

Presenting the Best of Canada's Classical Composers

Winter, 2022

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Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association Conference, Kingston, July, 2022

Counterpoint Music Library Services participated for the second time, as a vendor, and the first time as a workshop presenter at the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association Conference (ORMTA), this year in July 2022, hosted by the Music Faculty at Queen's University in Kingston. This was the first in-person conference of this organization since COVID, and the participants were required to wear masks, but it was good to be able to go back to in-person events.

We sponsored a workshop on our series the *Canadian Opera Anthology* and it was presented by Dr. Stephanie Nakagawa, the originator of the soprano edition. This is the first publication in this series, based on her doctoral thesis. This project/thesis came out of the questions posed to herself of how can singers find and perform Canadian opera arias. Until this anthology, finding and getting performance materials was not easy. The two soprano volumes were released in late 2020 and mid 2021, and have been well received by performers, teachers and students. This workshop highlighted some of the included arias and live performances, by Stephanie Nakagawa, who sang *I need you Guillaume* from Victor Davies - *Transit of Venus*, and a selection sung by baritone, Korin Thomas-Smith, from our in-progress baritone/bass edition, James Rolfe - *I was in love* from Orpheus & Eurydice, both ably accompanied by Dr. Joy Innis, as well as some recorded performances of two other arias.

The second workshop was co-sponsored with Long & McQuade Musical Instruments (a well-known Canadian retailer who also sells sheet music), and featured Canadian-Ukrainian composer Larysa Kuzmenko speaking about some of her piano works and vocal works. For this event she created a new solo piano work called *Brodie's Adventures*, and she gave the world premiere performance of this charming piece. Also for the event, Larysa created a piano reduction of her powerful work for soprano, *Voice of Hope*, based on the text of a young Ukrainian woman, Iryna Voitenko's poem about Stalin's starvation of Ukrainians in the 1930s known as the Holodomor. This was dramatically and powerfully presented by Ukrainian-Canadian soprano Natalya Gennadi with collaborating pianist Michel Szczesniak.

Both these workshops were video taped so that many more people can hear them and the music performances. They are posted on our YouTube channel, youtube.com/@CPMusicLibrary

Canadian Opera Anthology Workshop




Victor Davies, CM
Composer
(pre-recorded)

Dr. Stephanie Nakagawa
She will also be singing a selection from the soprano edition of this series

Learn about this exciting new resource for Singers, Collaborative Pianists and Teachers, featuring arias from many of Canada's operas

Based on Dr. Nakagawa's extensive research



With a performance by baritone
Korin Thomas-Smith
singing a selection from the in-progress Baritone-Bass volume of the series
Delightful and enthusiastic opera singer.
Recognized in the CBC Music's 30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30 for 2021

Sponsored by **counterpoint** music library services inc.

Larysa Kuzmenko Canadian-Ukrainian Composer Workshop



Larysa Kuzmenko

Hear the composer talk about her work *Voice of Hope* based on a 1930's poem by 16 yr old Ukrainian Iryna Voitenko who lived through the Stalin starvation of Ukrainians, known as the Holodomor, 1931-32. Larysa Kuzmenko will also premiere her new work, written for this occasion

Brodie's Adventures
a solo piano work



Ukrainian-Canadian soprano
Natalya Gennadi
will sing the deeply powerful *Voice of Hope* with collaborative pianist Michel Szczesniak

Co-Sponsored by **Long & McQuade** MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS **counterpoint** music library services inc.

Selections from the soprano edition:

Marc Gagné - *L'oiseau qu'est tout aimable prit sa volée* from Évangéline et Gabriel

Alexina Louie - *Berceuse* from The Scarlett Princess

Gary Kulesha - *Why am I so pale beside her* from Red Emma

Victor Davies - *I need you Guillaume* from Transit of Venus

John Estacio - *The Storm Aria* from Filumena

Murray Adaskin - *Autumn Song* from Grant, Warden of the Plains

Neil Weisensel - *Valedictorian's Aria* from Stickboy

Maxime Goulet - *Song of Persistence* from Flight of the Hummingbird

John Beckwith - *Daisy's Aria* from The Shivaree

Leslie Uyeda - *Solana's Song* from When the Sun Comes Out

Chan, Ka Nin - *Past and Present* from The Dragon's Tale

In 2022, Counterpoint has signed a publishing agreement with Larysa Kuzmenko to publish works in her catalogue that have not been published by others, and includes all future works. Selected works by Larysa Kuzmenko:

Golden Harvest for mixed chorus, soprano & baritone soloists, and orchestra (Upcoming performance March 31/23, University of Ottawa with combined choirs)

Brodie's Adventures, solo piano

Voice of Hope, soprano and piano or piano trio or string orchestra

Christmas Bells, SA chorus and piano

Dreams, SATB chorus and piano trio

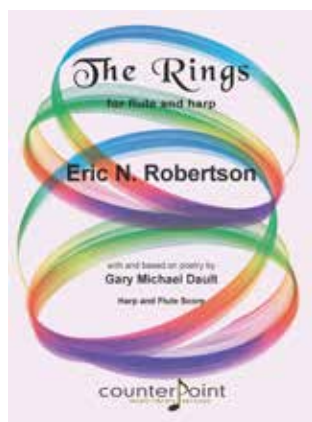
Go to the *Search our Store* button on our Home page and type in the title to find these.



Recent Publications for sale through our Online Store

For all these products you can find score samples and links to listen on the page of the product on our online store.

On sale until January 31, 2023



The Rings - Eric Robertson flute & harp

Commissioned by flutist Suzanne Shulman and harpist Erica Goodman, in honour of two special events-- Suzanne and her husband's 50th wedding anniversary, and Suzanne and Erica's long association for about the same length of time. Eric Robertson is a long-time friend and he created this work in 8 movements based on poems written by his friend and collaborator Gary Michael Dault. Sale price \$39.95

Brodie's Adventures solo piano

Larysa Kuzmenko

Brodie was a friend's dog who lived in the composer's neighbourhood. When he died earlier this year, and it was suggested that a new solo piano work for the workshop at ORMTA conference be created, the composer came up with this delightful solo piano work. Sale price \$19.95

Voice of Hope soprano & piano

Larysa Kuzmenko

This is the version of this work premiered at the ORMTA Conference by Ukrainian-Canadian soprano Natalya Gennadi. The text is based on a poem about the Stalin's starvation of the Ukrainians in the 1930s

This edition is in Ukrainian, phonetic Ukrainian and English. Sale price \$29.95

Cuando el rio suena (When the river sings) solo piano

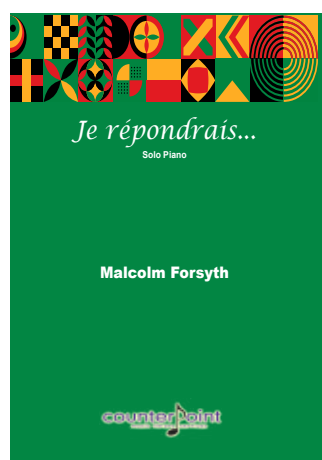
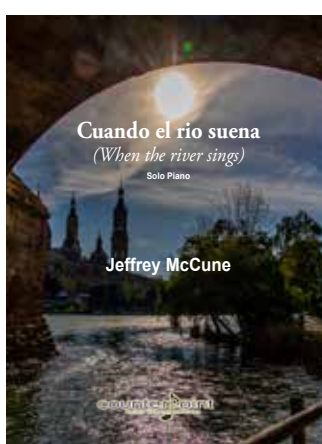
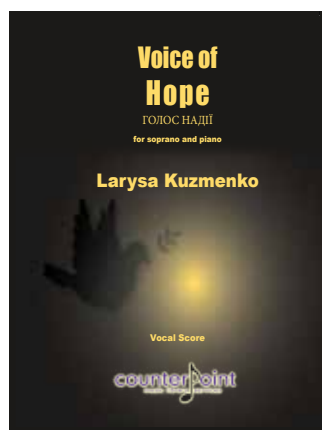
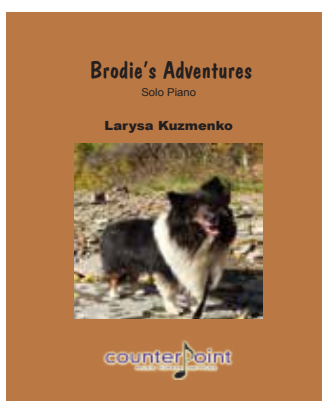
Jeffrey McCune

This is a piano solo work written for a friend who wanted "something with a Spanish flavour". So this work was created. It is for an accomplished pianist. With flowing lines like the river, it will appeal to performers and audience members. Sale price \$19.95

Je répondrais... (I would answer...)

Malcolm Forsyth

In the spirit of a response to three great composers, Forsyth has written these pieces either with a real title by that composer, the nickname of a work or, in the case of the second, with a cryptic reference to the composer himself: à Purcell: Fantazia upon One Note; à Schumann: Thumb-piano; à Chopin: White-key Study in African mode. Sale price \$19.95



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Counterpoint Music Library Services is a division of our corporate entity, Counterpoint Enterprises Inc. There is another division, created within the last couple years, called Sewn by Request. This division features hand-created clothing and useful items made of fabric. The first and main creations from this division are made-to-order men's dress shirts.

The next line of products that we are featuring are tote bags. Over the next few months we will be working on creating upscale tote bags in colourful and classy fabrics with leather bottoms, with feet, and handles.

We have recently created a number of economical, sturdy, canvas shopping bags with music motif front pockets.

We are running a Special: while supplies last, buy \$65 worth of product from our online store and receive one of these unique tote bags for free. They can also be purchased separately.



photo: March, 2017

John Beckwith

March 9, 1927 - December 5, 2022

Composer, music educator, pianist, writer. We are sad to acknowledge that one of Canada's last senior composers has died at the age of 95. Counterpoint was working with John Beckwith as an editor on our Canadian Opera Anthology, baritone/bass edition. He generously shared his vast knowledge and experience in helping us choose the repertoire to go into this next edition of this series. I asked him to give me a list of operas to investigate for repertoire which could fit what we were seeking. He came back with a long list, and that sent me looking for scores from the Canadian Music Centre and other sources. He will be missed. A memorial will be held in the Spring of 2023.

Counterpoint's YouTube Channel

We invite you to visit our YouTube Channel. The number of items is gradually increasing of works and recordings that we want to share and bring to the attention of you and many more performers. You can visit CP Music Library Channel at: youtube.com/@CPMusicLibrary Please "Like" us and Subscribe.

Counterpoint Highlights available in PDF

Download the PDF version of this newsletter from our website, at www.cpmusiclibrary.ca/highlights