

Three Centuries of Sonatas for the Piano

Concert hosted by Viktor Lazarov and Leo Purich

Viktor Lazarov, pianist and Leo Purich, composer

Since its appearance in the Classical period (1750–1820), the sonata form has become a dominant genre in Western music composition. Occupying a major role in the work of most composers from the time of F. J. Haydn, the sonata has been ingeniously adapted to the most disparate styles and aesthetics.

This concert presents a series of sonatas from three different eras: 19th century's Romanticism, 20th century's Modernism, and 21st century's post-Classicism and post-Romanticism. Written by young composers, they hold the mark of great masters, while gleaming with individual inspiration and a fresh, sincere, and touching idiom.

Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel's *Easter Sonata* was long attributed to her brother, Félix, until a musicologist discovered the manuscript in a private collection in Paris. Eckhardt-Gramatté's *Sonata No. 1* contains the vestiges of Baroque style combined with the influence of modern techniques. Leo Purich's *Sonata op.136* demonstrates the originality and early maturity of the young composer, as well as his mastery of the musical language of J. S. Bach and L. van Beethoven.

In presenting each work to the public, I will have the honour of having by my side the brilliant young Canadian composer, Leo Purich, who will tell us about his career, his musical inspirations, and his *Sonata op.136*.