



EARTH SONGS

Music for Climate Justice

Peter and the “Wolff”

SIMON JOHNSON
organist

KIT PEARSON
narrator

RANDE COOK
guest speaker

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
WEDNESDAY JUNE 1, 2022
7.00 PM

*This series is made possible in part thanks to the support of
The Gail O’Riordan Climate and the Arts Legacy Fund at the Victoria Foundation
climateandthearts.org*



Concours
international
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du Canada

Canadian
International
Organ
Competition



PROGRAM

Opening Remarks

The Rev'd Ross Bliss, *Vicar of Christ Church Cathedral*

Guest Speaker

Rande Cooke, *Artist*

Peter and the Wolf

Sergei Prokofiev

(1891–1953)

Arranged by Simon Johnson

Simon Johnson, organist Kit Pearson, narrator

***Messe de la Pentecôte / Pentecost Mass* (excerpts)**

IV. *Communion (Les oiseaux et les sources)*

Communion (The Birds and the Springs)

V. *Sortie (Le vent de l'Esprit)*

Recessional (The Wind of the Spirit)

Olivier Messiaen

(1908–1992)

Prelude and Fugue on the Theme B-A-C-H

Franz Liszt

(1811–1886)

Simon Johnson, organist

Simon Johnson is one of the most versatile musicians of his generation, successfully combining life as a virtuoso organist with extensive work in choral direction, composition and arrangement. In September 2021 he became Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral, responsible for its world-famous choir. For 13 years he was the Organist and Assistant Director of Music at St Paul's Cathedral, and was involved in all the national occasions that took place there, including the funeral service of Baroness Thatcher, the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen and Her Majesty's 90th Birthday celebrations, for which he also arranged some of the music.

Recitals have taken him all over Europe and the USA, as well as to many of the premier venues in the UK, including the Royal Festival Hall in 2017. He has performed with groups such as the LSO, RPO, and The Sixteen and worked with Wes Anderson on the Oscar, Bafta and Grammy award-winning soundtrack for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. As a director he became well-known through his work with the St Albans Abbey Girls' Choir. He has led the St Paul's choirs in many full-scale orchestral performances. His compositions have been published by OUP and Peters Editions.

Kit Pearson was born in Edmonton in 1947. She worked for ten years as a children's librarian in Ontario and B.C. Since 1986 she has written twelve novels for children. Kit has won seventeen awards for her writing, including the B.C. Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence. In 2018 she was appointed a member of the Order of Canada. Kit lives in Victoria with her partner Katherine Farris and their dog Brio.

Born in culture-rich Alert Bay BC, **Rande Cook** was surrounded by the beauty of the land and groomed by the strong teachings of his grandparents. While growing up, Cook and his grandfather observed and discussed the traditional art forms of their Kwakwaka'wakw heritage. As Cook got older, his love for culture never faded and his desire to be artistically creative continually evolved. With many years of apprenticing with well-known master carvers and traveling the world, Cook developed and perfected his craft gaining 27 years as a professional artist. More recently, Cook completed his Masters of Fine Arts at the University of Victoria and continues to explore innovative ways in advancing his creative knowledge. Cook and his artistic children and life partner established Leaf Modern Gallery as another avenue for Cook to explore and celebrate new works, in hopes, to make a difference and be part of the solution in unifying our environment, people, and world. Supporting Cook's works is supporting the environment, culture, love and unity and most of all, it is supporting his passion of being an artist!

TONIGHT'S FEATURED CAUSE

The **Tree of Life Project** is a collaborative network that brings together artistic expression, Indigenous ecological knowledge, and cutting-edge scientific research about forests. Participants include Sierra Club BC staff, Makwala~Rande Cook of the Ma'amtagila Nation, forest ecologist and 'Finding the Mother Tree' author Dr. Suzanne Simard, and other local environmental leaders.

The Tree of Life Project will be a space where Indigenous knowledge holders can explain to scientists, in not so dissimilar terms, how to think about their research moving forward or how they could be articulating research questions with the support of Indigenous worldviews. Artists can then take the vast complexity of these spiritual and ecological principles and tell that story to the world and deepen people's understanding of how vital forests are.

To learn more about Sierra Club BC's work and to make a donation, visit sierraclub.bc.ca

Donations can also be made to the project through out donation kiosk by the main entrance.

ART AND EXHIBITS IN THE CATHEDRAL

RANDE COOK'S "MOTHER TREE"

Visit the Chapel of Reconciliation (southwest corner of the cathedral) tonight to view Rande Cook's "Mother Tree" which is being exhibited here all this week. Read more about the carving below.

About Rande Cook's "Mother Tree"

Bridging the past with the modern, where ecology meets form. The understanding of Kwakwaka'wakw culture with understanding all living ecosystems and the life that has been forming for thousands of years within the forests. Roots network systems passing information from tree to tree creates a living energy force that feeds the world we know from above. Traditionally this energy is known as spiritual or supernatural. The green formline ties this living ecosystem together between all living things from beneath the soil and the plants we see growing above. The raw Siena colour is the soil, we dance on this soil barefoot to be as close as we can to this living energy/force, Mother Earth. The ochre is symbolic in purifying and protecting children and preparing one for death as the circle of life. The face is this spirit, that draws on all the nutrients from below and passes it to the plants and trees above.

This carving is for sale. Contact the office for more information.

THE EARTH SONGS BANNERS: ELEMENTS OF CREATION

Near the front of the cathedral are four banners symbolising the elements: Earth, Air, Fire, and Water. These beautiful pieces are on loan to the cathedral by the parishes of St Peters and Christ Church in Calgary. You can read more about the story of these banners on the information placard by the pulpit.

LEARN ABOUT THE ORGAN WITH THE ORGELKIT!

Near the entrance of the cathedral, check out the Orgelkit: a fully functional miniature organ designed to teach people of all ages about how the pipe organ works. Talk to one of our organ experts or try out the organ for yourself! The Orgelkit exhibit is open before and after the concert. With thanks to the Royal Canadian College of Organists Victoria Centre for providing the Orgelkit and setting up the exhibit.

PRESENTING PARTNERS

THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION



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Founded in 2007 in Montreal, the Canadian International Organ Competition is the world's premiere organ playing competition, attracting competitors from all over the world and offering the largest prizes of any international organ competition. In addition to their competitions held in Montreal every three years, the CIOC takes an active role in promoting organ music across Canada.

Learn more about the CIOC at ciocm.org

THE GAIL O'RIORDAN CLIMATE AND THE ARTS LEGACY FUND



Named in memory of cellist Gail O'Riordan, the Climate and the Arts Legacy Fund at the Victoria Foundation works with arts organizations to shine light on climate issues and solutions with initiatives designed to educate, inspire, and motivate change. We are grateful for the generous support we have received from the fund to mount the Earth Songs project here at the cathedral.

Learn more about the fund and their other initiatives at climateandthearts.org

UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Full details and more event listings at www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca

SERIES FINALE! EARTH SONGS: THE PLANETS

Feat. Mark McDonald (organ) the Cathedral Choirs, the Choristers of St John the Divine and astronomer Alan Batten

Friday June 3, 7.00 pm

Tickets: \$25 reg. / \$10 student (at door only) / Free for child under 13

Full details at christchurchcathedral.bc.ca/earthsongs

VICTORIA PHILHARMONIC CHOIR: ROSSINI'S PETITE MESSE SOLENELLE

Saturday June 11, 7.30 pm

Tickets: \$25 reg. / \$10 student / Free for child under 13

Full details at vpchoir.ca



A Summer of Music! Saturdays at 4.00 pm in July & August at **Christ Church Cathedral**

ADMISSION BY DONATION

July 2

Bach: Goldberg Variations
Sarah Hagen, piano

July 9

The Choir of St Mary's Church
Nottingham (UK)

July 16

Hannah Craig, cello
Kim Bartczak, piano

July 23

Sarah MacDonald, organ

July 30

Monica Pfau, piano
Brian Yoon, cello
Nancy DiNovo, violin

August 6

Schubert: Octet in F major
Darren Buhr and others

August 13

Cris Inguanti, clarinet
Monica Pfau, piano

August 20

Duo Cordelia
Vanessa Marcoux, violin
Marie-Christine Poirier, piano

August 28

Carmelo De Los Santos, violin
Falko Steinbach, piano

Details at christchurchcathedral.bc.ca



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