



Western
Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

King's Department of Modern Languages sets Shakespeare's words to music with Western's Faculty of Music

London, Ont., March 20, 2015

"Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears"; the Department of Modern Languages at King's University College in conjunction with Western's Faculty of Music is hosting a unique night of music and literature entitled *Shakespeare + Cello* on Thursday March 26 at 8 p.m. at King's University College in the Vitali Lounge in the Wemple Building, located at 266 Epworth Avenue, London, ON. Admission to the event is free, and there will be complimentary coffee and tea. All members of the community are welcome to come and partake in the event. Free parking is available in Lot 1.

The live music and singing event will feature compositions of Beethoven, Shostakovich, Rorem and Korngold accompanied by passages from Shakespeare's works *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Professor Thomas Wiebe from Western's Faculty of Music will direct the musical component of the evening, with King's English Professor Dr. Paul Werstine organizing the literary accompaniment.

"Classical music and Shakespeare have a long history not only in the instrumental music that will be played on March 26, but also in opera, where Falstaff, Macbeth, Othello, and Romeo and Juliet and others have all been recreated," says Dr. Werstine.

"Shakespeare + Cello is important because it brings together students in different disciplines—Music and English—and from different institutions—King's and Western—to collaborate. The event thereby gives these students the opportunity to value what each other does and to learn from each other," he adds.

Dr. Werstine is an internationally recognized Shakespearean scholar and a recognized Teacher of Excellence, as well as being a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. His love for Shakespeare is evident in the classroom and in the numerous publications he has authored.

Dr. Thomas Wiebe is Associate Professor at the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western, where he teaches cello and chamber music. He has recorded for on the CBC, Centrediscs, Doremi, and Bowl labels. His most recent CD features Professor Wiebe and his wife, mezzo-soprano Anita Krause, performing the music of Western's Professor David Myska, whose Four Songs on William Shakespeare will be performed as part of this event.

King's is a publicly funded Catholic post-secondary institution founded in 1954. King's provides general and honors degree programs in the liberal arts, social sciences, business, and a master's degree in social work. It is positioned in the top rank of institutions of higher learning in Canada for the high quality of its teaching faculty and student experience. Institutionally autonomous, King's is academically affiliated with Western University. King's is open to students of all faith backgrounds, with its community centered on the values of social justice, equality and the education of the whole person.

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