



Adrian Anantawan
violin

Adrian Anantawan holds degrees from the Curtis Institute of Music, Yale University, and Harvard Graduate School of Education. As a violinist, he has studied with Itzhak Perlman, Pinchas Zukerman, and Anne-Sophie Mutter; his academic work in education was supervised by Howard Gardner. Memorable moments include performances at the White House, the Opening Ceremonies of the Athens and Vancouver Olympic Games, and the United Nations. Active within his

community, Adrian helped to create the Virtual Chamber Music Initiative at the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab Centre. He is currently the Chair of Music at Milton Academy, an independent preparatory school in Massachusetts serving students K-12. Adrian is a JUNO Award nominee, a member of the Terry Fox Hall of Fame, and was awarded a Diamond Jubilee Medal from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for his contributions to the Commonwealth.




Mark Rowswell ("Dashan")
host

Born and raised in Canada, Rowswell began studying Chinese in the mid-1980s, first at the University of Toronto and later at Beijing University. While in Beijing, he became interested in *xiangsheng* (相声), a traditional form of comedic dialogue, and was soon appearing on national television under the stage name "Dashan". Repeated performances on television programs with audiences in the hundreds

of millions gradually turned "Dashan" into a household name across China, and his media career expanded from comedy to dramatic acting to hosting cultural, diplomatic, educational, and commercial programs and events. Over time, Dashan came to be seen as a cultural ambassador between China and the West, and as a symbol of finding common ground between cultures, "a foreigner but not an outsider." In recent years, Dashan has returned to his comedic roots, combining traditional Chinese comedy with modern stand-up in a groundbreaking solo show, *Dashan Live*.

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The Year of the Dog

A Chinese New Year Celebration

SAT, FEB 24, 2018

The Year of the Dog

A Chinese New Year Celebration

Saturday, February 24, 2018
2:00pm & 4:00pm

There will be no intermission during the performance.

Carolyn Kuan
conductor

Wen Zhao
pipa

Xiaoqiu Lin
erhu

Adrian Anantawan
violin

Mark Rowsell ("Dashan")
host



HAPPY
CHINESE
NEW YEAR
欢乐春节



Huanzhi Li
Spring Festival Overture

Huang Ruo
"The Girl from the Da Ban City" from Folk Songs for Orchestra

Lou Harrison
"Allegro" from Concerto for Pipa with String Orchestra

Carl Maria von Weber
Overture and March from Turandot

Chen Yao Xin/arr. George Gao
Galloping Horses

He Zhanhao and Chen Gang
Selection from Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto

Traditional/arr. Nora Kroll-Rosenbaum
Gong Xi Gong Xi (Congratulations, Congratulations)

Thank you to erhu performer Xiaoqi Lin and lion dancers from Wushu Project for performing in the lobby prior to today's concerts.



CHINESE NEW YEAR SPONSOR



Carolyn Kuan
conductor

Recognized as a conductor of extraordinary versatility, Carolyn Kuan has enjoyed successful associations with top-tier orchestras, opera companies, ballet companies, and festivals worldwide. North American engagements have included the symphonies of Baltimore, Detroit, Milwaukee, Omaha, San Francisco, Seattle, and Toronto; Florida and Louisville orchestras; New York City Ballet; Colorado and Glimmerglass music festivals; and New York City Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and Washington National Opera. Currently in her seventh season as Music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, her commitment to contemporary music has defined her approach to programming and established her as an international resource for new music and world premières. Ms. Kuan's current season includes this return to the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and performances with the Santa Barbara Symphony, featuring John Corigliano's *The Red Violin*. Her 2018/19 season will include débuts with the Portland Opera and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.



Wen Zhao
pipa

Wen Zhao is an acclaimed pipa virtuoso and educator. Born in Beijing, she completed her studies on the pipa at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing. In 1990, Wen continued her musical career in England, blending Chinese traditional music and Western classical music to perform in a wide range of concert projects as well as to lead educational workshops throughout the UK. She has appeared at major ethnic music festivals in Asia, Europe, Canada, and the US, including the Vancouver Early Music Festival, Ottawa International Chamber Festival, and the Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong international festivals. Wen has lived in Toronto since 1997. She teaches pipa at York University, and has previously collaborated with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, and the Toronto Consort. She is especially honoured to be one of the featured musicians for the CBC award-winning documentary film *The Four Seasons Mosaic*.



Xiaoqiu Lin
erhu

Virtuoso erhu performer Xiaoqiu Lin learned erhu music from age five and was taught by various famous erhu players, including master performer Huifen Min. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music majoring in erhu, she was employed by the Shanghai Folk Philharmonic Orchestra for more than 20 years and later appointed as Vice and Chief erhu performer in the orchestra. Known for her exquisite performing style, she has appeared as soloist in many concerts and has been featured on the Shanghai Radio Station. She has also been a notable erhu teacher for over 25 years in China and Toronto. In May 2003, she released the solo album, *Seeing Each Other*. Recently, she appeared on Ron Korb's recording *Asia Beauty*, which was nominated for a 2016 GRAMMY® Award for Best New Age Album.