



Music Director: Ronald Royer

THE SCARBOROUGH PHILHARMONIC  
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## The Scarborough Philharmonic celebrates 30 years this season!

**Toronto, ON., September 15 2009** - For its historic 30th anniversary 2009/10 season, the Scarborough Philharmonic is delighted to welcome **Ronald Royer** as its new Music Director. To celebrate the Orchestra's history, Maestro Royer will share the podium with guest conductors who are all former Music Directors of the SPO: **John Barnum, Christopher Kitts, Véronique Lacroix** and **Jerome Summers**.

The SPO has seen a great deal of change in the three decades since its creation in 1980 by Clifford Poole. From the beginning it was a community orchestra comprised of a core of professional musicians, along with a diverse collection of amateur musicians of all ages and backgrounds. In 1985, Maestro Poole left to form Scarborough's second orchestra, the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony, itself celebrating 25 seasons in 2010. Although the size of the orchestra was diminished by this split into two ensembles, the SPO grew and revitalized under the leadership of five Music Directors beginning with Christopher Kitts. In 1994, the SPO introduced its successful Composer-in-Residence program, leading to the commissioning of new works from Canadian composers including Donald Coakley, Barbara Croall, Chan Ka Nin, John Estacio, Omar Daniel, Ronald Royer and Vince Gassi.

The Scarborough Philharmonic continues its ongoing tradition of presenting new Canadian music alongside old favourites and rarely-performed gems, by commissioning 30th anniversary pieces by three emerging Toronto composers: **Alex Eddington, Kevin Lau** and **Chris Meyer**.

The season will open with a concert of French music by Berlioz, Debussy, Fauré, Ravel and Saint-Saëns (October 17). The SPO is joined by the **Toronto Choral Society** and their conductor **Geoffrey Butler** for two concerts this season: a Christmas concert conducted by veteran maestro **Dr. Howard Cable** (December 5) and a program of Russian masterworks by Khatchaturian, Rachmaninoff and Rimsky-Korsakov (February 27).

The fourth concert (March 28, afternoon) will showcase soloists from the SPO in concerto repertoire by Mozart, Weber and Strauss, and the season concludes with a special 30th anniversary concert (May 15) featuring the inimitable **Gryphon Trio** in Ronald Royer's *Sinfonia Concertante for Piano Trio and Orchestra*, and Michael Conway Baker's *Vancouver Variations* - otherwise known as the theme song of the long-running CBC Radio Two program "Here's to You"!

All concerts are at Birchmount Collegiate (3663 Danforth Ave). Free parking / wheelchair accessible.

**Tickets:** \$30 regular / \$25 seniors / \$10 youth. At the door, (416) 429-0007, or [spo@spo.ca](mailto:spo@spo.ca)

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