

Sundays: June 9, 16, 23, 30, 2:30pm,

First Unitarian Church, 5575 West Saanich Rd.

Mondays: June 10, 17, 24, 7:00 pm, Saturday June 29, 2:30 pm

Deep Cove Winery, 11195 Chalet Rd.

June is just around the corner, with all its warm days and musical pleasures. EKSM is ready to present a bouquet of chamber music featuring stellar musicians from near and far.

The festival opens with performances on Sunday **June 9th** & Monday **June 10th** by Alana Despina, principal horn with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra. Alana will be joined by members of the Muse Ensemble (Terence Tam, violin; Lorraine Min, piano; Laura Backstrom, cello). This program features two monumental, important works: Brahms' glorious *Horn Trio*, and Beethoven's famous *Archduke Trio*. Rounding out the program are Gounod's *Mélodies* for horn and piano.

June 16th and 17th is reserved for EKSM's 'resident artists', the Muse Ensemble. Julian Vitek will join ensemble members Terence Tam, Lorraine Min, Kenji Fuse and Laura Backstrom in works by Dvořák, Schubert, and local composer Stephen Brown. We are excited about hearing the debut of two short pieces by Elinor Dunsmuir – granddaughter of Robert Dunsmuir, the original builder of Craigdarroch Castle. This music was written in the 1920's but only recently discovered in a wooden box in England.

Violinist Timothy Chooi will be our special guest on **June 23rd and 24th**. Chooi is the 2018 first prize winner of the 10th Joseph Joachim International Violin Competition in Hanover, Germany. Timmy is a Victoria native, so it has been thrilling to be able to closely follow his development from adorable tot with a tiny violin to international prize-winner. For his EKSM debut, he has chosen a program of works for violin and piano by Beethoven and Saint-Saëns, a Paganini Caprice, and the zenith of Mozart's string quintet writing, K.516. Timothy will be joined by Lorraine Min on the piano and by Simon MacDonald, violin; Kenji Fuse and Felix Alanis, violas; Laura Backstrom, cello.

The Calidore String Quartet's "deep reserves of virtuosity and irrepressible dramatic instinct" (New York Times) and "balance of intellect and expression" (Los Angeles Times) has won them accolades across the globe and firmly established them as one of the finest chamber music ensembles performing today.

EKSM wraps up the weekend of **June 29th & 30th** with concerts by this New York-based quartet (violinists Jeffrey Myers and Ryan Meehan, violist Jeremy Berry, and cellist Estelle Choi).

As well as being Avery Fisher Career Grant awardees, they made international headlines as the winner of the 2016 M-Prize International Chamber Music Competition, the largest prize for chamber music in the world, and were honoured by both BBC Radio and the Lincoln Centre with awards and multi-year performing and recording contracts.

For the first time, every EKSM program will be performed both at the church and a winery. This year we have chosen Deep Cove Winery (formerly Muse Winery). Their beautifully updated space is an intimate, peaceful, and beautiful way to experience chamber music up close. Please note that winery tickets sell out very quickly. Sunday concerts are in the acoustically splendid First Unitarian Church of Victoria.

Tickets may be ordered by mail (an order form may be found on our website, or call 250-413-3134 to request one), through our website www.eksm.ca or in person at Raincoast Business Centre, 1027 Pandora Avenue, Victoria.