
Saturday,
June 21, 2025
8:00pm

TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Gustavo Gimeno, Music Director

Jeremy Dutcher

Lucas Waldin, conductor

Jeremy Dutcher, piano & vocalist

Charles James, double bass

Stefan Schneider, drums

Members of the WICIW Choir

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Honour Song"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Essuwonike"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Mehcinut"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"tahcuwi Anelsultipon"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Stéphanie Hamelin Tomala
"Sakom"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"Wolasweltomultine"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Utestakon"

Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"Skicinuwiwkuk"

Intermission

Cris Derksen

Round Dance

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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"Pomawsuwinuwok
Wonakiyawolotuwok"
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Jeremy Dutcher
"Nipuwoltin"
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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Pomok naka Poktoinskwes"
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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Oqiton"
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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"The Land That Held Them"
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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"Together We Emerge"
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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Bram Gielen
"Take My Hand"
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Jeremy Dutcher/arr. Lucas Waldin
"Koselwintuwakon (Love Song)"
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Lucas Waldin, conductor

Lucas Waldin made his TSO début in December 2012.

Lucas Waldin is a dynamic and versatile conductor whose performances have delighted audiences across North America. He has collaborated with some of today's most exciting artists including Carly Rae Jepsen, Barenaked Ladies, Ben Folds, the Canadian Brass, Crash Test Dummies, Leslie Odom Jr., Jackson Browne, and Rita Wilson, in addition to conducting presentations such as *Disney in Concert*, *Blue Planet Live*, *Cirque de la Symphonie*, and the groundbreaking symphonic début of R&B duo Dvsn as part of the global Red Bull Music Festival.

Waldin has been a guest conductor for numerous orchestras in the US and Canada, including The Cleveland Orchestra, the Houston Symphony, the Dallas Symphony, the Grant Park Festival Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony, the Seattle Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, the Vancouver Symphony, the Calgary Philharmonic, and the Toronto Symphony.

Having joined the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) as Resident Conductor in 2009, Waldin was subsequently appointed Artist-in-Residence and Community Ambassador—the first position of its kind in North America. He appeared with the ESO more than 150 times and conducted in Carnegie Hall during the orchestra's participation in the 2012 Spring for Music festival. In recognition of his accomplishments, he was awarded the Jean-Marie Beaudet Award in Orchestra Conducting, and received a Citation Award from the City of Edmonton for outstanding achievements in arts and culture.

A native of Toronto, Waldin holds degrees in flute and conducting from the Cleveland Institute of Music.



Jeremy Dutcher, piano & vocalist

Jeremy Dutcher made his TSO début in April 2019.

Jeremy Dutcher is a Two-Spirit song carrier, composer, activist, ethnomusicologist, and classically trained vocalist from New Brunswick who currently lives in Montreal, Quebec. A Wolastoqiyik member of the Tobique First Nation in Northwest New Brunswick, Dutcher is best known for his début album, *Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa* (*The Songs of the People of the Beautiful River*), recorded following a research project on archival recordings of traditional Wolastoqiyik songs at the Canadian Museum of History. Dutcher transcribed songs sung by his ancestors in 1907 and recorded onto wax cylinders, transforming them into “collaborative” compositions. The album earned him the 2018 Polaris Music Prize and Indigenous Music Album of the Year at the 2019 JUNO Awards. His 2019 NPR Tiny Desk Concert has more than 100,000 views. Dutcher’s sophomore album, *Motewolonuwok*, was awarded the 2024 Polaris Music Prize—making him the first-ever two-time winner.

Dutcher studied music and anthropology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. After training as an operatic tenor in the Western classical tradition, he expanded his professional repertoire to include the traditional singing style and songs of his community. Dutcher’s music transcends boundaries—unapologetically playful in its incorporation of classical influences, full of reverence for the traditional songs of his home, and teeming with the urgency of modern-day resistance.

Dutcher has toured the world, from Australia and Norway to Italy and the Philippines. He has worked with and performed for iconic artists such as Joni Mitchell and cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Dutcher is regularly sought out for his perspectives on queerness, Indigeneity, language revitalization, and fashion, including a 2022 appearance as a guest judge on *Canada’s Drag Race*. In 2022, Dutcher and his family launched Kehkimin, the first-ever Wolastoqey language immersion school, in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

WICIW Choir

WICIW is a vocal ensemble led by Jeremy Dutcher and created for his album *Motewolonuwok*. Named after the Wolastoqey word for “togetherness,” the choir brings together singers from varied cultural and musical backgrounds to celebrate language revitalization, unity, and collective expression.

“There are lessons you’re taught and ones you come to know experientially—some are both. The lesson ‘there is no better medicine than singing together’ is something I was told from a young age, but didn’t truly internalize until the process of creating my last album, *Motewolonuwok*. The WICIW Choir was built from every corner of my life, bringing together the voices I admire most, and is made most beautiful by its inclusivity—truly an ensemble for every voice type. Getting to share Wolastoqey latuwewakon with these dear collaborators was a transformative experience for me; we can learn so much from teaching.” —**Jeremy Dutcher**

Members of the WICIW Choir: Meghan Jamieson, Tara Kannangara, Keith Lam, Katrina Westin