

April 11, 2022 | For Immediate Release

Climate justice concert to honour Earth Day 2022

Christ Church Cathedral and the Emily Carr String Quartet mark Earth Day with 'Earth Songs: Land' concert.

VICTORIA, BC – Music meets environmental awareness on Earth Day 2022 with a special talk by local best-selling author and forest ecologist **Andy MacKinnon**, and a performance of Canadian composer **Marjan Mozetich's** "Lament in the Trampled Garden" by the **Emily Carr String Quartet**. The event titled *Earth Songs: Land* is the third installment of a six-part concert series title *Earth Songs: Music for Climate Justice*. The concert starts at 5.00 pm on April 22 at **Christ Church Cathedral** (corner of Quadra and Rockland).

In step with Earth Day 2022's theme "Invest in our planet", Andy MacKinnon, Metchosin Councillor and Greater Victoria Public Library Chair, will introduce the concert. Andy has taught rainforest ecology field courses in Bamfield and Tofino (for the University of Victoria) and Haida Gwaii (for UBC). He has also taught mushroom identification courses in Tofino (for the Rainforest Education Society) and in Victoria. He is co-author of six best-selling books about plants of western North America, and co-author of the newly published Royal BC Museum Handbook "Mushrooms of British Columbia," which recently made the Vancouver Sun's "15 best-selling books" list.

The Emily Carr String Quartet will offer two performance pieces, the first being Canadian composer Marjan Mozetich's work, commissioned in 1992 by the Banff String Quartet Competition. The piece titled "Lament in the Trampled Garden" is at once melodic, mournful, evocative, and remarkably accessible. The concert concludes with a complete performance of Johannes Brahms' String Quartet no. 2 in A minor.

Earth Songs: Music for Climate Justice is part of Christ Church Cathedral's commitment to advocacy on behalf of the natural world. The series draws attention to the need for personal action to reverse the climate crisis and features brief talks from climate focused NPOs and advocates with an opportunity to support. Each concert focuses on a different facet of our relationship with the natural world, aiming to educate, entertain, and inspire change. It is supported by the **Gail O'Riordan Climate and the Arts' Legacy Fund at the Victoria Foundation**.

Christ Church Cathedral's Dean, **The Very Reverend M. Ansley Tucker**, is pleased that the cathedral can get involved in projects that help draw attention to the imperative to safeguard, sustain and renew the life of the earth. "Human beings are finally beginning to grasp that we are not the possessors of the earth and its creatures," she says, "but rather one part of a great ecosystem upon which we rely, and which relies upon us."

What: *Earth Songs: Land*

Where: Christ Church Cathedral, Corner of Quadra & Rockland

When: April 22 at 5.00 p.m.

Tickets: General Admission \$32

Event Info: www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca/earthsongs

Other Upcoming Concerts in the 'Earth Songs: Music for Climate Justice' series

Earth, Wind, Fire, and Life - Friday, May 27 at 7.00 p.m.

Performers: Jenny Vincent and Bob McDonald

International recitalist Jenny Vincent and host of CBC's *Quirks and Quarks* Bob McDonald have educated and entertained Vancouver Island residents over the past several years by bringing coupling visuals, narration and music to shed light on the invisible things all around us and the farthest reaches of the universe.

Peter and the "Wolff" - Wednesday, June 1 at 7.00 p.m.

Performer: Simon Johnson (Westminster Cathedral, UK)

Having recently taken up the post of Master of the Music at Westminster Cathedral in London, Simon Johnson directs one of the greatest choirs on the planet. In his first west coast appearance, he plays his own transcription of Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf"

The Planets - Friday, June 3 at 7.00 p.m.

Featuring: Mark McDonald, The Cathedral Choirs and guest speaker Dr. Alan Batten (astronomer) Drawing attention to the vastness of the solar system has a way of highlighting humanity's need to steward its small home carefully. In a virtuosic organ transcription by Peter Sykes, the cathedral's resident organist takes the audience on a tour from Mars (the bringer of war) to Neptune (the mystic), all in Gustav Holst's inimitable musical language.

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Christ Church Cathedral, located on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen peoples, is the episcopal seat of the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia, which includes Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. The cathedral has a large parish community and contributes to the cultural, social, and spiritual life of Capital Regional District residents and visitors. The Gothic cathedral, one of Canada's largest churches, was designed in 1896. Cathedral located at Quadra and Rockland – Office at 930 Burdett Ave, Victoria BC, V8V 3G8. www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca

The Emily Carr String Quartet has quickly established itself as one of BC's finest music ensembles. Formed in 2006 by members of the Victoria Symphony and the Aventa Ensemble of Victoria BC, the Quartet has performed in Canada, the USA and Europe. They have participated in residencies at Stanford University and the Banff Centre and have collaborated with artists such as: the Lafayette string quartet, Marion Newman, Jamie Parker, Lorraine Min, Arthur Rowe, the Alcan Quartet and the Tin Alley Quartet. They have performed for: "ISCM's 2017 World Music Days", "Music in the Morning" and "Music on Main" concert series in Vancouver, the Ankara Music Festival, Hornby Festival, Victoria Summer Music Festival and the IAMA Canadian Music Showcase in Montreal. Their album "Hidden Treasure" was nominated for the 2012 classical recording of the year at the Western Canadian Music Awards. www.emilycarrstringquartet.com

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