonies of Mozart, Haydn, and CPE Bach, it is thought that Mendelssohn intended for these works to be played at musical soirees with only 5 players. String Symphony no. 5 in B flat Major which will be performed today was written when Mendelssohn was 12 years old and was an assignment in counterpoint from his composition teacher Carl Zelter. It is in 3 movements: Allegro vivace, Andante and Presto.

### **Cheryl Edelman**

#### *Tranquil*

Cheryl Edelman is a composer, performer and teacher based in Westchester County, New York. She began her composing career at the age of 11 with her non-profit musical theatre group “We Six.” Since then, she has been the composer/lyricist for over 6 family musicals many which have been performed throughout the Westchester school community. As a performer, she has played viola in recitals at Town Hall, and music festivals in Spoleto Italy and the Saratoga Springs Music Festival. She is an Alumna of the New York School of Music, Performing Arts High School and the Mannes School of Music in New York. Originally composed for violin and harp, *Tranquil* was arranged for strings by Michael O. Shaw. The composer describes *Tranquil* as “a very meditative and gorgeous, inspirational work.” Edelman was inspired to write the piece soon after getting out of the hospital when she realized she wanted to “take advantage of truly being alive and enjoy the beauty in the world.”

**Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)**

*Concerto for Strings in G Major ("Sinfonia alla rustica")*

Born in Venice, Vivaldi is regarded as one of the greatest Baroque composers. Vivaldi was an ordained priest often referred to as 'The Red Priest' because of his flaming red hair. The *Sinfonia alla rustica* is a concerto for orchestra without soloists and is one of the composer's best-known concertos. It was composed sometime between 1720 and 1730 around the same time as *The Four Seasons* and is believed to have been written for the court of the aristocratic Ottoboni family in Rome. *Sinfonia alla rustica* is in three movements: Presto, Adagio and Allegro. In pop culture, snippets of this music are heard in Bob Fosse's *All That Jazz* among other Hollywood films.

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## *Brigitte Amyot*, Guest Conductor



Brigitte Amyot began her violin studies at the age of six with Father Rolland Brunelle in her hometown of Joliette. Her musical training includes several programs such as Camp musical de Lanaudière and the Festival-Concours. She also took part in the summer programs of Orchestre symphonique des jeunes du Québec from 1989 to 1991.

Graduating from McGill University in 1991, she obtained

her Bachelor of Music degree in performance under violinist Mrs. Sonia Jelinkova. Following her passion for chamber orchestra repertoire, Brigitte moved to Ottawa where she completed her Master's degree in Chamber Music at the University of Ottawa, studying with former Montreal Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Calvin Sieb.

For the past thirty years, Brigitte has been very active in the musical scene of Ottawa-Gatineau teaching string classes at Ecole Secondaire Publique De La Salle and Ecole Massé, playing in the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra as well as Orchestre symphonique de Gatineau. From 2004 to 2007 Brigitte was concertmaster for Ottawa Chamber Orchestra. She has played with Savoy Society of Ottawa, Orpheus Musical Theatre and Virtuosi Orchestra of Ottawa.

As the proud mother of Emma, Jessie and Aidan, Brigitte is happy with her musical way of life. She teaches violin in her private studio and conducts the Junior Strings ensemble at the Ottawa Youth Orchestra Academy where she is celebrating her thirtieth year. She continues her various workshops and groups such as “Brigitte’s artistic camp”, “The More Strings the Merrier” and “The Big Strings’ Group.” She is the conductor for Manor Park Strings and enjoys coaching chamber music groups in schools.

As a freelance musician, she works regularly with different choirs and organizations of Ottawa-Gatineau. Brigitte enjoys performing with her family in their group Musicalement Fleet for various engagements. She is a member of Thirteen Strings Chamber Orchestra as well as their Personnel Manager and is principal second violin in Orchestre symphonique de Gatineau.



# *The Strings of St. John's*

## **Violin I**

Jackie Morris,  
*Concertmaster*  
Rosalind Spencer  
Carolyn Ho  
Carolyn Phillips  
Sonia Dimitrov  
Margaret Macpherson

## **Violin II**

Iain Macpherson,  
*Principal*  
Jennifer Arrigo  
Katherine Tinkler  
Gabriella Csoti  
Khalid Ahmad  
Marko Yanishevsky

## **Viola**

Shalva Chabukiani,  
*Principal*  
Mary Young  
Laura Mennill

## **Cello**

Sandra Allan,  
*Principal*  
Catherine Campbell  
Andrew Deaville  
David Van Dine

## **Bass**

Patrick Kline,  
*Principal*

## **Harpsichord**

Gordon Johnston

*See you in the fall!*