## Le vendredi 10 mai 2024 – Friday, May 10th, 2024 Jayden Lee – MMus Recital Classe de / Class of Joanna G'froerer

These program notes are written by the student performing and are presented by the student in partial fulfilment of the requirements of their course. Ces notes de programme sont écrites par l'étudiant-interprète et sont présentées en tant que réalisation partielle des critères de leur cours.

## Sonata in F Major

Frantisek « Franz » Benda, born in 1709 in the Czech Republic (then Bohemia), was a composer who mainly worked in the court of Frederick the Great. He was surrounded by music, growing up in a very musical family. His compositions allowed instrumentalists to sing, while also being very decorative. Through his life while working in the court, as and concertmaster of the Royal Orchestra in Germany, Benda composed a multitude of works, including 17 concerti for violin, 17 symphonies, as well as other sonatas for flute, violin, oboe, and bassoon. His music is not as well known as that of other classical composers, but as more and more of his works are discovered, his name is becoming increasingly popular today.

The Flute Sonata in F Major was written during his time working in the court. The first movement is lush and cantabile, allowing the flutist to play expressively to the fullest extent. A lot of room was left for ornamentation, although recent versions include edited ornamentation suggestions. The second movement, titled Allegro, gives a nod to baroque-era sonata second movements, such as Bach's Flute Sonata in E Minor. Jolly in nature, it allows the player to showcase their technical ability in a fast-paced setting. The third movement is in ¾ time, a common practice during classical third movements. Titled Vivace, this movement brings a cheerful close to the sonata. Almost a combination of the fist two movements, not only are technically challenging passages present, but the player is allowed to sing as well. Though the piece is short, it's sure to leave the listener feeling happy and fulfilled.

## Sonata for Flute and Piano, Op. 23

Lowell Liebermann, born in 1961, is an American composer and pianist. Having written over 140 works for a variety of instrumentations, many of his works have become a part of the standard repertoire for students and professionals. The Sonata for Flute and Piano was written in 1987 as a commission by the Spoleto Festival. Performed in South Carolina at the festival for the first time by Paula Robison and Jean-Yves Thibaudet, this award-winning work has impressed listeners for decades.

The first movement moves calmly through the first phrases, the flute and piano speaking through a series of legato rises and falls. Liebermann writes several contrasting sections, full of powerful

forte cries combined with moments of piano tranquility. The second movement highly contrasts the free first movement. The ever-charging piano voice complements the ferocity of the flute line, sometimes leaning into more lyrical sections but ending in a flurry of notes in an electric finale.

repeating after the other. The movement ends with a finale that continues to grow until the