

# PIANO HEIST



## PIANO HEIST: KEYS ARE THE CHAMPION

Lifelong friends, and colleagues, Nico Rhodes, and Patrick Courtin, shocked and appalled by the realization that piano just isn't cool anymore, set off on a divine quest to redeem the keyboard and reinstate its reputation as the greatest instrument of ALL TIME! Armed with the music of the greatest composers, songwriters and performers of the past 400 years, and the technology of the 21st century – their virtual orchestra (Doug), Nico and Patrick deliver everything from classical piano raptures to bombastic boogie woogie, from romantic piano ballads to 80's keyboard synth battles in their show Piano Heist! What ensues is a mishmash of theatrical wonder, comedy, audience participation, heartfelt stories, a pinch of history, and a world of musical madness.

**VIDEO TRAILER:** Piano Heist: Keys are the Champions  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eSIWjOhynE>



**OUTREACH & EDUCATION OFFERINGS:** Being musicians who have studied and performed in diverse musical settings, both Nico and Patrick love sharing their unique musical perspective with students of all ages and levels. The top priority in any musical setting is to encourage musical curiosity, understanding and participation.

Education Show link: [Keyboard Explosion and Outreach Activities](#)

## WHAT THE AUDIENCES ARE SAYING ABOUT PIANO HEIST

*"One of the most enjoyable evenings ever. A mixture of incredible musical talent and warm humour. Loved it, loved it, loved it, you absolutely nailed it for fun... on par with the Smothers Brothers and Victor Borge"* ~ G. Bowers, Nanaimo, BC

*"Loved every minute of it. Big heartfelt thanks for a fantastic evening"* ~ LH Nanaimo, BC

*"A very enjoyable evening...If you ever get to see or hear these two it is worth your time and money, at some points, I was laughing so hard I was crying!"* ~ HW Cedar, BC



## PIANO HEIST: A VERY MERRY HEISTMAS!

Piano Heist is back with a dazzling new holiday production: A Very Merry Heistmas! A festive romp through Christmas classics interlaced with their own brand of musical and comedic shenanigans, Nico Rhodes & Patrick Courtin tackle everything "Christmas". Whether it's the nostalgic charm of Charlie Brown Christmas, a rock & roll styled Nutcracker Suite; The Messiah on melodicas, or a rollicking ragtime Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, get ready for a holiday experience that's truly one-of-a-kind! Bring your festive spirit and prepare to sing-a-long for A Very Merry Heistmas!

**VIDEO TRAILER:** Piano Heist: A Very Merry Heistmas  
<https://youtu.be/uRXj415WPgU>

**JOIN THE HEIST!** [pianoheist.com](https://pianoheist.com)



## WHO IS PIANO HEIST

In 2022, lifelong friends Nico Rhodes and Patrick Courtin were taken aback by the stark realization that the piano had fallen out of favour. Determined to restore its luster and reclaim its title as the ultimate instrument, they embarked on an exhilarating journey. Drawing inspiration from the masterpieces of legendary composers, songwriters, and performers over the last three centuries, they crafted a mesmerizing show that spans the spectrum from classical piano masterpieces to vibrant boogie-woogie, romantic ballads, and epic 80s synth battles in Piano Heist: Keys are the Champions! This enchanting experience unfolds as a delightful blend of theatrical magic, humour, audience engagement, touching narratives, a sprinkle of history, and an explosion of musical creativity. Tours have taken them across Canada and the Western U.S., captivating audiences with over 140 performances in both quaint towns and bustling cities. Looking ahead, they are excited to unveil a brand-new Christmas production in 2025: A Very Merry Heistmas!

**VIDEO:** Piano Heist – On the Road [https://youtu.be/7v\\_On0UsWwk](https://youtu.be/7v_On0UsWwk)

**NICO RHODES** is a genre jumping, multilingual musician who collaborates with other artists and artforms to experience and explore music in as many styles as possible. Growing up touring around the globe surrounded by artists and the world of theatre – he is equally comfortable playing jazz, classical, funk or roots music, orchestrating a symphony, writing musicals, and conducting choirs. He begins his day with an espresso and practicing his Japanese, the language he is currently embracing.

Nico Rhodes is one of the most in demand young arranger/musical directors in Canada, with 40 stage musicals to his credit. He's written 400 original compositions, four original musicals and arranged two symphonic pops concerts. He's been nominated for two Jessie and five Ovation Awards and in 2019 was honoured with Nanaimo's Emerging Cultural Leader Award. He composes for stage, screen, and media, collaborates with multiple choirs, plays with several jazz trios and tours in a duo with his mother, renowned chanteuse Joelle Rabu. In 2022 Nico produced a series of four multi-artist multi-genre concerts entitled Chapters for The Port Theatre in Nanaimo B.C.

**PATRICK COURTIN** is a dynamic force in the music world, best known as one half of the innovative duo, Piano Heist. A talented pianist at heart, Patrick is also a multi-instrumentalist, composer, arranger, music director, and educator. His musical journey began with classical piano studies, which he later expanded by completing a degree in Jazz at Vancouver Island University.

With over two decades of experience, Patrick has made his mark as a music director for various musical theatre productions, contributed to recording sessions, and composed music for film and television. His performances have taken him on tours across Canada, the United States, and even to China, showcasing his versatility and passion for music.

Currently, Patrick serves as the Music Director at the renowned Barkerville Historic Town & Park in Wells, British Columbia. His eclectic musical background includes collaborations with silent film, opera singers, swing dancers, and historical theatre productions, highlighting his ability to adapt and thrive in diverse musical environments.

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