



Cartes Blanches  
**Kerson Leong**

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**Program**

Edvard Grieg, Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano in C Minor, op. 45  
Johannes Brahms, Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano in D Minor, op. 108

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**Digital broadcast**

From January 10 to January 31, 2021

# Leong - Tétreault - Salov



Irina Krasnyanskaya

## Cartes Blanches

### A Note from the Artistic Director

For this new season, we invite you to rediscover a very special era in the history of music, where the emphasis has been placed on the figure of the artist, his life and emotions. A music that speaks to our soul, that frees our senses and our mind; I'm talking, of course, about music from the Romantic period! And this, through a brand-new series: *Cartes Blanches*.

The trials we have recently had to overcome, and are still facing today, remind us of how undeniably we are linked to each other, but also invite us to rethink the bridges between generations, cultures and eras.

In their own way, initiating the *Cartes Blanches* Series, three renowned Canadian musicians, our contemporaries, our fellow citizens, our friends, will dialogue with the greatest composers of the Romantic period, offering us a unique opportunity to witness this deeply personal and intimate exchange.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Irina Krasnyanskaya". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Irina Krasnyanskaya

# Biography



Kerson Leong first took the music world by storm in 2010 by winning the coveted Junior First Prize at the prestigious Menuhin Competition. Ever since, the young Canadian violinist has astonished and won over both fellow musicians and audiences alike the world over with his rare and innovative mastery of his instrument, his natural ability to convey the subtlest of emotions, and the colossal scope of his live performances. Having been called "Canada's next great violinist" (Ludwig van Toronto), he has distinguished himself with his unique approach as one of the most brilliant musicians of his generation.

Kerson has played in some of the most prestigious concert venues around the world from Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium and the Auditorium du Louvre to Wigmore Hall and the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing. He is in regular demand as a soloist, having performed with such ensembles as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Oslo Philharmonic, the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestra Gulbenkian, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montreal, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the Quebec Symphony Orchestra, and the National Arts Centre Orchestra of Canada. In the 2018/2019 season, Kerson was named Artist-in-Residence with the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montreal under Yannick Nezet-Seguin.

Kerson is also an avid and passionate chamber musician. Since his debut at the Gstaad Menuhin Festival in Switzerland in 2011, he has been featured at many renowned international festivals and concert series, including the Verbier Festival, Flâneries musicales de Reims, Bergen International Festival, Trasimeno Music Festival, Toronto Summer Music Festival, Ottawa International Chamberfest,

# Biography

## Kerson Leong

### Violin

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Music and Beyond, Montral Symphony Orchestra's Virée classique, and Domaine Forget International Music Festival among others.

Kerson released *Bis*, his first album for Analekta showcasing a collection of encore pieces, to critical acclaim. He recorded John Rutter's *Visions* with the composer himself and the Aurora Chamber Orchestra for Collegium Records, after giving its world premiere in London, UK. He has been a recipient of many awards such as the Sylva Gelber Music Foundation Award (2015-2017) and the Young Soloist Prize 2015 by the Radios Francophone Publiques, as well as having received a Mentorship Award from the Lin Yao Ji Music Foundation of China for inspiring younger generations. He was named Revelation Radio-Canada 2014-2015 for classical music.

Kerson is an associated artist of the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Belgium, where he was mentored by Augustin Dumay. Teaching is becoming a growing passion for Kerson, having given masterclasses and taught at various festivals and universities. He has always been keen on making connections between music and other fields. Ever since his dad started introducing him to physics concepts about string resonance, they have strongly influenced his playing and philosophy on sound production. Together with his dad, he has given lectures about this subject in places such as the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, the Barratt Due Music Institute in Oslo, and various universities in California.

Kerson performs on a 1741 Guarneri del Gesù courtesy of Canimex Inc, Drummondville (Quebec), Canada.

\*Biography provided by the artist

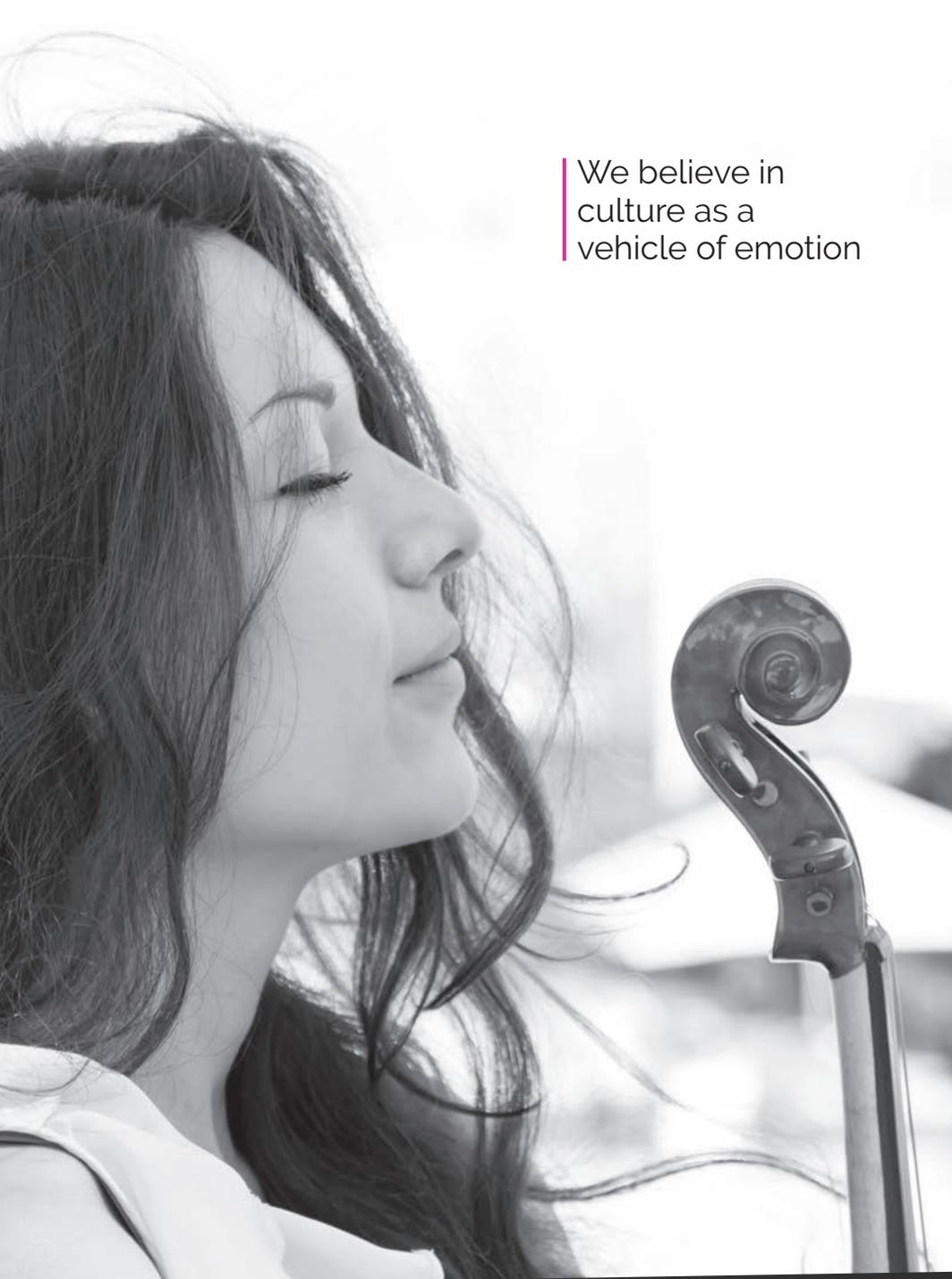
# Biography

## Pamela Reimer Piano



Pamela Reimer is a pianist, coach, teacher, juror and arranger based in Montreal, Canada. She has performed extensively throughout Canada, as well as in the US and the UK. In 2016, she was nominated for an Opus prize with flutist Marie-Hélène Breault for their concert *Mes Hommages*. She has also performed, toured and recorded numerous CDs with Orford Six Pianos, Blue Rider Ensemble, Bradyworks, Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal, Erreur de Type 27, percussionist Beverley Johnston and flutist Marie-Hélène Breault.

Pamela is sought after as a collaborative pianist, in the summer at Orford Music Academy and Domaine Forget, and as official pianist for the Jeunesses Musicales competition and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra Manulife competition. She has been on many festival and competition juries, including Montreal, Kingston, Moncton, Laval and Ottawa. She was Artist-in-Residence at Concordia University in Montreal from 2016-2018. In 2020 she performed with the London Sinfonietta as guest pianist in works by Jonathan Harvey and Claude Debussy.



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With Olivier Hébert-Bouchard, piano



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