

Esmée Gilbert

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EDUCATION

University of Montreal (2023 - 2024)

Artist Diploma (D.E.P.A in Collaborative Piano)

Studied under Francis Perron and Liz Upchurch

University of Ottawa (2019 - 2021)

Master of Music (Piano Performance)

Studied under Leopoldo Erice

Memorial University of Newfoundland (2015—2019)

Bachelor of Music (Honours) (Joint Majors in Piano Performance and Musicology)

Studied under Tim Steeves

Dean's List 2015—2019

COLLABORATIVE EXPERIENCE

Freelance Accompanist (self-employed) (2016 -)

Provides piano accompaniment for student rehearsals, auditions, and performances. Has accompanied undergraduate and masters students (upper strings) at both uOttawa and uMontreal. Experience collaborating with vocalists and instrumentalists, as well as choirs and dance classes.

Pianist for U de M Lied and Melody Workshop (September 2023 – April 2024)

Rehearses and performs in weekly masterclasses with masters and undergraduate students, with a focus on German and French repertoire.

Pianist at St Luke's United Church – (Tantallon, NS) (July – August 2022 , July – August 2023).

Played during Sunday services. Assisted in morning choir rehearsals.

Accompanist at Maritime Conservatory School of Dance (Halifax, NS) (October 2021 – May 2023)

Accompanied RAD syllabus ballet classes and exams.

Accompanist for StageCoach (Halifax, NS) (October 2022 – February 2023)

Worked with youth aged 13 – 16 on musical theatre repertoire and in mock auditions, rehearsals, performance classes. Rehearsal pianist for school's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Collaborative Pianist for Lucky Penny Opera's 48-hour Opera Challenge (October 29 – 31st, 2021)

Collaborated with composer and singers to create and record a 10-minute digital opera.

Pianist for Art Song seminar – (German Art Song - Mus 6914) (Jan – May 2021)

Performed with singers in masterclasses and final recording projects.

Collaborative Pianist for MUN Opera Workshop & Aria Class (St. John's, NL) (Sept 2018 – April 2019)

Provided piano accompaniment for students for individual rehearsals, vocal performance classes, and end of semester performance. Was rehearsal pianist for end of semester opera production, Will Todd's *Alice in Wonderland*.

Kittiwake Dance Company Collaborative Piano Program (St. John's, NL) (August 2018)

Accompanied ballet classes for Kittiwake Summer Dance Intensive.

Pianist for MUN's Production of Menotti's *The Medium*. (St. John's, NL) (April 2018)

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Royal Conservatory of Music "Teaching Elementary Piano" Course (June – August 2021)

Piano Technique Seminar (University of Montreal) (September – December 2023)

"What Every Musician Needs to Know About the Body" Course (December 2019 & August 2022)
6-hour Body-mapping course taught by Jennifer Johnson, focusing on healthy playing technique and injury prevention.

Xenia Concerts Artist Training Program (May 2023)
Inclusivity training for musicians in partnership with The Lotus Center for Autism.

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

Graduating DEPA Recital – Salle Claude Champagne, Montreal, QC. May 8th.
Brahms: Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 1 in G Major.. Schumann: Piano Quartet in E-flat Major.

U de M's Winter Semester Chamber Music Concert – Salle Serge Garant, Montreal, QC. April 17, 2024.
Schumann: Piano Quartet in Eb major, Op. 47.

U de M's Fall Semester Chamber Music Concert – Salle Jean Papineau Couture, Montreal, QC. December 14, 2023.
Beethoven: "Archduke" Piano Trio in Bb major, No. 7.

Scotia Festival Young Artist Concert - Joseph Strug Concert Hall, Halifax, NS. June 10, 2023.
Performed selections from Smetana's Piano Trio & Gaubert's *Trois Aquarelles*.

Xenia Concert Series – Paul O'Reagan Hall, Halifax. June 8, 2023.
Performed Reger Albumstucke WoO II for violin and piano.

Halifax Ladies' Musical Club CMC Recital – Fountain School of Performing Arts, Halifax, NS. February 11th, 2023.
Performed with soprano Danielle Giraud selections from Poulenc's *Fianciale pour rires!* : "Il vole!", "Fleurs", "Violon".

Tuckamore Festival Finale Concert – D.F. Cook Recital Hall, St. John's, NL. Aug. 21st, 2022.
Brahms: Piano Quartet No. 3 in C minor.

Tuckamore Festival "Young Artists in Pouch Cove" – James Baird Gallery, Pouch Cove, NL. Aug. 20th, 2022.
Brahms: Piano Quartet No. 3 (4th movement).

Tuckamore "Composers at Play" Concert – Suncor Energy Hall, St. John's, NL. Aug. 13th, 2022.
Brahms: Piano Quartet No. 3. Zihan Zhou: "Sewing Pearls Dropping by Time" (St. John's NL)

Tuckamore Festival Lunchtime Young Artist Recitals – Anglican Cathedral, St. John's, NL. August 10th & 17th.
Brahms: Piano Quartet No. 3. (mvt 1 & 2) Jocelyn Morlock: *Halycon* (for cello and piano)

Ursa Duo Nova Scotia Tour - Lilian Piercey Concert Hall, Halifax, NS, July 28, 2022
- Duckworth Barn, Kingsburg, NS, July 30, 2022
- Port Williams United Baptist Church, Port Williams, NS, July 31, 2022
Performed a recital of Canadian contemporary classical music with cellist Connor Comick. Funded by ArtsNS.

LAMP NOW Concert Series - Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance, Lunenburg, NS, June 24 & 25, 2022
Performed new compositions & world premieres by composers in residence for mixed chamber ensemble.

LAMP NOW Composer showcase - Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance, Lunenburg, NS, June 22, 2022.
Dorothy Chang: *Five*.

LAMP NOW Resident showcase- Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance, Lunenburg, NS, June 17, 2022.
Performed concert of contemporary repertoire for cello & piano and piano four-hands.
Jocelyn Morlock: Halcyon. Jeremy Gill: Dos sonetos de amor. Naomi Pinno: goat nott. John Armstrong: Fair Ever Be Angels. Emily Doolittle: Sorex (for four piano four hands)

“Nocturnal Paintings”: **New Music for Solo Piano** – Suncor Energy Hall, St. John’s, NL, 2021
Performed solo 60 minute recital of newly commissioned works by composer Isabelle Riche. (Funded by ArtsNL)

Graduating Masters Recital – Tabaret Hall, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, 2021.
Haydn: Piano Sonata in C minor No. 20. Jean Coulthard: Piano Sonata no. 1. Bach: Prelude and Fugue in G minor BWV 885 & A-flat major BWV 886. Brahms: Klavierstucke Op. 119.

Allure Ensemble Online Concert Series - Ottawa, ON 2020 – (virtual project)
Performed 4 livestreamed concerts throughout 2020/21 with Allure new music ensemble (formerly “Phase Ensemble”).

“An Afternoon of Brahms and Shostakovich” – Private concert, Sherrington, QC, 2020.
Brahms: Piano Trio No. 1. Shostakovich: Five Pieces for 2 Violins and Piano.

First Year Masters Recital – University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, 2021
Chopin: Ballade no. 4, Jean Coulthard: Three Aegean Sketches, Bach: Toccata in G major BWV 916, Mozart: Piano Sonata in F major K. 533/494

UOttawa Chamber Music Showcase – Freiman Hall, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON (2019)
Brahms: Viola Sonata No. 1 in F minor, Op. 120.

Quartetfest Young Artist Concert - Kitchener Waterloo Chamber Music Association, Kitchener, ON (2019)
Shostakovich: Piano Quintet in G minor.

Fourth Year Undergraduate Recital – D.F. Cook Recital Hall, Memorial University, St. John’s, NL, 2019
Beethoven: Piano Sonata No. 28 in A major Op. 101. Ravel: Alborado del gracioso. Amy Beach: piano concerto (1st movement), Lutaslowki: Paganini variations for 2 pianos.

Kiwanis Music Festival 18 + Solo Piano Class – Suncor Energy Hall, Memorial University, St. John’s, NL, 2019
Second place provincial winner. Performed Beethoven’s Piano sonata op. 101 and Ravel’s “Alborada Del Gracioso”.

SELECTED MASTERCLASSES

Chamber Music Masterclass performance with Enrico Pace. (Montreal, QC). Oct 29.
Beethoven: Piano trio no. 7 “Archduke”. Mvt 1.

Masterclass performance with Jane Coop. (Lunenburg, NS). April 17 & 18, 2023.
Chopin: Ballade No. 4. Jean Coulthard: Aegean Sketches.

Masterclass performance with Janina Fialkowska. (St. John’s, NL). August 10th, 2022.
Dorothy Chang: “Reverie”, “Toccatina”

Chamber Music masterclass performance with Nathan Brock. (Tabaret Hall, Ottawa, ON.) March 13th, 2021.
Dvorak: Piano Quintet in A major, Op. 8. (mvt 1, 2 & 3)

Masterclass performance with Charles Richard-Hamelin. (Freimen Hall, Ottawa, ON.) Feb. 3rd, 2021
Brahms: Klavierstucke, Op. 119.

Masterclass performance with Paul Barnes. (Ottawa, ON) March 21st, 2021.

Ravel: Jeux d'eau.

Masterclass performance with Charles Richard-Hamelin. (St. John's, NL) February 7th, 2019.

Ravel: Alborada del gracioso

PROGRAMS AND RESIDENCIES

Scotia Festival of Music Young Artist Program (Halifax, NS) May 28 – June 11, 2023

Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance (piano residency with Jane Coop) (Lunenburg, NS) April 17 – 23, 2023.

Tuckamore Chamber Music Festival Young Artist Program (St. John's, NL) August 2020 & 2022.

Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance (NOW Festival residency) (Lunenburg, NS) June 12 – 26, 2022.

QuartetFest (Waterloo, ON) June 3 – 16, 2019.

Kittiwake Dance Theatre's Collaborative Piano Program (St. John's, NL) August 2018.

AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS

- ArtsNS Professional Development Grant – to attend week-long residency at LAMP and study with Jane Coop (2023)
- ArtsNL Professional Project Grant - to attend 2-week LAMP contemporary music residency (2022)
- ArtsNL Professional Project Grant – to commission recital of solo piano music by composer Isabelle Riche (2021)
- University of Ottawa Full-Tuition Entrance Scholarship (2019 – 2021)
- Dr. Maureen Volk Award (2019)
- Pro-Vice Chancellor Prize for Undergraduate Scholarship (2018)
- School of Music Faculty Scholarship (2018)
- Pat and Margaret Maloney Scholarship in Music (2018)
- William J. House Memorial Scholarship (2017)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Private Piano Instructor (self-employed) (2017 -)

Works with students of all ages, ranging from beginner to advanced. Have worked with students on RCM levels Prep A - Level 8. Tailors lesson plans to individual student needs, incorporating technique, theory, aural skills. While living in Halifax (2021 – 2023), held an active home studio of approximately 20 students.

Teaching Assistant, University of Ottawa (Ottawa, ON) (2019 – 2021)

Taught undergraduate aural skills classes (MUS1191). Tasks included facilitating classes on sight-singing and musicianship, conducting, grading assessments and exams, helping students one-on-one during office hours, and course related admin.

Piano Teacher at Allegro Music School (Ottawa, ON) (2019 – 2021)

Keyboard Instructor at Girls Rock NL (St. John's, NL) (July 2017 & 2018)

Taught group workshops and individual lessons to youth aged 8 – 14. Assisted in group rehearsals.