WEDNESDAY
NOON HOURS

CELEBRATING THE CANADIAN LEAGUE OF COMPOSERS' 75TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2026, A SOLO PIANO RECITAL OF MUSIC COMPOSED BY PAST AND CURRENT PRESIDENTS OF THE CLC.

INCLUDING MUSIC BY VANCOUVER COMPOSERS, JENNIFER BUTLER AND RODNEY SHARMAN

John Burge, *piano*

Wednesday, September 16, 2026
Roy Barnett Recital Hall, UBC

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
School of Music

John Burge *piano*

Composer and pianist, John Burge, taught at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, for 38 years before retiring as a Professor Emeritus in 2025. Many of Burge's orchestral works, such as ***Snowdrift, The Canadian Shield*** and ***Rocky Mountain Overture***, have been performed by orchestras across Canada and internationally. His string orchestra work, ***Flanders Fields Reflections***, as recorded by Sinfonia Toronto, received the 2009 Juno Award for the Best Canadian Classical Composition. In 2014 he was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada for his achievements as a composer and support of the Arts in Canada. Having completed his Associate Diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto in Piano Performance while still in high school, John Burge has continued to perform throughout his career, usually in presentations of his own music. Over the years, his piano music has been included in a number of conservatory music syllabi and he is in high demand as a music festival adjudicator. A passionate advocate for Canadian music, he served on the executive committee of the Canadian League of Composers from 1993-2007 (including eight years as President) and on the SOCAN Foundation board of directors from 2009-2025, as well as on the boards of several arts organizations in the Kingston area.

The Canadian League of Composers was founded at John Weinzweig's Toronto home in 1951 with an initial membership of eight composers: Murray Adaskin, Louis Applebaum, Samuel Dolin, Harry Freedman, Phil Nimmons, Harry Somers, Andrew Twa and John Weinzweig. Weinzweig was the organization's first president and was later named President Emeritus. The group's immediate purpose was to create opportunities for the commissioning, performing, recording and broadcasting of Canadian classical music, with a particular focus on addressing the lack of Canadian classical music heard on CBC and performed by the country's symphony orchestras. Leading by example, in its first fifteen years, the CLC successfully staged concerts of Canadian music in many cities across Canada and helped launch the Canadian Music Centre in 1959. From the beginning, the CLC has always been directed by a volunteer board of directors and today, the CLC continues to support Canadian composers through many activities including mentorship, workshops, advocacy, international outreach and awards.

This lunchtime recital is a shortened version of a full recital of music that was assembled by John Burge (himself a past president) to pay tribute to the organization's 75th anniversary in 2026. It is especially wonderful that two past presidents and Vancouver composers, Jennifer Butler and Rodney Sharman, are present at today's concert and will join John Burge on the stage at the end of the concert.

Program

John Burge *piano*

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

12pm, Barnett Hall, UBC School of Music

With so many short pieces, please hold applause until the end

Pacific Dogwood [A musical land acknowledgement from McKiver's Canadian Floral Emblems]	Beverley McKiver
Swing a Fugue	John Weinzweig (CLC President: 1951–57, 1959–63)
Rondo (from Suite No. 1)	Jean Papneau-Couture (CLC President: 1957–59, 1963-66)
Prelude No. 1 (from Four Preludes)	Srul Irving Glick (CLC President:1966-69)
Prelude for John Weinzweig	Sam Dolin (CLC President:1969-73)
The Merry Reel (from Two Latvian Dances)	Talivaldis Kenins (CLC President: 1973-74)
Prelude No. 24 (from The August Collection)	Walter Buczynski (CLC President:1974-75)
The Anglo Tango	Rodney Sharman (CLC President: 1993-98)
From Tiny Acorns	John Burge (CLC President: 1998-2006)
Erasing/Erased	Jennifer Butler (CLC President: 2011-2014)
Toccata (from Invention and Toccata)	Sophie Dupuis (CLC President: 2020-23)
Legend (from Three Melodies)	Tyler Versluis (CLC President: 2023-present)
O Canada	Calixa Lavallée

We invite you to be present and turn off your phones.
Photography and recording are not permitted.

We are gathered together for this event on the ancestral territory of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓-speaking Musqueam peoples.

Coming up at the UBC School of Music

Wednesday, Sept 23| 12pm, Barnett Hall
Wednesday Noon Hours: Daniel Shapiro *piano*

Saturday, Sept 26 | 6pm, Old Auditorium
Robert & Ellen Silverman Piano Concerto Competition: Final Round

Sunday, Sept 27 | 2pm, Old Auditorium
Opera Tea: Welcome Back

Friday, Oct 2 | 7:30pm, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
UBC Symphony Orchestra: Dvořák

Sunday, Oct 4 | 2pm, Old Auditorium
Singer Behind the Song: Jessica Muirhead

Wednesday, Oct 7 | 12pm, Barnett Hall
Wednesday Noon Hours: Tony Chen Lin *piano*

Saturday, Oct 10| 7:30pm, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
UBC Bands

Wednesday, Oct 14 | 12pm, Barnett Hall
Wednesday Noon Hours: Pickle Underground

For tickets and more information about UBC School of Music events visit music.ubc.ca/events or scan the QR code below.

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Thank you for joining us!

Addition Notes on This Concert

As this concert is taking place at the University of British Columbia, it is important to highlight that Jennifer Butler is a current professor in the UBC School of Music and Rodney Sharman has taught at UBC in the past. Additionally, Jennifer holds degrees from UBC—MMus 2002 and DMA 2010. John Burge's UBC connection is his own DMA in 1989.

Limits on this concert's duration, and in some cases a lack of solo piano music available to perform, has meant that the following past presidents were not programmed on this recital but are listed below to acknowledge their leadership of the Canadian League of Composers.

Harry Freedman CLC President: 1975-78
James Montgomery CLC President: 1978-79
Victor Davies CLC President: 1979-82
Paul McIntyre CLC President: 1982-83
Alex Pauk CLC President: 1983-89
Patrick Cardy CLC President: 1989-92
Paul Steenhuisen CLC President: 2006-07
James Rolfe CLC President: 2007-11
Brian Harman CLC President: 2014-16
Christopher Reiche Boucher CLC President: 2016-20

John Burge is grateful to the SOCAN Foundation for a travel grant which supported this trip to Vancouver. Tomorrow night (Thursday, September 17, 2026), the full program will be performed at the BC Branch of the Canadian Music Centre at 7 PM. At this concert both Rodney Sharman and Jennifer Butler will provide commentary about the CLC, the composers and the music. This CMC BC Branch concert is free and includes a CLC-sponsored reception following the performance.