

Masterworks Four

Optimism



Kingston
Symphony

Mendelssohn & Kalinnikov

with Andrew Wan

Sunday, January 11, 2026
2:30 p.m. at the Isabel




PHOTOS: S. WILD

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Mendelssohn & Kalinnikov

Kingston Symphony

Evan Mitchell, Conductor

Andrew Wan, Violin

Program

Mozetich (1948-)

Postcards from the Sky

Unfolding Sky

Weeping Clouds

A Messenger

Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64

Allegro molto appassionato

Andante

Allegretto non troppo -

Allegro molto vivace

Intermission

Kalinnikov (1866-1901)


Symphony No. 1 in G minor

Allegro moderato

Andante commodamente

Scherzo: Allegro non troppo

Finale: Allegro moderato



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Notes from our Maestro

The theme of our fourth Masterworks concert of the season is one of optimism. Each of the three pieces of music that you will hear were curated for their "sunny disposition" but, character notwithstanding, it also seems like they were made to be played together. Kingston's own Marjan Mozetich opens the concert with his transcendent Postcards from the Sky which in its relatively short duration tells an incredible story, built from a gentle pulsing in the violins and a yearning solo cello, to full on glory.

Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor, the so-called "heart's jewel" of the repertoire, starts off moody and perhaps a bit on the colder side, but ultimately gives way to such jubilation. It is not hard to see why it has remained one of the world's most popular pieces for violin and orchestra.

Vasily Kalinnikov only lived to be 34 years old. Had he lived longer, I think we would be talking about him quite a bit more than we do. Fortunately, he wrote two truly excellent symphonies during his life, with his first symphony being the most well-regarded. Within 90 seconds of its opening we are treated to one of the finest second subjects in romantic symphonic music of the era, in my opinion - a singing line in the violas, cellos, and French horn. I can't wait for you to hear it!

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Andrew Wan, Violin

Andrew Wan has been concertmaster of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal since 2008. As a soloist, he has performed worldwide under conductors such as Rafael Payare, Kent Nagano, Maxim Vengerov, Vasily Petrenko, Bernard Labadie, Carlo Rizzi, Peter Oundjian, Xian Zhang, Michael Stern, and James DePreist. He is also a frequent guest concertmaster with major North American orchestras, including those of Pittsburgh, Houston, Indianapolis, Toronto, Vancouver, and the National Arts Centre.

In the 2025-2026 season, highlights include a November appearance with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, performing and leading a program featuring Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante; a January performance of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with the Kingston Symphony; a return to the Seattle Chamber Music Winter Festival; tours with the New Orford String Quartet; and the February 2026 release of an album featuring the complete Violin and Piano Sonatas of Brahms with Charles Richard-Hamelin.

A sought-after chamber musician, Andrew has collaborated with renowned artists such as the Juilliard String Quartet, Vadim Repin, Marc-André Hamelin, Daniil Trifonov, Menahem Pressler, Jörg Widmann, Emanuel Ax, Johannes Moser, Arabella Steinbacher, James Ehnes, and Gil Shaham. He appears regularly at leading chamber music festivals including Seattle, La Jolla SummerFest, Ottawa Chamberfest, Toronto Summer Music, Orford Musique, St-Prex, Colorado College, and Olympic.

His acclaimed discography includes recordings (released on the Analekta, Onyx, Bridge, and Naxos labels) recognized with Grammy nominations and Juno, Félix, and Opus awards. Highlights include a live recording of all three Saint-Saëns violin concertos with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Kent Nagano, and an album featuring works by Bernstein, Moussa, and Ginastera, which won the 2021 Juno Award for Classical Album of the Year – Large Ensemble.

His duo partnership with Charles Richard-Hamelin has produced the complete Beethoven sonatas for piano and violin, including a 2022 Juno Award-winning album, followed by the Schumann sonatas in 2022. Their next project, a complete cycle of the Brahms sonatas, will be released in 2026.

Andrew studied at The Juilliard School, earning Bachelor, Master, and Artist Diploma degrees. He is Associate Professor of Violin at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University, where his students have gone on to win prizes at national and international competitions and to secure positions, including principal chairs, in major North American orchestras. He was Artistic Partner of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in 2017-2018 and received the Schulich School of Music's Part-Time Teaching Award in 2019.

Andrew performs on a 1744 Michel'Angelo Bergonzi violin, on loan from the David Sela Collection, and an 1860 Dominique Peccatte bow generously provided by Canimex.

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Out of the Deep

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Dominique Fils-Aimé | Feb 27

Full season details available at
queensu.ca/theisabel/whats-on



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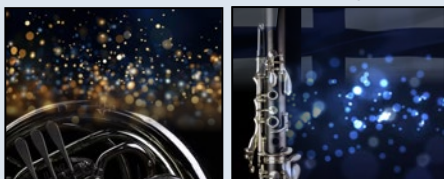


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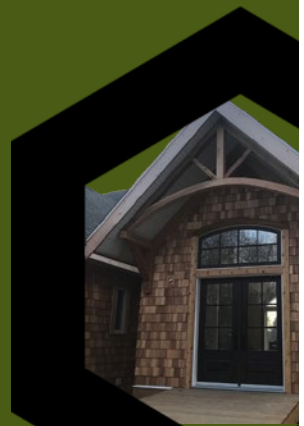


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