

STRAIGHT OUTTA ICELAND

Thursday, September 17, 2015 8:00 p.m., Von Kuster Hall Baldvin Oddsson and Aaron Hodgson, trumpet Allison Wiebe Benstead, piano

Sonata Sancti Mauritii

Pavel Vejvanovsky (ca. 1633-1693)

Allegro

Tarde

Allegro

Adagio

Allegro

Two Ballades

Sofia Gubaidulina (b. 1931)

П

Five Melodies

Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)

I. Andante

II. Lento, ma non troppo

III. Animato, ma non allegro

IV. Andantino, un poco scherzando

V. Andante non troppo

intermission

Concerto in D minor

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

I. Andante e spiccato

II. Adagio

III. Presto

Intrada

Otto Ketting (1935-2012)

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Concerto for two trumpets in C

I. Allegro

II. Largo

III. Allegro

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Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist **Baldvin Oddsson** comes from Reykjavik, Iceland, and began his trumpet studies at the age of five. Ten years later he graduated with honors from the Sigursveinn School of Music in Reykjavik and began his studies in the United States. Since then, Baldvin has studied at the Interlochen Arts Academy, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and the Manhattan School of Music. His major teachers include Stephen Burns and Mark Gould.

In November 2010 Baldvin was featured on National Public Radio's From the Top, broadcast to an estimated audience of 750,000. At Interlochen, Baldvin won the annual solo competition and was featured as soloist with the school orchestra. Baldvin has also studied at the Brevard Music Center, the Center for Advanced Musical Studies at Chosen Vale, and the Art of Practicing Institute at the Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. During the 2009-1010 season Baldvin premiered Apollo, a trumpet concerto dedicated to him by composer Oliver Kenntish, with the Reykjavik Amateur Orchestra. He has also performed the Haydn trumpet concerto with the Reykjavik Youth Orchestra and led the trumpet section of the newly founded Iceland Symphony Orchestra Youth Orchestra. Baldvin also performs regularly with the Iceland Symphony, and as a recital soloist throughout Iceland.

Aaron Hodgson is one of Canada's most remarkable young trumpeters, praised for his "exquisite musicianship and assured composure" (International Trumpet Guild) and his "outstanding lyrical trumpet playing" (Hartford Courant). A prize-winner in the Ellsworth Smith and OSM Standard Life competitions, Aaron has been broadcast nationally as a soloist by CBC Radio and featured as a concerto soloist with l'Orchestre de la Francophonie at Canada's National Arts Centre. His orchestral performances include appearances with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and the Calgary Philharmonic led by conductors such as Neeme Jarvi, Sir Neville Marriner and Helmuth Rilling. He can be heard on Naxos and Analekta records as principal trumpet for recordings of Bach's Magnificat, Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique and the complete symphonies of Beethoven and Brahms. Committed to expanding the trumpet's capabilities and audiences, Aaron is the founder of the Reveille Trumpet Collective (reveilletrumpet.org). Reveille has presented engaging. multimedia performances at the Banff Centre and the Sound Symposium Festival, and contributed to the commissioning of many new solo and chamber works for trumpet. Aaron is also a founding member of Reverb Brass, a quintet dedicated to exciting performances of contemporary works. After several years at Memorial University of Newfoundland, in 2012 Aaron joined the faculty of the Don Wright School of Music, Western University. Aaron holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from Yale University.

A leading interpreter of contemporary music, pianist Allison Wiebe Benstead is a frequent performer in North America and the UK. Currently on the piano performance faculty at Western University in London, Ont., she maintains an active performing and teaching career. As a solo pianist, she was a semi-finalist in the 24th Annual Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, and is also a frequent collaborative artist. A work on her recent chamber recording, Undercurrents was nominated at the Western Canadian Music Awards. Allison has been praised by the Globe and Mail for "thought-provoking" and "highly entertaining" programming, and by the New York Times for "methodical and mesmerizing" performances. She is currently the pianist for CONTACT contemporary music based in Toronto.