COLLINGWOOD
MUSIC FESTIVAL

JULY 5 – 12, 2024



AWARD-WINNING ARTISTS

CLASSICAL · JAZZ · WORLD · INDIGENOUS

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WELCOME *from* DANIEL VNUKOWSKI



Welcome to the Fifth Edition of the Collingwood Music Festival.

That's five years of transforming our beautiful town into a musical oasis!

The Collingwood Music Festival stamp remains: world-class concerts for all to enjoy. This year, we are delighted to welcome award-winning artists to our stages, the likes of Tomson Highway, Gino Quilico, Jackie Richardson and James Campbell, among others.

Between July 5-12, you'll enjoy a series of mesmerizing "Summer Serenades" with captivating story-telling, engaging workshops and many fun events for youth, ending with a grand finale of your favourite, sing-along show tunes. You'll hear the symphonic splendour of the Toronto Concert Orchestra beating in rhythm with the waves of the Southern Georgian Bay at our spectacular inaugural event at Millennium Park. We are beyond excited to extend the use of this venue from one night to two nights this year, with the dazzling Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir singing away on Saturday, July 6.

I'm also thrilled to bring a world-premiere performance of "Postcards Lost" to Collingwood this summer, an emotional musical journey that brings to life the poignant love story of a couple that survived the atrocities of WWII and communicated via postcards. These postcards will be displayed alongside a live performance of heart-warming Jewish music.

Sit back, relax and enjoy the upcoming feast for your mind, body and senses. This year's concerts will be the talk of the town for many years to come.

Daniel Vnukowski (Vnoo-KOFF-skee), *Artistic Director*

WELCOME *from* YVONNE HAMLIN



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Collingwood Music Festival. What a delightful line-up of performances! We are going to enjoy award-winning artists providing the highest caliber of music in fields ranging from classical to jazz to Broadway hits and more.

The Festival opens July 5th. The inaugural concert features the Viennese Violins with the Toronto Concert Orchestra at our waterfront venue, and it is followed by 14 inspiring performances running through to July 12th.

The Collingwood Music Festival would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors, partners, and volunteers. As well, many thanks to the Board of Directors and Advisory Committee for their hard work over the past year.

Lastly, on behalf of the Town of Collingwood, I welcome the many world-class musicians and performers to our community and the 2024 Collingwood Music Festival.

Mayor Yvonne Hamlin, *Town of Collingwood*

WELCOME *from* TERRY DOWDALL



As the Member of Parliament for Simcoe—Grey, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2024 Collingwood Summer Music Festival!

This year promises to be another incredible one filled with high calibre music by artists from around the globe. The 2024 concert series features an outstanding range of classical, world, jazz, and Indigenous artists as well as spoken word and stories. There are lots of new artists to discover, including some outstanding youth who will be performing.

Beyond enjoying the beautiful music, there are also numerous free of charge events for those who want to learn more about music or to play an instrument. On July 6th at Millennium Park, kids aged 3-8 can make music with instruments made from recycled materials. For those who want to learn to drum, there's an all-ages course at the same place on the same day. For those interesting in Creating Music in the Digital Age, artist Geoffrey James is hosting an event on July 9th at the First Presbyterian Church Collingwood.

Special thanks as always to Daniel Vnukowski, Founder and Artistic Director, for his continued vision and dedication to this Festival. As well as to Michael Dawe, Chair, and the rest of the Board for their hard work bringing together such an outstanding event. And further thanks to the Town of Collingwood and the generous sponsors, donors, partners, advertisers, and volunteers for their commitment to the arts and to our community. We could not do it without all of you!

Please enjoy the show and all that Collingwood has to offer.

Terry Dowdall, *Member of Parliament, Simcoe-Grey*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, July 5	VIENNESE VIOLINS (Inaugural Concert) *p.6*
Saturday, July 6	YOUTH DAY *p.26* JOHN MACMURCHY *p.10* WALES — LAND OF SONG *p.8*
Sunday, July 7	BAVELA *p.11* ALL THE MADMEN *p.12*
Monday, July 8	HARMONIOUS CONVERSATIONS *p.24* AFRICVILLE STORIES *p.14*
Tuesday, July 9	CREATING MUSIC IN THE DIGITAL AGE *p.24* POSTCARDS LOST *p.16*
Wednesday, July 10	RHYME TIME RENDEZ-VOUS *p.24* YOUTH TALENT NIGHT *p.18*
Thursday, July 11	YOUNG PIANO TALENTS *p.25* SONGS IN THE KEY OF CREE *p.20*
Friday, July 12	SOME ENCHANTED EVENING *p.22*

WELCOME *from* BRIAN SAUNDERSON



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Collingwood Music Festival! This year's Festival promises another incredible array of world class music by nationally and internationally renowned artists.

The inaugural concert will be a very special open-air celebration of classical music at Millenium Park with the Toronto Concert Orchestra featuring dazzling waltzes from popular operettas, symphonic soundtracks, and timeless songs.

This year, audiences will be treated to a number of outdoor events featuring jazz, choral and youth-oriented performances. The sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Collingwood, will again be the venue for the glorious sounds of classical, gospel, indigenous and modern music.

Since its start in 2019, the Collingwood Music Festival under the visionary leadership of Artistic Director and world renowned virtuoso pianist, Daniel Vnukowski, has attracted diverse and talented performers from Canada and around the globe to Collingwood.

I am proud to say that this year's Festival is again receiving a grant through the Experience Ontario programme, a Government of Ontario programme that supports arts and culture across our great Province. I would like to thank the other sponsors and contributors for their generous donations that, together with your patronage, make this remarkable Festival possible.

Please join me in thanking and congratulating Daniel, his administration team, the Board of Directors and the many volunteers, for their dedication and commitment to showcasing the Town of Collingwood and the South Georgian Bay area on the world musical stage!

So sit back, get comfortable and enjoy; you are in for a wonderful music experience.

Brian Saunderson, *Member of Provincial Parliament, Simcoe-Grey*



ARTISTS

Toronto Concert Orchestra

Viennese Violins is a celebration of the rich cultural history of Vienna and beyond, and the music that has emanated from its streets and concert halls for centuries. Inspired by the open air concerts of Europe, this program showcases the beauty and versatility of the violin, an instrument that has captured the hearts of musicians and listeners alike for generations. Whether you are a seasoned classical music enthusiast or a newcomer to the genre, Viennese Violins promises to transport you to a world of beauty, elegance, and pure musical magic.

VIENNESE VIOLINS
INAUGURAL CONCERT
FRIDAY, JULY 5

7pm at Millennium Park in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE KIND AND GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF TONY AND ANNE ARRELL

PROGRAM

Johann Strauss II (1825-1899) Emperor Waltz

Franz Lehar (1870-1948) Merry Widow

Vittorio Monti (1868-1922) Czardas

Gail Nemetz Robinson Lovers' Waltz (Canadian Premiere)

Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908) Zigeunerweisen

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) Tzigane

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962) Liebesleid

Edward Elgar (1857-1934) La Capriccio

Nino Rota (1911-1979) A Time for Us

James Horner (1953-2015) My Heart Will Go On

Jules Massenet (1842-1912) Meditation from "Thais"

Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880) Can-can from "Orphée aux Enfers"



ARTISTS

Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir



William Woloschuk
Principal Conductor and Artistic Director

The TWMVC proudly draws on the great Welsh tradition of singing hymns and songs born of the mountains and valleys of Wales. At the same time it emphasizes a multicultural context in its broad repertoire which also includes spirituals, operatic arias, Canadian folk songs as well as Broadway show tunes, pop and contemporary music; all sung off book in accordance with tradition.

WALES, LAND OF SONG
SATURDAY, JULY 6

7pm at Millennium Park in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE KIND AND GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF JOHN KIRBY, ADVISOR, ENGEL & VÖLKERS TORONTO CENTRAL, SCENIC CAVES AND SENSOR TECHNOLOGY

PROGRAM — RHAGLEN

March of the Men of Harlech Traditional

Sure on this Shining Night Morten Lauridsen

Scotland the Brave Traditional Scottish Pipe Tune with words by Cliff Hanley
Piper – Mark Rich – Beinn Gorm Highlanders Pipes & Drums

Gwinllan a Roddwyd Caradog Williams

We Rise Again Leon Dubinsky
Soloist: Robert Varga – Baritone

The Sound of Silence Paul Simon
Guitar: Kevin Morris – Tenor 1

Gwahoddiad (Invitation) Louis Hartsough and Ieuan Gwyllt

Intermission — Toriad

You Raise Me Up Rolf Lovland and Brendan Graham
Soloist: Ryan Tilley – Tenor 2

Adiemus Sir Karl Jenkins
Percussion: Brian Morey – Bass

Calon Lân John Hughes and Daniel James

Angels Robert Williams and Guy Chambers

Sweet Caroline Neil Diamond

Lean on Me (with We Shall Overcome) Bill Withers
Soloist: Richard Challenger – Bass

Africa David Paich and Jeff Porcaro

JAZZ IN THE PARK
SATURDAY, JULY 6

3pm at Millennium Park in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE KIND AND GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF MARY AND STEVE GLOGOWSKI



ARTIST

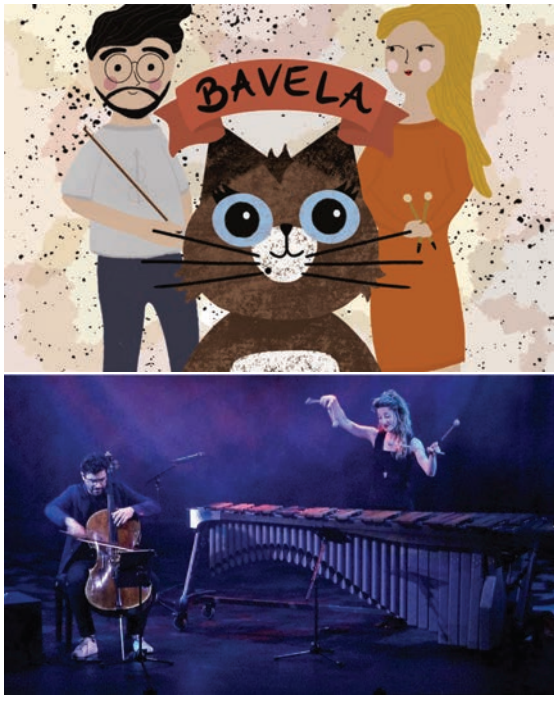
John MacMurchy

Critically-acclaimed performer, composer and master arranger John MacMurchy has worked with many international artists including Warren Vache, Howard Alden, Guido Basso, Henry Mancini, Cleo Laine and Linda Ronstadt, among others. Together with his jazz quartet he brings his unique sound to Collingwood this summer: tone, technique extraordinaire and seemingly unending ideas.

YOUTH EVENT: BAVELA

SUNDAY, JULY 7

10am at Simcoe Street Theatre



ARTISTS

Stick & Bow

In Mexico, it's the eve of the Day of the Dead, and the cat Bavela dreams of being able to participate in this grand festival, but it's out of the question! It seems that cats bring bad luck during this celebration... To understand and overcome this superstition, Bavela will delve into her memories and revisit her six past lives, taking us from Egypt to Argentina, from Canada to Italy, in an exciting quest of self-discovery and an incredible journey through the world's music and history. This children's concert, embellished with animated illustrations, offers laughter and discoveries, while introducing young and old music lovers to playful arrangements for marimba and cello by the duo Stick & Bow, covering over four centuries of music with Rameau, Piazzolla, Nina Simone, David Bowie, and more!



ARTISTS

Stick & Bow

This program brings pieces from the past and the present, featuring artists from another era who tried to make this world a better place through the power of their voices. Their music is a reflection of their social and political views, conceived and created in a tumultuous period in history. Cuban singer-songwriter Carlos Puebla wrote his famous Hasta Siempre in 1965. That same year, radical tango composer Astor Piazzolla released a series of new tangos together with Jorge Luis Borges. In 1966, American singer and activist Nina Simone recorded Love me or leave me and in 1969, she wrote her song Revolution. A year later, visionary rocker David Bowie, released his album **All the Madmen** and in 1971, cellist and humanist Pau Casals played The song of the birds as part of his speech at the United Nations. In another century, someone who would transcend the frontiers of history with such intensity known as Beethoven, was also a revolutionary dreamer, who imagined an equal society, as his life's works show. And now, in 2023, we are part of this social and cultural transformation by commissioning daring, yet accesible works for our atypical instrumental combination to both established and emerging composers from different latitudes.

As musicians from this century, we not only take inspiration from the legacy of all these wonderful musicians, creators, and thinkers, but we also strive to make this place a better one, day by day, through our actions, through our playing and sharing. Music from both the past and the present has the tremendous and mysterious power to transform, to make us think and re-think and ideally, as **all these madmen** once imagined, to move forward.

STICK & BOW
ALL THE MADMEN
SUNDAY, JULY 7

7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE
THANKS TO THE GRACIOUS SUPPORT
OF THOM VINCENT AND FAMILY

PROGRAM

Nina Simone (1933-2003) – Love me or Leave me, 1966**

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) – Vardarito, 1972**

Francisco Mignone (1897-1986) – Modinha, 1947**

George Gershwin (1898-1937) – Prelude No.2 for solo Piano, 1926**

Laurence Jobidon (b. 1992) – Huit broderies sur des fragments de langue, 2023*

Jason Noble (b.1980) – Folk Suite, 2019*

Luna Pearl Woolf (b.1973) – Steeped, 2023*

Guillo Espel (b. 1959) – Lo azul a través de un hueco, 2023*

Carlos Puebla (1917-1989) – Hasta siempre, Comandante, 1965**

Pau Casals (1876-1973) – The Song of the birds, traditional**

Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827) – Sonata No. 1 in F major, Op. 5, Adagio, 1796**

David Bowie (1947-2016) – All the Madmen, 1970**

*Works written for Stick & Bow

**Arrangements by Stick & Bow





ARTISTS

Jackie Richardson
Joe Sealy
Jazz Trio: Paul Novotny, Bass **/ Daniel Barnes,** Drums **/ Alison Young,** Sax

Africville Stories brings to life the poignant and inspirational history of Africville, the oldest Black community in Canada. This village, with its roots in Nova Scotia, flourished on the outskirts of Halifax. However, in 1961, the Halifax city council demolished Africville, branding it as a slum. This demolition included the destruction of the Seaview African United Baptist Church, which was torn down in the early hours of the morning to avoid daylight scrutiny. Today, the Seaview Church has been restored and rebuilt on its original site, now serving as a museum and public park near Halifax. For many years, Africville was a vibrant cultural and artistic hub for the Black community in Halifax, with prominent figures such as Duke Ellington, Joe Louis, and Willie Dixon, among others, frequenting the area. Joe Sealy's father was born in Africville, a place rich in heritage and community spirit. Now, the Africville Stories come to life in this moving production.

Africville Suite won the 1997 Juno for best contemporary jazz.

AFRICVILLE STORIES

MONDAY, JULY 8

7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE
BY THE KIND AND GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF
MRS. CATHERINE MACLEAN
IN MEMORY OF DONALD MACLEAN

PROGRAM

Poem by David Woods

Deep Down Inside
Music Joe Sealy – Lyrics by Dan Hill

Train's Comin'
Music Joe Sealy – Poem by Andrew Moodie

Brown Bomber
Music by Joe Sealy

Caterpillar Tree
Music by Joe Sealy

Duke's In Town
Music & Lyrics Joe Sealy

Kildare's Fiel
Music by Joe Sealy

Sometimes I Dream
Music by Joe Sealy – Lyrics by Dan Hill

Sign The Deal
Music by Joe Sealy – Poem by David Woods

River of Dreams
Music by Joe Sealy – Lyrics by Dan Hill



ARTISTS

Daniel Vnukowski
James Campbell
Andrea Ludwig
Moshe Hammer
Jaclyn Grossman

Georgian Bay artist, Alan Stein, uncovered a treasure trove of postcards sent by his family before and after WWII. They were trapped for a while in the Lodz ghetto, some emigrated to Israel or Canada, some died. Join this captivating, musical journey in reconstructing the story of their lives with piano, clarinet, violin, mezzo-soprano and narration.

POSTCARDS LOST

TUESDAY, JULY 9

7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE
BY THE KIND AND GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF
MRS. MARILYN KNOWLES

PROGRAM

PART I – THE PAST

Kurt Weill (1900-1950)
Youkali

Srul Irving Glick (1934-2002)
The Klezmer's Wedding

Shluf Mayn Kind
Yiddish Lullaby

Mark Markovich Warshawsky (1848-1907)
Oyfn Pripetchik

PART II – LOST WAR

Lori Laitman (b. 1955)
I Never Saw a Another Butterfly, I: The Butterfly

Ernst Bloch (1885-1977)
Nigun from "Baal Shem"

Mieczysław Weinberg (1919-1996)
Sonata Op. 28, III. Adagio

PART III – LOVE SURVIVAL HOPE

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)
Slavonic Fantasy on themes of Dvorak

Yiddish Narration

Graham Campbell
Dancing Strangers

Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951)
Gigerlette

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) (Arr. D.R. Moore)
On Wings of Song



ARTISTS *(clockwise from top left)*
Cadence Brassard
Sally Bruce
Lauren Smith
Maddison Wilkey
Theodora Koski
Glohw (Matthew Shepperdson, Will Smythe, Hanne Poulsen)

The Collingwood Music Festival invited young, talented musicians under the age of 25 to audition for this dedicated youth concert.

STEP INTO THE SPOTLIGHT
YOUTH CONCERT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF:

Optimist International

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PROGRAM

CADENCE BROSSARD *organ*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750) Trio Sonata No. 1 in E-flat Major, BWV 525

SALLY BRUCE *soprano*

Giacomo Carissimi (1605-1675) Vittoria, mio core!
Pietro Cimara (1887-1967) Fiocca la neve
Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828) Lachen und Weinen
Cole Porter (1891-1964) Anything Goes

Glowh (Matthew Shepperdson, Will Smythe, Hanne Poulsen)

Michel Legrand (1932-2019) Parapluies de Cherbourg
Black is the Colour, a traditional Irish folk song
Glohw Taxi

Intermission

LAUREN SMITH *soprano*

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) 5 Lieder, Op. 105, Wie Melodien zeiht es mir
Immer leiser wird mein Schlummer, Klage, Auf dem Kirchhofe
George Friderik Handel (1685-1759) E pur così in un giorno…Piangerò la sorte mia

THEADORA KOSKI *piano*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750) Partita No. 2 in C Minor, Sinfonia
Franz Liszt (1811 - 1886) Années de Pélérinage: Sposalizio
Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) Revolutionary Etude, Op. 10, No.12

MADDISON WILKEY *violin*

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) Concerto No. 1 in E Major, Op. 8 RV 269 (La primavera)
I - Allegro
II - Largo e pianissimo
III - Allegro pastorale
Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908) Malagueña (Danes espagnole, op. 21, no. 1)







ARTISTS

Tomson Highway (top)
Patricia Cano (right)
Marcus Ali (left)

Canada's preeminent Indigenous author/playwright/composer/performer brings his popular cabaret show featuring singer Patricia Cano and saxophonist Marcus Ali to Collingwood.

SONGS IN THE KEY OF CREE

THURSDAY, JULY 11

7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE KIND AND GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF JOHN CLEGHORN AND FAMILY

PROGRAM

The program will be announced by the artists from the podium during the concert.



ARTISTS

Gino Quilico (left)
Julie Nesrallah (bottom)
Dominic Boulianne (right)

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

FRIDAY, JULY 12

7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF: THE RYDLO FAMILY FUND, A FUND HELD WITHIN THE OAKVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, AND JANE MOYSEY, REALTOR® ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH, BROKERAGE,

PROGRAM

Julie Nesrallah and **Gino Quilico**, accompanied by pianist **Dominic Boulianne**, will take turns singing a repertoire of **Great Broadway Hits**. A journey through various composers and popular songs. Julie will also sing a selection of Jazz standards from her recent album and Gino will warm our hearts with romantic Italian songs.

One will find treasures from *Les Misérables, Westside Story, My Fair Lady, A Chorus Line*. A romantic night would not be complete without the eternal *O sole mio* and *Caruso* and some favorite opera arias such as *The Largo al Factotum* from *the Barber of Seville* and Carmen's *Habanera*.

Some Enchanted Evening is infused with Nostalgia, storytelling and songs which have been loved for years.

BEYOND MUSIC SERIES
JULY 8, 9, 10

1pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood



HARMONIOUS CONVERSATIONS

Monday, July 8
Dr. Gail Nemetz Robinson

In this symphony of communication strategies, we'll explore how to strike the right chords, prevent dissonance, and orchestrate harmonious conversations.



CREATING MUSIC IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Tuesday, July 9
Geoffrey James

A blend of chill electronica, synth pop, and world music, Third Development begs you to join them in a dreamy fantasy world.



RHYME TIME RENDEZ-VOUS

Wednesday, July 10
Poet Laureate Jillian Morris

Be immersed in the power of Indigenous storytelling through poetry.

THREE VIRTUOSO PIANISTS: YOUNG TALENT LAUREATES

THURSDAY JULY 11

1pm at First Presbyterian Church, 200 Maple Street in Collingwood

A free afternoon concert featuring 3 laureates of the Hamilton Music Festival. Enjoy some stunning virtuosity from our next generation of young talents.



JUSTIN CHEN

Johann Sebastian Bach
Partita No. 2 in C minor, BWV 826
Sergei Rachmaninov
Prelude Opus 32 No. 5



ARYA NUTHULAPATI

Ludwig van Beethoven
Sonata in F Minor, op.2, no.1, 1st movement
Frédéric Chopin
Nocturne in B flat Minor, op.9, no.1
Sergei Rachmaninov
Prelude in C sharp minor, op.3 no.2
William Bolcom Old Adam



LAURA NYBERG

Frédéric Chopin
Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, op. 27, no. 1
Isaac Albéniz
Asturias (Leyenda) - Prelude from Cantos de España op. 232 no.1
Alexina Louie
I Leap Through the Sky with Stars

YOUTH DAY

SATURDAY, JULY 6

10am at Millennium Park in Collingwood

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF COLLINGWOOD AND SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY



PROGRAM

10am	**Musical Pathways**
11am	**Musical Pathways - Session II**
11am - 1pm	**Introduction to Drumming**

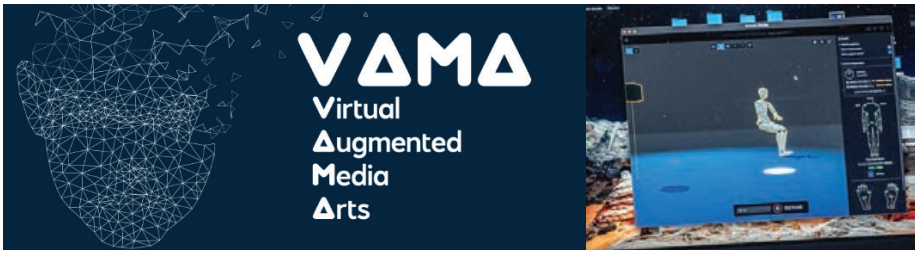
TEACHERS

Jacob Charles
Deb Brown
Lara Heaton
Marilyn Reid
Eric Cadesky

Musical Pathways: Activities for children (4-8) An introduction to music with instruments made of recycled materials such as wood, metal, rock, steel, plastic. Children learn to play music as well as listen to music. Meet the cat Adagio and the mouse Allegro who explain the difference between playing fast and slow, loud and soft, and much more!

Drumming classes for youth (8-16) Jake Charles or Na-nock-ashee (Hummingbird in Ojibway) is a Traditional Anishinabe knowledge keeper and teacher and cultural guide in his community of Chippewas of Georgina Island. Jacob has the honour of being a pipe carrier as well as a drum carrier for his community. He shares his knowledge and leads a drum circle.

Deb Brown works with African djembes and a variety of multicultural hand drums and percussion instruments. Participants explore various hand drum rhythms and techniques. Hand drumming is a joyful form of creative self-expression, an instrument for sharing the joy of rhythm, for connecting with others, and for experiencing inclusive, playful co-creation.



Scan the QR code to find out why Artistic Director Daniel Vnukowski (piano) and Viera Zmiyiwsky (mezzo-soprano/violin) wore Ninja suits for this recording

VAMA is a project by Tom Strnad (Mountain Goat Film Company) capturing live performances in 360° video for Virtual Reality and Motion Capture for Augmented Reality experiences. This offers exciting new possibilities for music performances.

Scan the QR code and access an exclusive sneak peek.



We acknowledge the support of : Canada Council for the Arts

BIOGRAPHIES



MARCUS ALI Marcus Ali was born in Toronto to Trinidadian parents who loved great music. A versatile musician who is equally at home in a wide range of genres, he has played on more than seventy albums on a variety of woodwinds (saxophones, flutes, clarinets, West African flutes, tin whistles). He has performed, toured and recorded with dozens of artists including Grand Prix de Jazz award winner Nick Ali and Cruzao, Juno nominees Matt Dusk, Jason Wilson, Mr Something Something, and Tomson Highway. He has toured extensively across Canada as well as throughout the U.S., the U.K., the Caribbean and Japan.



CADENCE BRASSARD Cadence Brassard is a 15 year old organist living in Blue Mountains. She has played piano, classical guitar and drums. Inspired by a meeting with Cameron Carpenter and playing the International Touring Organ, Cadence was captivated by the infinite possibilities of the instrument. Cadence currently studies the organ with Dr. Sarah Svendsen, Manuel Piazza and Jelani Eddington, and is the Organ Scholar at Rosedale United Church. Career highlights include performing on the Metropolitan United Pipe Organ for the *Phantoms of the Organ* concert, recording an episode of *Backyard Beats* for TVOKids with Rashaan Allwood, performing at the RCCO's FutureStops conference, and taking part in a masterclass episode of the RCCO's Organist Launchpad program. Cadence participated in the Curtis Institute of Music's Summer Organ Intensive, where she studied under Professor Alan Morrison and Peter Richard Conte, culminating in a performance on the Wanamaker Organ, and in the American Theatre Organ Society's Summer Youth Adventure in Seattle. Cadence's future aspirations include working with ensembles, and making the organ more accessible and inclusive for young people.



SALLY BRUCE Sally Bruce is a grade 10 student at Walkerton District High School. She is 15 years old and has been taking singing lessons since she was 6. She is presently studying Grade 8 classical voice with Mila Filatova, of Collingwood. Sally has always been active in local Music Festival competitions, receiving numerous scholarship awards, and performing at Festival Galas. For the past two years, she has been selected to sing at the OMFA Ontario Provincial Music Festival. Sally is looking forward to pursuing vocal music and science at university in a few years, and is very excited to be performing in the Collingwood Music Festival!



JAMES CAMPBELL Dubbed "Canada's premier clarinetist" by the Ottawa Citizen, James Campbell has performed as soloist and chamber musician in over 35 countries with over 60 orchestras including the Boston Pops, Montreal Symphony and the London Symphony. He has collaborated with Glenn Gould and Aaron Copland and toured with over 35 string quartets, including the Guarneri, Amadeus and Vermeer. Of his over 40 recordings, the BBC and the Times of London rated his recording of the Brahms Clarinet Quintet as the best available and his CD *Stolen Gems* (Marquis Records) won a JUNO. James has been named Canada's Artist of the Year, awarded the Queen's Gold and Diamond Jubilee Medal, an Honorary Doctor of Law, and the Order of Canada. James Campbell has been Artistic Director of the Festival of the Sound since 1985 and was Professor of Music at the famed Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University from 1988-2019 and continues to give masterclasses worldwide.



PATRICIA CANO Patricia Cano is a Peruvian-Canadian actor and singer-songwriter born and raised in Sudbury, ON. Since 2001, she has travelled the world singing Cree Cabaret alongside Cree playwright/author/composer extraordinaire, Tomson Highway. In 2017, Patricia won the Toronto Theatre Critics Award for Best Actress in a Musical for her performance in Cree, English and French in Highway's one-woman musical, *The (Post) Mistress*. Her acting credits include memorable years spent as a member of the renowned French theatre company, Le Théâtre du Soleil, and later as a member of the NAC's English Theatre Company. Particia's solo music career was launched in 2009 with the release of her first studio album, *This is the New World* – a collaboration with Brazilian composer and multi-instrumentalist, Carlos Bernardo. The album won Best Album by a Solo Artist at the 2011 Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards and led to years of cross-Canada touring. In October 2017, Patricia released her much anticipated sophomore album, *Madre Amiga Hermana*, of which one reviewer wrote, "This is an outstanding release from a supremely talented songwriter and vocalist" (Raul Da Gama, World Music Report, Oct 2017). In 2019, Patricia won the Northern Ontario Music & Film award for Outstanding Vocal Performance on a Recording for her rendition of Violeta Parra's "Gracias

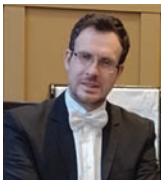
a la Vida". In February 2021, Patricia released a recording entitled *The Love & Resistance Sessions*, a four-song collaboration, crafted with love in the time of COVID, with multi-instrumentalist and composer Louis Simão. Most recently, Patricia voiced the audiobook for Tomson Highway's *Kiss of the Fur Queen* for Penguin Random House released in June of 2021.



JACOB CHARLES Thomas Jacob Charles or Na-nock-ashee (which means *Hummingbird* in Ojibway) is a traditional Anishinaabe knowledge sharer, teacher and cultural guide in his community of the Chippewas of Georgina Island. Jacob has the honour of being a pipe carrier as well as a drum carrier for his community and is a fourth generation Maple Syrup maker. Jacob began his journey as many First Nations people do, as a spiritually lost young man. At the age of 22 he went to Anishnabie Naadnaagi Gamig treatment Centre for substance abuse. Jacob fully realized his potential and strengths as an Anishinabe man. With these realizations in mind, he took the necessary steps to heal himself and in the process learn more about his Ojibway culture and his role within it. He joined the Enaahtig healing lodge and learning centre in 2004 where he met his first elder and teacher, Hector Copegog. Jacob began singing around the Powwow drum as a means to an end (of alcoholism) and eventually joined the group at the Native Canadian Centre in Toronto. In 2012, Jacob made the decision to pursue his dream of sharing his culture with all nations in an effort to break down barriers and stereotypes. Jacob continues his teachings today with his elders and plans on offering his tobacco to become part of the Medaowin Lodge. By doing this, he will retain and expand on his teachings and knowledge seasonally. Jacob also actively visits other First Nations in a continued effort to learn not just his Ojibway culture but of all cultures. Today, Jacob is the CEO and owner of *First Nation Cultural Tours*. He has decided to use his life as a mechanism to teach others about First Nations culture. His personal journey has given him a unique advantage when teaching others. Not only has he opened up his home and his life to those searching for answers, he provides guidance to Anishinabe Peoples from an understanding point of view.



JUSTIN CHEN Justin Chen has recently recieved his Associate diploma at the age of 11. He started playing piano when he was six, influenced by his brother. He has performed frequently in retirement homes, recieving thorough praise. He is often invited to perform after lessons for his piano teacher's guests. Justin recieved the Janice Beninger Scholarship for Senior Piano from the Hamilton Music Festival 2024 and has been invited to compete at the Provincial competition. He seeks to perform more often with the goal of becoming a concert pianist.



MATTHEW COONS Matthew Coons is an award-winning pianist and organist. He has been the Principal Accompanist for the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir since 2014 and was a former accompanist of Counterpoint Chorale. Matthew studied at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. His main organ teachers were the late Mark Toews, and Patricia Wright. During his time at U of T, he held the position of Organ Scholar at Toronto's Metropolitan United Church. Matthew has served as Organist at a number of churches in Toronto including Grace Church On-The-Hill, Runnymede United, and Dewi Sant Welsh United Church.



GLOHW is a trio group of classically trained musicians focused on fusing folk and pop styles within the context of the chamber music tradition. With this focus, pianist Matthew Shepperdson, cellist Will Smythe, and vocalist Hanne Poulsen create refreshing new compositions and arrangements, striving to bridge the gap between western art music of the concert hall and everyday popular music. Performing at venues such as the Isabel Bader Centre, and local Kingston and Collingwood bars, Glohw's mission is to bring classical music to broader audiences.



JACLYN GROSSMAN Hailed as an "exciting dramatic soprano" (Opera Canada) and for her "command over a powerful range of expressive emotion" (The Whole Note), Jaclyn Grossman is a soprano, curator, and administrator from Toronto, Canada. This season she makes her debut as Freia in *Das Rheingold* with Edmonton Opera and she joins the Buffalo Philharmonic as the soprano soloist in Beethoven's 9th Symphony under JoAnn Falletta. Next season she returns to Edmonton Opera as Brünnhilde in *Wagner's Die Walküre*. Jaclyn recently completed residencies with Pacific Opera Victoria's Civic Engagement and the Rebanks Family Fellowship with Toronto's Royal Conservatory. Jaclyn is passionate about fostering community and connection and is deeply committed to supporting local groups and nonprofits. She is a co-founder of *Likht Ensemble*, which specializes in researching and performing Jewish music from the Holocaust. She is the

Founder of The Phoenix Leadership Project and the creator/facilitator of the Association for Opera in Canada's RBC Artist Fellowship/Mentorship. In her various roles, Jaclyn thrives on singing opera and art song, discovering new repertoire, sharing music from the Holocaust, working with a community of artists, exploring how artists can better engage with the opera sector, developing leadership programs, and above all, connecting with others.



MOSHE HAMMER Admired for his artistic style, unique interpretations and vibrant tone, violinist Moshe Hammer is Hungarian-born, was raised in Israel and studied there with Ilona Feher. As a student of Jascha Heifetz he was a medal winner at the *Concours Jacques Thibaud* in Paris. Hammer's tours have taken him across North America, Europe, Israel and the Far-East. His performances have consistently energized critics, thrilled audiences and earned respect among his colleagues. A naturalized Canadian, Moshe Hammer has traveled the concert venues of the world and performed with many symphony orchestras. He was also the founder and leader of the Toronto based chamber group, *The Amadeus Ensemble*. As a member of Da Camera, he has thrilled audiences in Canada, the US and Europe with regular visits to the Netherlands, including the world renowned Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. Moshe is a regular and welcome guest in various music festivals on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. He brings to his performances a charismatic stage presence, a tone of unmatched subtlety, vitality and artistry of the highest order. Hammer loves to work with young musicians and offers master-classes everywhere he travels. His wide ranging discography reflects a multi-faceted talent. In 2007 Moshe launched *The Hammer Band – From Violence to Violins*. With this project, school kids in priority areas are presented with free music lessons and violins.



LARA HEATON Lara is from Vancouver Island. She grew up playing the trumpet and singing. After high school, Lara went to Circle in the Square Theatre School in New York City where she studied musical theatre. She then travelled and spent time in monasteries and ashrams in Asia, got her BScN, and in 2011 became a Montessori teacher. She has been working with young children ever since. She had a home-based daycare in Collingwood and did Lynn Kleiner's Music Rhapsody teacher training, an Orff based curriculum to teach music to younger children, she writes songs and loves to sing.

TOMSON HIGHWAY Tomson Highway was born in a snow bank on the Manitoba/Nunavut border to a family of nomadic caribou hunters. He was raised off-reserve, in the spectacularly beautiful natural landscape that is Canada's sub-Arctic. He had the great privilege of growing up in two languages, neither of which was French or English; but Cree, his mother tongue, and Dene, the language of the neighbouring nation; a people with whom they roamed and hunted. Following an education where he earned both a Bachelor of Music and the equivalent of a Bachelor of Arts with an English major, he spent seven years immersed in the field of Native social work. He then combined his education and training and poured himself into writing. Today Tomson enjoys an international career as playwright, novelist, pianist, and song writer. Tomson is best known for universal hits such as *The Rez Sisters, Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing, Rose, Ernestine Shuswap Gets her Trout, (The Post) Mistress* and the best-selling novel *Kiss of the Fur Queen* and his recently published memoir *Permanent Astonishment*. He has also written children's books, namely *Caribou Song, Dragon Fly Kites* and *Fox on the Ice.* His work has been translated into eleven languages. For many years Tomson was Artistic Director of Canada's premiere aboriginal theatre company, Toronto based Native Earth Performing Arts, from which has emerged an entire generation of playwrights and theatre artists. Tomson is the recipient of eleven honorary doctorates and is an officer of the order of Canada. His awards and nominations include Dora Mavor Moore Awards, Governor General's Literary Award, Floyd S. Chalmers Canadian Play Award, Toronto Arts Award, National Aboriginal Achievement Award, and the 2022 Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award at the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards. *The (Post) Mistress* was nominated for a 2015 Juno Award for the best aboriginal recording of the year, and in the spring of 2022, Tomson released his first album of country songs, *Cree Country –Tomson Highway*. Tomson is the recipient of the 2021 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction for his memoir *Permanent Astonishment*. In September of 2022, Tomson delivered the CBC Massey Lectures to audiences across Canada in the series' first live event since 2019. Fluent in Cree, French and English, he continues to write, teach, lecture, and perform across Canada and around the world.



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GEOFFREY JAMES Third Development was born out of a burning esire to create art at a time where there was (is) nowhere to go but 'within'. Lead band member Geoffrey James sat down to compose and perform what became Third Development's debut album, *The Thought of Tomorrow,* a blend of 80s infused synth and 90s inspired electronica to create a soundtrack for a life of optimism and hope. It may be a dreamer's goal but at the very least, the songs set out to provide a few moments of reprieve from the stress and chaos of the outside world, an idyllic state for both the mind, body and soul. The album quickly lays down a mood that is introspective and often exotic. It ebbs and flows between instrumental beats and atmospheric vocals from Manchester-based @kintsuku; floating between upbeat and hopeful to downtempo and thought-provoking. "Music brings people together. I want my music to be shared because I want to extend the message of happiness; to share a positive feeling in the face of uncertainty and help listeners find escape in the music… if only for a few moments". Geoffrey began reaching out to artists in North America and Europe to collaborate on lyrics, vocals, and production; creating a sound that is both powerful and rich. Motivated by the band's aspirations, Third Development has inspired artists to connect and collaborate; building a beautiful repository of performance art through song, dance, illustration and more. These artists have been stirring to the sounds of light and gravitating towards the creative energy that is Geoffrey James and the Third Development platform. So far, Third Development has worked with talent such as Grammy-Winning, and 3-time 2020 Grammy-nominated Mastering Engineer Emily Lazar, NYC, Mix Engineer & Producer Sara Fedi, Italy, and vocalist, Kintsuku, U.K. Third Development continues to create with new artists, expanding their reach globally with one goal: inspire and be inspired by providing a platform to create and collaborate. And while his contributing artists may change, and the sounds may differ, he will continue on his optimistic mission of unity; helping others find their inner light and connection through music.



THEADORA KOSKI Theadora Koski began formal piano studies at the age of six with Cheryl Graham. She progressed to RCM Level 10 in just four years, receiving multiple RCM Provincial gold medals, First Class Honours with Distinction on exams, a wide range of scholarships, and the 2021 RCM National Gold Medal. In 2023 Theadora was awarded first place overall for Level 10 at the Provincial finals of the Ontario Music Festival Association. The same year, Theadora won the Young Artist Trophy at the CCC Toronto International Music Festival and placed second for Level 10 and Associate at the distinguished ORMTA Provincial Competition. In 2024, after top marks at the SSP Steinway International Piano Competition, Theadora performed live at Carnegie Hall for the closing Gala. She is a winner of the 2024 Senior Rosebowl at Barrie Kiwanis Music Festival. Her recent performances include soloist engagements at the P.C. Ho Theatre in Toronto as well as masterclass performances with Prof. Dr. Michael Berkovsky, Prof. Em. Christina Petrowska Quilico and Ziyu Liu. Theadora is currently working towards her ARCT Performer's Diploma and plans for a career in performance and teaching.



ANDREA LUDWIG Born and raised in Regina, Saskatchewan, Juno and Dora award winning mezzo soprano Andrea Ludwig is an artist of tremendous depth and versatility. Andrea has appeared with the Canadian Opera Company in numerous roles including Nireno in *Handel's Julius Ceasar*, the Second Niece in Britten's *Peter Grimes*, Flora in *The Turn of the Screw*, Moira in Paul Ruder's *The Handmaid's Tale*, and Liesgen in Bach's *Coffee Cantata*. Very much in demand for contemporary opera, Andrea has been involved in many of Tapestry New Opera's projects including their Liblab and Opera Briefs as well as newly premiered operas *Shelter, Oksana G, The Overcoat* and most recently, *Gould's Wall.* Andrea was Nada in the multi Dora-nominated Queen of Puddings' production of Ana Sokolovic's *Svadba (The Wedding)* that had its world premiere in Toronto in June 2011 and then had a successful run in France, Serbia and Ireland in 2012; at Edmonton Opera and Philadelphia Opera in 2013, San Francisco Opera in 2016, and at the prestigious Festival D'Aix en Provence in 2015. Andrea's commitment to concert performance remains a strong focus. She has appeared with Symphony Nova Scotia, Symphony New Brunswick, Shanghai New Music Festival, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Against the Grain Theatre, Echo Chamber Toronto, Soundstreams, Off Centre Music Salon and The TSO Chamber Soloists. Recordings include the ECMA-nominated *Schubert Orchestrations* with Symphony Nova Scotia, *Responsio*, by Peter Anthony Togni, *Galicians II* with The Ukrainian Art Song Project, Ana Sokolovic's *Sirens*, and the UK Chandos recording of *Thais: Grand Opera in Concert,* with the TSO and TMC, under the direction of Sir Andrew Davis.

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JOHN MACMURCHY John MacMurchy is a performer, composer and recording artist based in Toronto. A woodwind player, John concentrates on clarinet, tenor saxophone and baritone saxophone and is fluent in jazz and classical repertoire. He has released four full length records to critical acclaim and international airplay. John has worked with international artists as varied as Warren Vache, Howard Alden, Guido Basso, Henry Mancini, Cleo Laine, Linda Ronstadt, Carol Channing, Peter Appleyard, John Dankworth as well as being in demand as a sideman on the Toronto scene. "John MacMurchy is a fleet, accomplished reedman with a knack for writing and arranging. John's got everything together and balanced out when it comes to: Tone, Technique extraordinaire, and seemingly unending ideas."



JILLIAN MORRIS That's what all of these works are for – so I can learn About Me. I know many are like me and curious about people, the natural world, and this life. Walking around asking questions, examining things, exploring, wandering. My writing is a product of all that. We all need a place to tell our story. I want to tell mine in pieces – creative pieces – in essays, in poetry, in visuals. I want to share with you what matters to me. The moments that had me wanting more and those that felt like they'd never end. They all offered guidance, creating markers to growth. Returning to my culture and teachings has renewed my love for community. All communities I belong to. I discovered this word – Philoxenos – it's of Greek origin and means "love of strangers". I think I have that. Strangers have so much to teach me. I'm a proud onkwehon:we. I am Kanien'kéha and I don't melt easily so don't bother trying to add me to your pot.



JULIE NESRALLAH Mezzo-soprano Julie Nesrallah is a singer, actress and broadcaster who dazzles audiences with her engaging personality and her rich, expressive voice. Miss Nesrallah has sung for leading opera companies, symphonies, festivals and chamber music ensembles across Canada and the U.S. and around the world. Julie débuted as Isabella in Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* at Pacific Opera Victoria and went on to perform major roles including The Composer in Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Suzuki in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly,* Cenerentola in Rossini's *La Cenerentola,* Carmen in Bizet's *Carmen* and Maddalena in Verdi's *Rigoletto*, among others. Concerts and festivals include engagements in Paris, Vienna, Hong Kong, Jordan, Macau, Brazil. In 2015, Miss Nesrallah sang at Carnegie Hall in New York City in a concert for harp and voice. She sang *God Save the Queen* for "Will and Kate" the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on their first visit to Canada on Parliament Hill in a performance that was viewed around the world. She was the sole vocalist in "An Evening for Peace" for Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan in Montreal. Currently, Miss Nesrallah is the host of *Tempo* on CBC Music, Canada's national classical music program; and is also the executive producer and star of *Carmen on Tap*, a company she created that performs Bizet's opera *Carmen* as dinner theatre. Julie has been the recipient of several distinguished awards including the Canada Council for the Arts Emerging Artist Award, and most recently the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for her cultural contribution to Canada's performing arts. Miss Nesrallah graduated with honours from Carleton University in Ottawa where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in music and continued her studies at McGill University in Montreal graduating with a Performance Diploma.

ARYA NUTHULAPATI Described by concert pianist Coral Solomon as someone with "natural, sincere musical instinct", Arya Nuthulapati is a passionate Canadian pianist. Arya has been learning piano since the age of 4. Arya has competed in several competitions, successfully placing at Provincial and Regional competitions. He has also been awarded several scholarships for his outstanding performances. Arya has been giving back to the community by volunteering his time playing live piano at the long-term care facilities and hospitals. Additionally, Arya plays Rep Hockey for the Oakville Rangers, and is part of his school Hockey team. He also enjoys playing chess, competing in math contestsand leading the Youth Toastmasters Club. Arya also enjoys playing the Alto Sax for his school Concert & Jazz Band.





LAURA NYBRUG Laura has been playing piano since the age of 3 and has the gift of perfect pitch. This year Laura tied for the highest mark for the Senior Piano Division for the Hamilton Festival and was also the recipient of the top 2 awards for the Brant Music Festival. Laura is currently working on her ARCT piano performance and is also working on Grade 10 violin. Laura is a part of the Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra for violin and has also earned a spot as second chair and soloist in the Brantford Little Strings Orchestra. Besides music, Laura completed Grade 10 in school and excels in Math and Science. Laura plans to major in Music Performance when she completes high school.

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GINO QUILICO Mr. Gino Quilico's career spans more than forty years and is characterized by his remarkable career. Mr. Quilico has performed more than thirty roles at the opera and on all the most prestigious opera stages in the world: Metropolitan Opera (New York), La Scala (Milan), the Paris Opera, to name a few. It goes without saying that Gino Quilico has sung under the direction of the greatest conductors of the symphonic world: Herbert Von Karajan, Leonard Bernstein, Seiji Ozawa and of course Kent Nagano and Yannick Nézet-Séguin. Mr. Quilico has participated in more than thirty opera recordings. In 1995, he received a Grammy Award for his participation in Berlioz's *Les Troyens* with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Gino Quilico has also performed with great success in musicals including *Notre-Dame de Paris*, by Plamondon-Cocciante where he played the role of "Quasimodo" and the role of "Jean Valjean" in *Les Misérables*. Mr. Quilico's involvement is not entirely devoted to opera and music. In 1990, he was one of the few Canadians to be appointed Goodwill Ambassador to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Gino Quilico has always had the promotion of lyrical art at heart while being a worthy representative of Canadian culture. This involvement was highlighted when he was awarded the title of Officer of the Order of Canada in recognition of his talent and dedication to this cause.



LAUREN SMITH Lauren Smith is a soprano from Barrie. At a young age, she discovered her love of singing as a member of the Upper Canada Chorus where she was given further performance opportunity in their Chamber Chorus. Lauren began private voice instruction with Andrea Donais at Donais Studios in Newmarket. As a graduate of the Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Lauren participated in academy master classes and performances while studying privately with Helga Tucker. Lauren has a love for sharing music through performances and recitals as well as collaborative performance. Most recently, Lauren has performed in chorus with the Mandle Philharmonic in Toronto as well as in the Royal Conservatory's production of Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites*. Lauren also dedicates her time as private voice and piano instructor, teaching locally in Toronto. Lauren is currently studying voice performance at the Glenn Gould School at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. She is in the studio of private teacher, Adrianne Pieczonka, and vocal coach, Rachael Kerr.



STICK & BOW Stick & Bow, "The trailblazing Montreal duo that plays everything from Bach to Radiohead" (CBC Music' *The Intro*), unites Canadian marimba player Krystina Marcoux and Argentinian cellist Juan Sebastian Delgado. Classically trained musicians, they strive to present a wide spectrum of musical styles, ranging from rock to gypsy-jazz, baroque or tango. Their eclectic repertoire features original arrangements of some of the most celebrated works in history, showing the potential of their instruments combined. In their creative process, they combine musical narration with humor and story-telling in which the powerful combination of cello & marimba transforms the listening of familiar works in refreshing and unexpected ways. Stick & Bow is also strongly committed to the music of our time, commissioning works that are daring yet accessible from composers Luis Naon, Camille Pépin, Luna Pearl Woolf, Jason Noble, Marcelo Nisinman, Jean-Pierre Drouet and more. Stick & Bow's critically-acclaimed debut album *Resonance* is praised by Toronto's *The WholeNote* as "just brilliant" & "totally delightful" and by *La Scena Musicale* as full of "pleasant surprises." Marimba player Krystina Marcoux and cellist Juan Sebastian Delgado have brought their innovative new program – featuring music from Bach to Radiohead – around Quebec and New Brunswick as "Emerging Artists" of Jeunesses Musicales du Canada in 2019, along with recent stops in Paris' Belleviloise for a full house and in New York City's APAP showcase in January 2020. Featured in CBC Music's *The Intro* as "boldly going where no cello and marimba have gone before", they have been very active during the crisis of Covid-19. They were one of the few classical crossover groups to be selected by the National Arts Center for the #Canadaperforms live concerts; they arranged the song Pour déjouer l'ennui and released a video together with star singer Pierre Lapointe which was watched over 100K in less than 24 hours; they recorded their second album with harpsichord and baroque expert Luc Beauséjour; they arranged, recorded and performed a new full Latin American program commissioned by Baruch College in New York; and they recorded professionally with the label Leaf Music 5 new music videos to be released in the fall 2020. First-prize winner at the Latin-American Cello Competition (2008), Juan Sebastian holds a Doctoral degree in cello performance from McGill University and Krystina, first-prize winner of the OSM Competition (2012), holds a PhD from the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et danse de Lyon.

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JACKIE RICHARDSON Jackie Richardson, actor, singer (born 1947 in Donora, Pennsylvania). Jackie Richardson is an award-winning singer and actor whose career spans more than five decades. She has been called Canada's reigning queen of jazz, blues and gospel, and has received a Maple Blues Award for lifetime achievement. She is also a Gemini Award and Dora Award-winning actor who has appeared in numerous musical theatre productions, films and television series. In 2014, the Toronto Star named Richardson one of 180 people who have helped shaped the city since it was founded. She was made an Honorary Member of the Order of Canada in 2021. Jackie Richardson is an award winning actress and one of Canada's foremost singers of gospel, blues and jazz whose career includes performances in radio, recordings, commercials, theatre, film, TV and live concerts. She has traveled across Canada performing in all the major cities and forces bases as well as countries around the world such as Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Thailand, The West Indies, Lebanon, France, South Pacific Islands and The USA. Jackie has also received NAACP, Juno, Betty, Dora, Jessie, Gemini, TBS Lifetime Achievement and Canadian Black Lifetime Achievement Awards and Nominations. Recently Jackie was honoured to be chosen by the *Toronto Star* newspaper, in their *Commemoration of Toronto's 180th Birthday*, as one of the 180 people they considered to have in some way helped to shape the city. She recorded a duet "New York Stories" with Micah Barnes (The Nylons) and sang "Weeping" on Bruce Cassidy's (Blood Sweat & Tears) solo CD. In September 2014, the CD *Just Passing Through: The Breithaupt Brothers Songbook* was released with Jackie singing the title song. She hosted the award nominated Jazz FM Radio Series "Identities – Musicians Who Chose Canada" (she is currently recording the second season). Jackie also received a Critics award for her portrayal of Big Mama Thornton at The Festival in Ottawa/Gatineau 2013). February 2014 found Jackie touring The North West Territories with Joe Sealy's *Africville Stories* and this year she returned to The North Land with her daughter, Kim Richardson to perform their show "Mother and Daughter Reunion".



DR. GAIL NEMETZ ROBINSON Dr. Gail Nemetz Robinson, (Ph.D., Stanford University), is Professor of Linguistics, San Diego State University, and was Founding Director of its Language Acquisition Resource Center as one of the nation's first three National Language Centers funded through the U.S. Congress. Her international experience as former Language Research Specialist with SONY, Japan, and the New South Wales Dept. of Education, Australia, lend broad perspectives to communication dilemmas and solutions.



JOE SEALY Joseph Arthur Sealy, pianist, organist, composer, actor (born 16 August 1939 in Montréal, QC). In his youth, Sealy studied piano with Daisy Peterson Sweeney, Professor Boyce, and Bob Langlois in Montreal; later he was pupil of Darwyn Aitken in Toronto. Sealy began his career during the late 1950s in jazz groups and/or show bands with René Thomas, Bob Rudd, Benny Winestone, Walter Bacon, and others throughout Quebec. Moving in 1967 to Halifax, he served as music director or consultant for several CBC TV series ('Music Hop' 1967-9, 'Roundabout,' 'Student Showcase,' etc), played organ in the Unusuals (an R&B trio with Charles 'Bucky' Adams, tenor saxophone; Chuck Cornish, French horn, drums and vocals), and was a pianist in local studio orchestras and hotel lounges. In 1976 Sealy went to Toronto where he has worked extended engagements in jazz rooms and lounges (eg, intermittently 1980-3 at Errol's) and served as musical director for a succession of musicals through the 1980s, including *Spring Thaw, Indigo, Ain't Misbehavin', More Sweet Reason, One More Stop, Madame Gertrude* and *Lady Day* at Emerson's Bar and Grill, taking acting roles in several. Sealy has written scores and/or songs for TV and film, and several themes for jazz group. Of the latter, Sealy has recorded *Early Morning Blues, Dumpling, Clear Vision, Playa Caliente, Fat Cat* and *Distant Shores*. An efficient jazz pianist whose style continues to show the influence of his early models, Oscar Peterson and Horace Silver, he has accompanied several leading US musicians in their Canadian appearances, including Buddy DeFranco, Milt Jackson, Sonny Stitt, and Joe Williams at Pepe's in Halifax. In 1979 he toured in the USA with David Clayton-Thomas and *Blood, Sweat & Tears*. All of this work and success has not gone unnoted. Joe is both proud of, and humbled by, the acclaim he has received. Major awards include: a Juno Award for CD, *Africville Suite*; the Dora Mavor Moore Award for music direction in the Toronto production of *Ain't Misbehavin*; and a Gemini Award nomination for his musical score for the documentary film *The Road Taken*.



TORONTO CONCERT ORCHESTRA TCO presented its first symphony concert at Toronto's Phoenix Concert Theatre in 2008, and has been going strong since! Founded by internationally recognized conductor and music director, Kerry Stratton, the Toronto Concert Orchestra built the city's perennial favourite summer series, *Symphony in the Gardens* while in residence at Casa Loma. Our most popular concerts are our summer series, now called *Symphony in the City* and performed at Palais Royale. TCO is dedicated to making music affordable and accessible, and has committed to several partnerships including providing tickets to New Canadians through Canoo (a project by the Institute for Canadian Citizenship), inviting children to attend from the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto, and providing workshops for school-aged children in partnership with Axis Music. TCO is charting a course in socially responsible and diverse programming. To us, this includes commissioning new Canadian and international works, as well as reviving masterpieces by overlooked composers of the past. One commission we are particularly proud of is Ian Cusson's *Five Songs on Poems* by Marilyn Dumont, a work that explicitly highlights the mistreatment of indigenous peoples by settlers in Canada. TCO is charting a course in socially responsible and diverse programming. To us, this includes commissioning new Canadian and international works, as well as reviving masterpieces by overlooked composers of the past. TCO attracts and features distinguished guest artists and conductors, and has performed at prominent venues in Toronto to appeal to a wide cross-section of guests. Our summer series is known to be genre-inclusive; this year, you'll hear music by heavyweights Mozart, Chopin, and Johann Strauss Jr, elegant sounds of Edith Piaf and Erik Satie, compositions by prolific black composers Florence Price, Nathaniel Dett, and Samuel Colridge-Taylor, and works by Canadian composers Samuel Bisson and Liza McLellan.

TORONTO WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir (TWMVC) has been thrilling concert audiences since 1995, when founder, Gwyn Roberts, gathered men of Welsh heritage. Their plan was bold – adapt the spirit of Welsh choral singing to Canada. It worked. Today, while many TWMVC singers still claim Welsh heritage, the choir also showcases singers of diverse backgrounds, drawn by the quality of the music. Initially, David Low masterfully directed for many years. Then, William Woloschuk's brilliant artistic direction continued to lift the choir, as it does today. TWMVC presents the achingly beautiful songs of the Welsh mountains and valleys, but its repertoire branches out. It includes African-American spirituals, operatic arias, Canadian folk songs, and surprising Broadway show tunes and pop. This beguiling blend of music is performed "off book" in stunning four-part harmony. It drives TWMVC's broad appeal. The choristers deliver each piece with spirit and nuance, eyes to their audience. The entertainment value is high. Listeners, moved, will comment: "You men have something special!" Three-hundred concert audiences have experienced TWMVC in performance – usually partnered and raising money for charity. Concerts have taken place in churches, cathedrals, and concert halls across Canada, and in both the USA and the UK. The choir has performed from Newfoundland to B.C. It has twice toured Wales. The choir has performed with solo artists Bryn Terfel and John Owen Jones. It joined massed choirs at Carnegie Hall and Roy Thomson Hall. TWMVC was the headline choir at the 2017 North American Festival of Wales. During COVID, virtual rehearsals kept the choir glued together, until it emerged, spirit intact, to re-engage with audiences. TWMVC's personality and music combine to connect it with audiences. The music evokes such a simple message: the things we share in common far outweigh our differences. TWMVC conveys this message through abiding choral traditions that enrich the human experience.



BIOGRAPHIES



DANIEL VNUKOWSKI Hailed as "a pianist to watch" by *New York Classical Review* and "a dashing pianist" by *The Sunday Times*, Polish-Canadian pianist Daniel Vnukowski (pronounced Vnoo-koff'-skee) has performed throughout Europe, North America, South America and Asia in prestigious concert halls. Dedicated to giving back to the country that nurtured him as an artist, Vnukowski founded "Piano Six – New Generation" to perform outreach concerts for remote communities in Canada and the "Collingwood Summer Music Festival". Since November 1, 2021, Mr. Vnukowski has been radio announcer of the *Classical Jukebox* on the *New Classical FM*, the only full-time classical radio station in English-speaking Canada. During the Covid-19 crisis, Vnukowski's virtual live streaming project from home has made waves internationally, reaching over half a million viewers. The livestreams have been endorsed by Fazioli Pianoforte and featured on NPR Radio, Classical FM, Ludwig Van Toronto and BBC Music Magazine playlists. The music of interwar Jewish composers also occupies a special place in Mr. Vnukowski's repertoire and during 2019 he continued to focus on the music of Karol Rathaus, performing the composer's *Piano Concerto* with The Orchestra Now conducted by Leon Botstein, as part of a Rathaus Festival presented by the Copland School of Music at Queens College; made his sold-out Carnegie Hall recital debut in a program that included the composer's *Piano Sonata No. 3, Op. 20*; and released an all-Rathaus recording of solo piano music on the *Toccata* label. Mr. Vnukowski will be featured in a documentary on Rathaus produced by Lev Deych & Michael Haas.



MADDISON WILKEY Maddison Wilkey, age 15, started playing violin when she was three. She currently studies violin with David McFadden, concertmaster of Huronia Symphony Orchestra and previous concertmaster of the TSO. Maddison also studies piano under the guidance of Alison Bell and has successfully completed advanced Royal Conservatory of Music theory courses under the direction of Joe Ringhofer. Maddison is currently a first violinist with Huronia Symphony Orchestra and is grateful to have had the opportunity to perform under the baton of Oliver Balaburski. She played as part of the youth program for two years before being welcomed as a full time member in 2022-2023. Maddison competed in the Barrie Kiwanis Music Festival and the South Simcoe Arts Council Festival this year where she received the award for most outstanding string player from both festivals. She received multiple nominations, in both piano and violin, recommending her to the Ontario Music Festival Association Competition this season.



WILLIAM WOLOSCHUK Born in Sudbury, Ontario, William Woloschuk began his musical career after receiving his first piano at the age of seven and completed his graduate studies in choral conducting from the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. From 1997-2000, William was Artistic Director for the South Florida Men's Chorus – Fort Lauderdale, FL, and for fifteen years was Dean of Music for St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Montreal. In the summer of 2004, William attended the Kunstuniversität in Graz, Austria, where he studied under Rodney Eichenburger. William founded Counterpoint Choral in 2001 and was its Artistic Director for 6 years. In August 2006, William enthusiastically accepted the position of Principal Conductor and Artistic Director for the *Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir*. In November 2007, William conducted the World Premiere Performance of Hilda Morgan's orchestral arrangement of "Nidaros", incorporating additional material by Bob Marshall, featuring the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir with the Northumberland Orchestra in Cobourg, Ontario. William debuted at Carnegie Hall where the TWMVC performed this stirring piece in September 2008 and again as Guest Conductor of the Ontario Philharmonic in November 2009. William has greatly impressed the North American Welsh community with his ability to empower the "Welsh soul" into the choir's performances even without his being Welsh.



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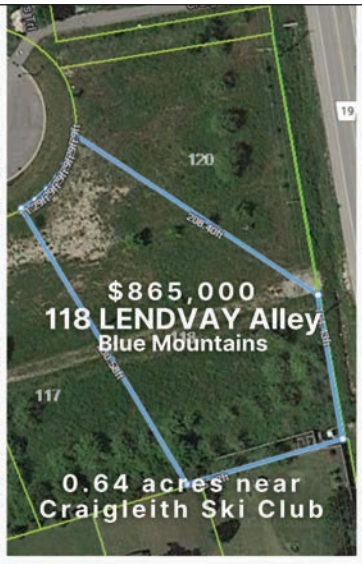


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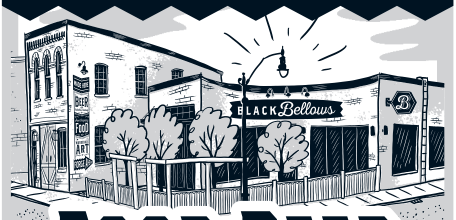


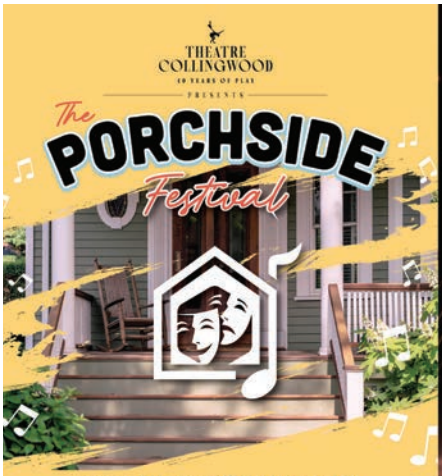


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