

Guillaume Tardif is a Professor of Music and serves as String Area Coordinator at the Department of Music, University of Alberta (Edmonton, Alberta). He is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, New York (DMA) and the Conservatoire du Québec, Québec (Premier Prix de Violon). As a violin soloist, he has presented a wide range of repertoire in Canada and abroad and has served as a guest faculty member at various festivals and universities. His Carnegie-Weill Hall debut in 2011 with pianist Roger Admiral featured the 24 Caprices by Niccolò Paganini, with piano accompaniment by Raymond Gallois-Montbrun. He has extensive experience as a chamber musician, has premiered or performed many Canadian works, and has led or conducted various string ensembles. With a research focus on virtuosity and violinist-composers, he has published several articles, including H. W. Ernst: Virtuosity and Flow (Olms-Verlag, 2018) and "Dialogues, Duels, Diets: Leclair, the French Violin School, and the 2-Violin Repertoire" (Brepols, 2015). He has produced multiple CD recordings and the SSHRC-funded video documentary "The Genius of the Violin". He also composed cadenzas to major concertos and arranged various works for the violin. A graduate of the Executive MBA program at the University of Alberta (2010), he has also taught in music and business, served as Associate Chair (Graduate) and Interim Chair at the Music Department, University of Alberta, and as President of the Alberta String Association. He is frequently involved as an adjudicator for provincial and national agencies. [www.guillaume.tardif.com]



ÉVA SZALAI
Piano



ESZTER KARASSZON
Cello



GUILLAUME TARDIF
Violin

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DARE TO DISCOVER MUSIC

Ottoman-inspired music
& Zoltán Székely (1903-2001)

12 MAY 2026

1088 Budapest, Ötpacsirta u. 4.

Éva Szalai, piano
Eszter Karasszon, cello
Guillaume Tardif, violin

PROGRAM

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Piano Sonata in A major, K. 331

III. Rondo “Alla Turca”

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) / Leopold Auer (1845–1930)

Chorus of Dervishes

(from The Ruins of Athens, 1811)

Ludwig van Beethoven

Piano Trio in C minor, Op. 1, No. 3

I. Allegro con brio

Zoltán Székely (1903–2001)

Homophon et Polyphon, Op. 2

I. Andante espressivo

II. Con fuoco

Béla Bartók (1881–1945)

Rhapsody No. 1

II. Friss

Ludwig van Beethoven / Leopold Auer

Turkish March

(from The Ruins of Athens)

Eszter Karasszon was born into a musical family. She graduated from the Liszt Academy in the studio of Csaba Onczay. In 2023, she received the DLA doctoral degree for a dissertation on two cello concertos by Dmitri Shostakovich. She participated in several national and international cello competitions and was awarded the first prize at the David Popper International Competition, the first prize at the Dohnanyi Chamber Music National Competition, the second place at the Alfredo e Vanda Marcosig Competition in Italy, and the first prize at the Janos Starker National Cello Competition. She received a scholarship and attended a master class in the United States with Janos Starker. She participated in several other masterclasses of excellent international musicians, such as Steven Isserlis, Gustav Rivinius, Reinhard Latzko, and Emilio Colon. Eszter Karasszon performs regularly at solo recitals, chamber music events, and with orchestras in prestigious concert halls in Hungary and worldwide. She has given concerts in Austria, Germany, Slovakia, Serbia, Romania, Ukraine, Croatia, Italy, Switzerland, England, France, Israel, China, Korea and the United States of America.

[\[eszterkarasszon.com\]](http://eszterkarasszon.com)

Pianist **Éva Szalai** was born in Budapest. At age 18, she was awarded the Grand Prize at the Hungarian National Piano Competition. At the Sixth Adilia Alieva Competition in France she took both the First Prize and the Special Prize for the most poetic interpretation. She won the Grand Prize at the Third International Alain Marinaro Piano Competition (France), and in 2016 she received the First Prize at the Semper Music International Competition, Italy. Ms Szalai has appeared in Austria, Chile, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Spain and the United States, in venues such the Muziekgebouw Eindhoven, the National Concert Hall at Müpa Budapest or the Marble Hall of the Hungarian Radio. She has performed piano concertos by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt and Rachmaninov with orchestra, and she has performed in the presence of the His Majesty Willem Alexander of The Netherlands. Éva Szalai studied at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, from which she received her master's degree with highest honours in 2011. She pursued advanced studies with Dmitri Bashkirov at the Queen Sofia College of Music in Madrid, and Naum Grubert at the Royal Conservatory of The Hague. In 2024 she received her DLA doctoral title at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, the subject of her research was Alfred Cortot's Chopin interpretation.