

**MEDIA RELEASE
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LONDON SYMPHONIA PRESENTS JUNO AWARD WINNING CELLIST ELINOR FREY



AN ELEGANT FIRE Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

LONDON, April 24, 2024 – London Symphonia will take audiences back to the 18th Century, one of the golden ages of music, when star cellist Elinor Frey makes her debut with the orchestra in **An Elegant Fire**. (Saturday, May 4, at 7:30 pm, Metropolitan United in London, Ontario.)

Regarded as one of the most exciting Baroque and Classical musicians performing today, the concert will showcase Frey's extraordinary talent as she plays and directs **London Symphonia** from the cello in a program of music by three musical superstars of their day: C.P.E. Bach, Luigi Boccherini and Joseph Haydn.

"In this concert we are focusing on music in the "Galant" style - music that lands between the baroque and classical eras. C.P.E. Bach, Boccherini and Haydn each wrote passionate music to showcase their colleagues' virtuosity. Elinor is a fiery and passionate performer at the top of her game. With a terrific combination like this, **An Elegant Fire** will be a memorable musical experience for the performers and audience alike," said Andrew Chung, artistic producer of London Symphonia.

Frey, who won the 2023 JUNO award for Best Classical Album of the Year (Small Ensemble) for her CD *Early Italian Cello Concertos* is also highly regarded for her early music and performance research.

"I can hardly wait to be in Metropolitan United when London's audiences discover the incredible array of symphonies and concertos that we will play in **An Elegant Fire**," said Elinor Frey. "Boccherini has long been one of my top composers... what charm! What brilliance! CPE Bach, I think, deserves a bigger place in our musical lives. Both he and Haydn let the entire orchestra sparkle through both natural ease and vigorous spirit!"

"**London Symphonia** excels at performing early music. There are certain artistic collaborators that we get particularly excited about, not just because of their virtuosity on their particular instrument, but because of their deep knowledge and willingness to share. Elinor Frey is one such performer. We're looking forward immensely to working with Elinor," said Chung.

Concertgoers can choose to attend **An Elegant Fire** in person or view the Livestream and then enjoy unlimited 4K HDR On Demand Access until May 30, 2024.

The 7:30 p.m. concert can be heard in person or livestreamed online. In-person tickets are \$52 Regular seating, \$70 Premium Seating, and \$50 for Livestream / On Demand access plus fees and HST. Tickets are available online at londonsymphonia.ca.

LISTING INFORMATION

LONDON SYMPHONIA CONCERT

An Elegant Fire

London Symphonia

Elinor Frey, cello soloist and leader

Sat. May 4 at 7:30 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Metropolitan United, 468 Wellington St, London, ON N6A 3P8

The concert can be heard in person or livestreamed online. In-person tickets are \$52 Regular seating, \$70 Premium seating, and \$50 for Livestream / On Demand Access plus fees and HST. Free tickets are available for Post Secondary, High School and Children aged 6 to 12. Compose Your Own subscriptions, Family-Flex Packs and tickets to individual concerts can be purchased online at londonsymphonia.ca.

London Symphonia is deeply grateful to the continued support of the London Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, and the Ontario Arts Council.

ABOUT ELINOR FREY

Elinor Frey is a leading Canadian-American cellist, gambist and researcher. Her albums on the Belgian label Passacaille and Canadian label Analekta – many of which are world premiere recordings – include *Giuseppe Clemente Dall'Abaco Cello Sonatas*, winner of a Diapason d'Or, and *Early Italian Cello Concertos*, winner of the 2023 JUNO award for Classical Album of the Year (small ensemble). Her critical editions of Dall'Abaco's cello music are published in collaboration with Walhall Editions.

Elinor is the artistic director of Accademia de' Dissonanti, an organization for performance and research. She has performed throughout the Americas and in Europe in recital and with numerous chamber ensembles and orchestras (Rosa Barocca, Constantinople, Les idées heureuses, Il Gardellino, Tafelmusik, Pacific Baroque Orchestra, etc.). In March 2023, she performed Boccherini and Sammartini concertos with the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra.

Recipient of dozens of grants and prizes supporting performance and research, including the US-Italy Fulbright Fellowship (studying with Paolo Beschi in Como, Italy) and a recent research residency at the Orpheus Institute in Ghent, Elinor holds degrees from McGill, Mannes, and Juilliard. She teaches Baroque cello and performance practice at McGill University and the Université de Montréal and is a Visiting Fellow in Music (2020–2023) at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University. Frey was awarded Québec's Opus Prize for "Performer of the Year" in 2021.

ABOUT LONDON SYMPHONIA

London Symphonia is a professional symphony orchestra committed to performing vibrant and bold musical experiences for London and the region. With a core of 30 players, our versatile group meets the community's needs for quality programming by presenting well-known symphonies, Canadian premieres, and collaborations with some of Canada's finest singer-songwriters. We deliver a rich, artistic experience by seeking out the most accomplished performers and conductors representing a blend of locally, nationally and internationally recognized talent. A registered charitable organization, we perform a number of outreach and music education engagements each season for students and seniors in our community.

Website: londonsymphonia.ca

Social media: Join the conversation on Facebook | Instagram | X | YouTube

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