

presenting the 14th Annual
International

*Great Romantics
Festival*



THE TITANS

A Celebration in Music and Words
of the Masterpieces of the Romantic Age

**Thursday, October 9 through
Saturday, October 11, 2008**

Artistic Director: Alan Walker
Festival Coordinator: Jacqui Templeton Muir

LETTER OF WELCOME

Dear Friends and Music Lovers,

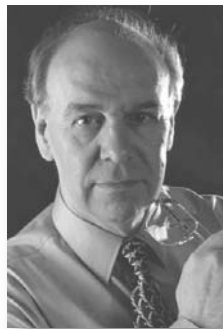
It is a pleasure to invite you to join us for our fourteenth annual **Great Romantics Festival**, a celebration in music, words, and song, of some of the outstanding composers of musical history.

Fourteen years! That is a long time, and we are proud to have built up such a large and enthusiastic following for an artistic event that has been described as 'one of the important vistas in the cultural landscape of Ontario.' By calling our musical offering this year **The Titans**, we are drawing attention to those enduring qualities in the music of Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Chopin, and Tchaikovsky, which compel us to return to their works time and again—no matter how familiar they are to us. That is surely one of the defining characteristics of the term 'masterpiece'—music which cannot be consumed through use. Like the peaks of some distant mountain-range, the further these composers recede from us, the greater their stature seems to become. Whenever their compositions are played, they confirm the truth of Nietzsche's famous aphorism: "Without music life would be a mistake."

The music of Johannes Brahms is brought to the forefront in this year's festival. Four of our leading concert pianists will appear in the ever-popular **Piano Gala**, which will be devoted in its entirety to his piano music. And we will also hear some of Brahms's organ music, and his Lieder as well.

An internationally recognized cast of artists has once more been assembled for the Festival, and we anticipate some music-making of a high order. We are particularly proud to continue our association with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, a connection of many years' standing, and the orchestra will continue the tradition of opening the **Great Romantics Festival** under the baton of Maestro Horst Förster, from Leipzig.

Do join us for this important event, and we look forward to welcoming you to our weekend of music-making!



Alan Walker
festival director

THURSDAY evening



HAMILTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Horst Förster conductor
soloist Kaori Yamagami cello

Thursday, October 9 at 7:30 pm
Hamilton Place



MENDELSSOHN: Overture: 'Ruy Blas', op. 95
SCHUMANN: Cello Concerto in A minor, op. 129
— intermission —
TCHAIKOVSKY: Symphony no. 4 in F minor, op. 36

The concert is offered in association with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

Tickets & selected seating available at:
Hamilton Philharmonic Box Office 905-526-7756

FRIDAY afternoon



ORGAN RECITAL

Christiaan Teeuwesen

Friday, October 10 at 2:30 pm
(following the opening remarks at 2 pm)

MacNab Presbyterian Church
116 MacNab Street South

2 pm **OPENING REMARKS — WELCOME TO THE FESTIVAL**
Dr. Alan Walker and Dr. Tom Mastroianni

BRAHMS: Prelude and Fugue in G minor, op. posth. (1856–57)

BRAHMS: Eleven Chorale Preludes, op. 122

No. 7. O Gott, du frommer Gott

No. 11. Herzlich tut mich verlangen

MAX REGER: Introduction and Passacaglia in D minor, op. 59

Admission \$15 adult • \$10 student/senior • Tickets available at the door

MEET THE ARTIST. MacNab Church is delighted to offer
Afternoon Tea following the recital.

FRIDAY evening



PIANO RECITAL

Yelena Beriyeve

Friday, October 10 at 7:30 pm

Convocation Hall

McMaster University

Finalist in this year's Hilton Head International Piano Competition

BEETHOVEN: Sonata in D major, op. 10, no. 3

BRAHMS: Klavierstücke, op. 118

Intermezzo: Allegro non assai, ma molto appassionato

Intermezzo: Andante teneramente

Ballade: Allegro energico

Intermezzo: Allegretto un poco agitato

Romanze: Andante

Intermezzo: Andante, largo e mesto

— intermission —

SCHUBERT-LISZT: Two Song-transcriptions

Ständchen (Serenade)

Die Loreley

CHOPIN: Impromptu no. 2, in F sharp major, op. 36

CHOPIN: Three Mazurkas, op. 59

in A minor

in A flat major

in F sharp minor

CHOPIN: Waltz in A flat major, op. 42

CHOPIN: Polonaise-Fantasy, op. 61

Admission \$15, Seniors \$10 • Tickets available at the door

— FREE PARKING —

followed at 10 pm by a

RECEPTION in the **Student Centre**

hosted by McMaster University President, **Dr. Peter George**

SATURDAY morning



LIEDER RECITAL

John Fanning bass-baritone

Valerie Tryon piano

Saturday, October 11 at 10 am

MacNab Presbyterian Church

116 MacNab Street South



HOST: Justin Kolb

SCHUMANN

Widmung | Der Nussbaum | Die Lotosblume
Du bist wie eine Blume | Aus den östlichen Rosen (from Myrthen, op. 25)
Die beiden Grenediere, op. 49, no. 1
Dein Angesicht, op. 127, no. 2
Mit Myrten und Rosen (from Liederkreis, op. 24)

BRAHMS

Die Mainacht, op. 43, no. 2 | Botschaft, op. 47, no. 1
Wir wandelten, op. 96, no. 2 | Komm bald, op. 97, no. 5
Salamander, op. 107, no. 2 | Dein blaues Auge, op. 59, no. 8
Sonntag, op. 47, no. 3 | O wüsst' ich doch den Weg, op. 63, no. 8
Mein Liebe ist grün, op. 63, no. 5 | Wie bist du, meine Königen, op. 32, no. 9
Von waldbekränzter Höhe, op. 57, no. 1

Admission \$15 adult • \$10 student/senior
(includes below William Wright Lecture Presentation)

Tickets available at the door



LECTURE PRESENTATION

William Wright

Saturday, October 11 at 11 am

MacNab Presbyterian Church

116 MacNab Street South

BRAHMS AND THE PIANO

An illustrated talk about Brahms' piano music, with special reference to the music to be played in the Piano Gala.

Admission \$15 adult • \$10 student/senior
(includes above Lieder Recital with Valerie Tryon & John Fanning)

Tickets available at the door

SATURDAY afternoon

PIANO GALA

Homage to Johannes Brahms

Saturday, October 11 at 2:30 pm
MacNab Presbyterian Church
116 MacNab Street South



Valerie Tryon

"One finds oneself in the presence of a great artist."
Gazette de Lausanne (Switzerland)

7 Fantasias, Op. 116

Capriccio in D minor
Intermezzo in A minor
Capriccio in G minor
Intermezzo in E major
Intermezzo in E minor
Intermezzo in E major
Capriccio in D minor

William Aide

"One of the most inventive and imaginative
pianistic talents of our time."

Glenn Gould

Variations and Fugue on a theme by Handel, op. 24

— intermission —

Yelena Beriyeva

"A virtuoso with a mind to match her fingers."

Hilton Head International Piano Finalist

Studies (Variations) on a Theme of Paganini,
op. 35, Book 2

Louis Nagel

"The People's Pianist."

by acclamation

Piano Sonata in F minor, op. 5

Allegro maestoso
Andante espressivo
Scherzo: Allegro energico
Intermezzo: Andante molto
Finale: Allegro moderato ma rubato



Admission \$15 adult • \$10 student/senior
For morning and afternoon combined: \$25 adult • \$15 student/senior
Tickets available at the door

"It seemed to me that a composer would one day come who would not show his mastery in a gradual development, but, like Athena, would spring fully armed from the head of Zeus. And he has come, a young man over whose cradle the Graces and Heroes stood watch. His name is Johannes Brahms."

Robert Schumann

SATURDAY evening



Great Romantics Candlelight Banquet

Saturday, October 11 at 7:30 pm
Hamilton Convention Centre

THE MENU

Carrot and Ginger Bisque Soup

Pea Pods, Grape Cherry Tomatoes, Baby Greens and
Orange Poppy Seed Vinaigrette Dressing

SALMON CALABRESI

Mushroom and White Wine & Parmesan Risotto
Roasted Italian Eggplant with Tomatoes, Garlic and Herbs

Warm Apple Pear Tartatin

Rolls, Butter

Coffee, Tea

Red and White Wine

Admission \$65 (please reserve in advance)

“Meet the festival artists, make new friends, and enjoy the Romantic spirit.”

Jacqui Templeton Muir
Festival Coordinator

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Dr. Alan Walker Artistic Director

Jacqui Templeton Muir Festival Co-ordinator

Dominique Caplier Programme Notes Editor

Ken Gee Brochure/Website Art & Design

Marguerite Gilbert MacNab Catering

Cole Holland Transportation Officer

Janine Hunt Liaison Officer

Ross Johnson Festival Piano Technician

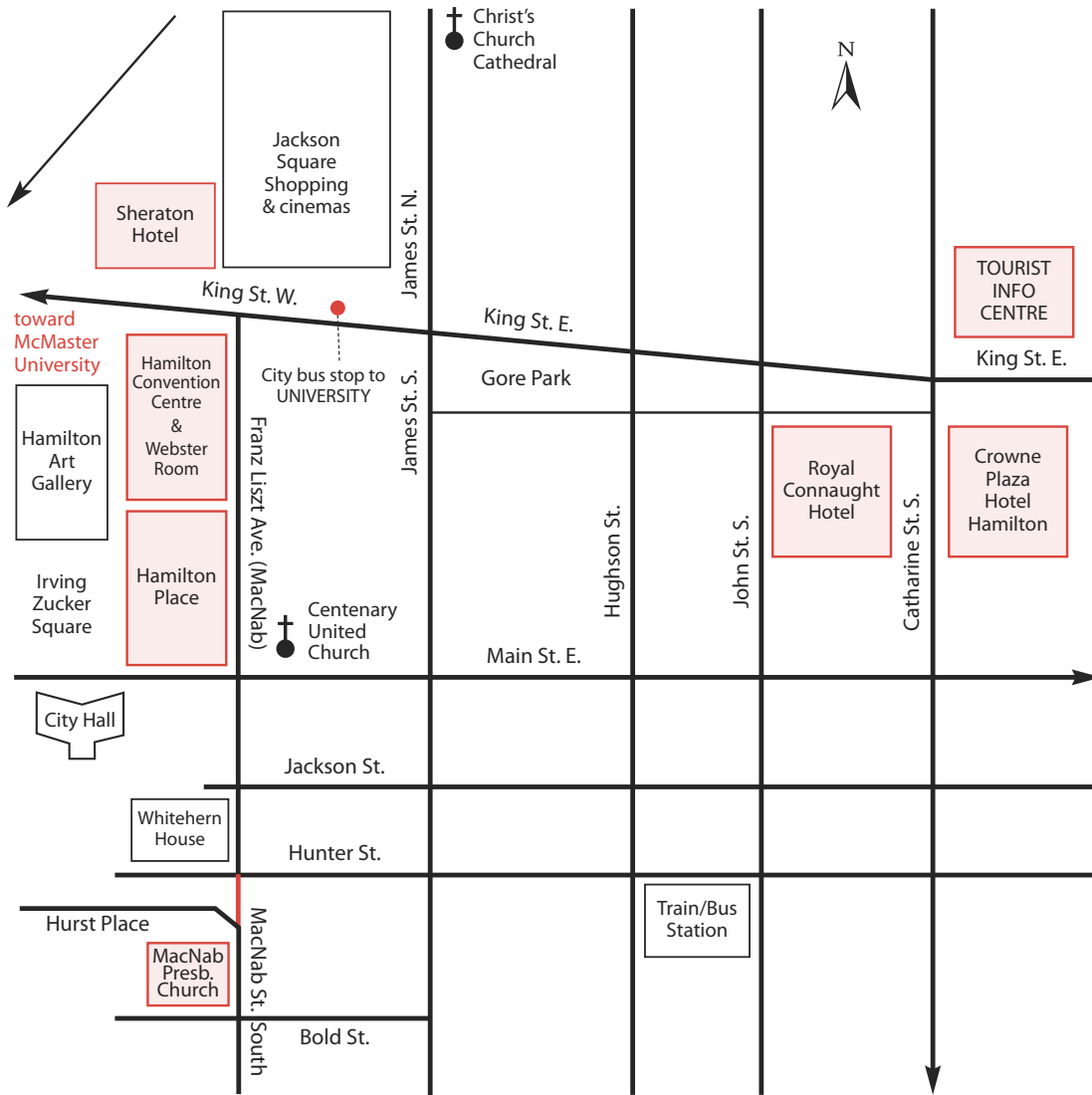
Colleen Vanderelst Facilities Manager

Bill Wright Audio/Visual Technician

Mark Zurowski Toronto Representative

MAP OF DOWNTOWN HAMILTON

HESS VILLAGE on Hess St., between Main St. & King St., walking west from Hamilton Place or the Sheraton hotel, features many restaurants and pubs.



Hamilton Place • 1 Summers Lane • 905-546-3100

MacNab Presbyterian Church • 116 MacNab St. South • 905-546-3100
(there is a walkway below the railway tracks for MacNab St.)

Hamilton Convention Centre • 1 Summers Lane • 905-546-3000
(2nd floor, up the escalator)

Sheraton Hamilton Hotel • 116 King St. West • 905-529-5515

Crown Plaza Hotel Hamilton • 150 King St. East • 905-528-3451

PRAISE FOR THE GREAT ROMANTICS FESTIVAL

"I've found the annual **The Great Romantics Festival** to be a consistently high-calibre event that annually attracts the most remarkable international talents to Hamilton. This is a world-class achievement and we're proud of it!"

Alex Baran

Executive Director
Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

"The **Great Romantics Festival** has become an indispensable and exciting part of the Southern Ontario autumn musical calendar. It is always a joy to be a part of it, whether as a participant or a listener."

Richard Gale

Radio AM740

"The **American Liszt Society** is proud to boast an affiliation with the prestigious **Great Romantics Festival**, which for many years has promoted Romantic music via outstanding performances and scholarship."

Thomas Mastroianni

President, American Liszt Society

"We are all too used to the necessity of going out into the world to hear the best. With the **Great Romantics Festival**, the best come to us."

Hugh Fraser

Former Music Critic, The Hamilton Spectator

"Hamilton's **Great Romantics Festival** captivates both performers and audiences through its focus on one of history's great periods of music, its welcoming atmosphere for all, and its superb guiding hand—Alan Walker. It has been my honor to participate in the Festival on two memorable occasions and my pleasure to study its programs every year, always with admiration. May it continue to flourish as the great asset it is for Ontario."

Frank Cooper

Professor, University of Miami

"It is not for nothing that a street in downtown Hamilton had its name changed to 'Franz Liszt Avenue.' I know how much my old friend and comrade-at-arms, Glenn Gould, would rejoice at a Festival which achieves many of those humanizing ideals and endearing quirks with which he wished to see Canada associated."

Malcolm Troup

Professor Emeritus
Editor of the European Piano Teacher's Journal

"It was brilliant of Alan Walker to create the **Great Romantics Festival**, now widely known internationally as an outstanding cultural event. Hamilton is indeed fortunate to be its home and benefit from its prestige."

Fernando Lares

concert pianist
President Emeritus, American Liszt Society

presented with the assistance of
The City of Hamilton

in association with

The American Liszt Society
Washington, D.C.

and

School of the Arts
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario

Admission to Individual Events
\$15 adult • \$10 student/senior

The following events are by separate admission:

Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday, October 9 at 7:30 pm
Hamilton Place

(for more information, 905-526-7756 or www.hpo.org)
and the

Festival Banquet

Saturday, October 11 at 7:30 pm (admission \$65)
Hamilton Convention Centre

Mail a non-refundable cheque or money order for the total amount payable to:

THE GREAT ROMANTICS FESTIVAL

McMaster University, TSH 434

1280 Main St. West

Hamilton, ON, CANADA L8S 4M2

Information and Tickets

905-525-9140 ext. 23674

www.artset.net/greatromantics.html