

Canada's NEXT

Classical:NEXT Opening Gala Proposal

May 20, 2015, Rotterdam

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CEREMONY DESIGN CONCEPT

This proposed program for the Classical:NEXT opening night is designed to show that Canada is ideally and uniquely positioned to provide a delightful, dynamic and potentially shocking take on what's "next" in classical and contemporary music. Musical selections and proposed artists are intended to reflect what Canadian classical music is today with representation from the current generation which is innovative and bold. Suggested artists come from a wide range of culturally and linguistically diverse communities, aboriginal origins and are geographically representative of Canada.

The design concept for the evening focuses on a theme of "possibility." What is possible for Canadian artists within the country and abroad? How can we challenge what is possible musically? The evening will have a seamless flow and be tightly produced. The program will move from artists to speakers connected through a high quality video montage that will showcase cultural elements not easily presented in the conference format. This will allow for the contrast of larger scale ensembles and projects with the smaller more intimate solo and chamber works that will be live during the event. Starting off with the Polaris Prize-winning Inuit throat singer Tanya Tagaq from a blacked-out theatre will immediately set the tone of surprise for the evening. The use of visuals both in the performance of works such as *Hitchcock Etudes* with its combined video production will allow for the dynamic use of the space and move to a closing finale with the keynote speech of conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin. As his presentation ends the bar will be rolled out onto the stage and the audience will be invited to join the artists who will be serving drinks, allowing for immediate, intimate engagement while breaking the fourth wall and encouraging the audiences to take away the question of "what is possible?"

STAGE PRE-SET:

Podium (downstage far right); large hanging video screen(s); chairs/stands/etc. for Continuum (stage left); chairs/stands for Cecilia String Quartet (stage right); piano for Megumi Masaki (center stage)

0'00" **Classical:NEXT Welcome** from Jennifer Dauterman (2'00")

2'00" **Prelude** - Tanya Tagaq, Inuit throat singer, solo improvisation. (3'00")

Video reference: Tanya Tagaq live at the Polaris Awards >
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcOYx4_7Zzo.

(Tanya exits)

5'00" **Video montage** *This is NEXT* –showcasing a diverse range of large-scale projects from across Canada, see Appendix 1 (2'00")

(Continuum moves to stage during video)

7'00" **Opening speech** (video or live) from Robert LePage or Simon Brault (2'00")

(Robert or Simon exits)

9'00" **Performance #1** - Continuum Contemporary Music
raW (2003), by James Rolfe (11'00")
 Instrumentation: piccolo, bass clarinet, violin, viola, percussion, piano

MP3: Available in zipped folder.

(Continuum exits, Measha Brueggergosman and Cecilia String Quartet move to stage)

20'00" **Speech** (live) Measha Brueggergosman speaking about the sense of possibility Canada gives classical music. (2'00")

(Measha exits as Cecilia String Quartet starts)

22'00" **Performance #2** – Cecilia String Quartet
Commedia dell'arte (2010), by Ana Sokolović (8'00")

MP3: Available in zipped folder.

(Cecilia String Quartet exits as Barbara Hannigan moves to the podium)

26'00" **Speech** (video) from Barbara Hannigan on being a Canadian classical musician in an international context. (2'00")

(Megumi Masaki moves to stage during this video speech)

28'00" **Performance #3** - Megumi Masaki, piano (with video and electroacoustic accompaniment)
Hitchcock Etudes (2014), by Nicole Lizée (EXCERPT) (7'00")

MP3: Available in zipped folder. (Note: included is the full *Hitchcock Etudes*. Only an excerpt would be performed.)

Video reference: Excerpt, *Schoolhouse Etude* >
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWEj0Guv87Q>.

(Megumi Masaki exits, Yannick Nézet-Seguin moves to stage)

36'00" **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** – Yannick Nézet-Seguin (9'00")

(Yannick exits)

45'00" Bar rolled out onto stage and floor in front of stage during applause.

VIDEO TEXT invites audience to stage for reception.

Musicians serve audience members to engage them and direct them to reception.

ARTIST, COMPOSER, SPEAKER BIOS

Director and CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts, "**Simon Brault** has raised the profile of the arts in his home province of Quebec, across Canada and internationally and is well positioned to lead the Canada Council in remaining responsive to the shifting arts ecology and to changing demographics, technologies and economic developments. Simon has been a tireless champion of public engagement in the arts. We believe this is vital to the sustainability of the Canadian arts sector. The Canada Council will benefit from the vision of such a forward-looking and credible individual. Simon's intellect and creativity will help set a strong course for the Canada Council's future." | <http://canadacouncil.ca/council/news-room/news/2014/simon-brault>.

Noted by the San Francisco Chronicle as "a singer of rare gifts and artistic intensity" and by the Miami Herald for possessing "a superb voice capable of just about everything," Canadian soprano **Measha Brueggergosman** has emerged as one of the most magnificent performers and vibrant personalities of the day. She is critically acclaimed by the international press as much for her innate musicianship and voluptuous voice as for a sovereign stage presence far beyond her years. | <http://www.measha.com/bio>.

Taking their name from St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music, the **Cecilia String Quartet** is proud to be celebrating its 10th anniversary for the 2014-2015 season. The Quartet was formed in Toronto in October 2004, and after a decade of fruitful musical discovery, they once again reside in Toronto where they are Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. Hailed for their "powerful" (Chicago Sun-Times) and "dauntingly perfect" (Berliner Zeitung) performances, the CSQ perform for leading presenters in North America and Europe. Past engagements include performances at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Berlin Konzerthaus, Buffalo Chamber Music Society, and London's Wigmore Hall. Their live concert recordings have been broadcast on more than a dozen international public radio networks, including Australia (ABC Classical FM), Canada (CBC/SRC), the United States (WQXR), England (BBC Radio 3), and Germany (DeutschlandRadio). Prize-winners at several international competitions, including Osaka (2008) and Bordeaux (2010), they were awarded First Prize at the 2010 Banff International String Quartet Competition (BISQC), where they also won the prize for the best performance of the commissioned work. | <http://ceciliastringquartet.com/about>.

Formed in 1985, **Continuum Contemporary Music** presents concerts featuring the core ensemble of flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, and percussion, as well as unusual instrumental combinations. Featuring some of Canada's top musicians, the ensemble has earned international acclaim - De Telegraaf (Amsterdam) wrote "Ensemble Continuum performs magic with sound"; Bragbants Dagblad hailed the ensemble as "sublimely skilled". Continuum was awarded the 1994 Chalmers Award and in 2014 was shortlisted for the Toronto Arts Foundation's Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition. | <http://continuummusic.org/about>.

Barbara Hannigan is known worldwide as a soprano of vital expressive force directed by exceptional technique. She is now bringing that same high energy and expertise to her varied activities as a conductor while continuing to work, as a singer, with the most prominent maestros, including in recent seasons Simon Rattle, Kent Nagano, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Andris Nelsons, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Ludovic Morlot, David Zinman, Alan Gilbert and Reinbert De Leeuw. | <http://www.barbarahannigan.com/about.htm>.

Thought by many to be the most brilliant theatre director of his age, **Robert Lepage** has also directed opera and film. Versatile in every form of theatre craft, Robert Lepage is equally talented as a director, playwright, actor and film director. His creative and original approach to theatre has won him international acclaim and shaken the dogma of classical stage direction to its foundations, especially through his use of new technologies. Contemporary history is his source of inspiration, and his modern and unusual work transcends all boundaries. | <http://lacaserne.net/index2.php/robertlepage>.

Called a “brilliant musical scientist” and lauded for “creating a stir with listeners for her breathless imagination and ability to capture Gen-X and beyond generation,” Montreal based composer **Nicole Lizée** creates new music from an eclectic mix of influences including the earliest MTV videos, turntablism, rave culture, Hitchcock, Kubrick, 1960s psychedelia and 1960s modernism. She is fascinated by the glitches made by outmoded and well-worn technology and captures these glitches, notates them and integrates them into live performance. | <http://www.nicoleelizee.com/biography/#.VGzqD2d8Pcs>.

Award-winning pianist **Megumi Masaki** has established herself as an international artist renowned for her warmth and rapport with audiences and her superb musicianship. Her multi-faceted career as acclaimed soloist, chamber musician, champion of Contemporary music and pedagogue has taken her across Canada, the USA, Europe and Asia. In 2006, she made her film debut with musical performances in the CBC Documentary Film “Appassionata: Eckhardt-Gramatté.” Recently, she was selected as Artistic Director of the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition. In 2005, she founded the International Virtuosi Concert Series in Frankfurt Germany. In 1999 Masaki co-founded the annual Waterford Summer Music Festival in Utah where she acts as artistic co-director, conductor, pianist and coach. She is the recipient of numerous scholarships, awards and grants from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada Government, Canada Council, Manitoba Arts Council, and British Council. Masaki was awarded the Willi-Daume Prize from the Deutsches Olympisches Institut and German National Olympic Committee for her project “Music and the Olympic Games”. Masaki is presently Associate Professor of Piano at Brandon University, School of Music where she coaches solo and collaborative pianists and teaches undergraduate and graduate piano pedagogy. | <http://www.brandonu.ca/music/dept-faculty/masaki>.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin is Music Director of The Philadelphia Orchestra and Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. He has conducted all the major ensembles in his native Canada and has been Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Orchestre Métropolitain (Montreal) since 2000. He continues to enjoy a close collaboration with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, of which he was Principal Guest Conductor 2008-14. | <http://www.yannicknezetseguin.com/biography.html>

Serbian-born composer **Ana Sokolović**, who has lived in Montreal for two decades, has been immersed in the arts all her life. Before taking up theatre and music, she studied classical ballet. She studied composition at university under Dusan Radić in Novi Sad and Zoran Erić in Belgrade, then completed a master’s degree under the supervision of José Evangelista at the Université de Montréal in the mid-1990s. Her work is suffused with her fascination for different forms of artistic expression. Both rich and playful, her compositions draw the listener into a vividly imagined world, often inspired by Balkan folk music and its asymmetrical festive rhythms. The winds of change brought by her work quickly vaulted her to a prominent position on the Quebec, Canadian and international contemporary music scenes. In the winter of 2012, she was recognized as a national treasure by Quebec’s Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine. | <http://www.anasokolovic.com/en/biography>.

Tanya Tagaq's music isn't like anything you've heard before. Unnerving and exquisite, Tagaq's unique vocal expression may be rooted in Inuit throat singing but her music has as much to do with electronica, industrial and metal influences as it does with traditional culture. This Inuk punk is known for delivering fearsome, elemental performances that are visceral and physical, heaving and breathing and alive. Her shows draw incredulous response from worldwide audiences, and Tagaq's tours tend to jump back and forth over the map of the world. From a Mexican EDM festival to Carnegie Hall, her music and performances transcend language. Tagaq makes musical friends and collaborators with an array of like-minded talents: opera singers, avant-garde violin composers, experimental DJs, all cutting edge and challenging. Tanya's albums make for complex listening, but her recent Polaris Prize win attests to her ability to make difficult music speak a universal tongue. | <http://tanyatagaq.com>.

STAGE MANAGER

Graduating in History and Sociology (specializing in Latin America), **Caroline Hollway** has spent the best part of 30 years in the arts, as stage manager, production and technical manager, project manager and education director for community and young people's theatre companies in Britain and Canada.

It has taken her into community parades with boats, cars and bicycles made of sticky tape, giant puppets in Portugal, human circuses in housing estates, too many events on soggy fields, community plays in south London, touring round the Scottish Highlands, running two theatres for young people in Wales, enjoying fireworks and tugs (fortunately at the same time), operas with elephants and community arts consultancy.

Her work in Canada has included Senior Manager of the Education and Outreach Department, Canadian Opera Company; Production Management for Constantinople, a multimedia theatre/opera production, which tours internationally and throughout Canada; Consulting Director of Outreach and Education, Theatre Direct; Arts Consultant, Gender Consulting and Soundstreams and Production Management for Jumblies. She is most recently working as Producer for Luminato Festival of Arts and Creativity.

She has one simple, but passionate, aim: to introduce people, especially young people, to the live arts as creators and participants, as well as spectators.

See Appendix 1 for full CV.

FINANCING / FUNDING SOURCE

The **Canada Council for the Arts** is a full partner in this proposal and the primary source of finances for the opening program and associated activities. The Canada Council is also planning, for the first time, to bring a substantial delegation of Canadian agents and managers to participate in the trade fair, and will book a selection of stands in the trade fair from which all Canadian participants may conduct business.

APPENDIX 1 – Production/Stage Manager CV

CAROLINE HOLLWAY

A producer, production manager and arts education consultant motivated by one simple but passionate aim, to engage people, especially young people, in the live arts as creators and participants, as well as spectators.

Production:

- Jan – July 2013 /Jan – July 2014
 Producer, Visual Arts
 Luminato Festival
 Responsible for all aspects of the Visual Arts programming : 2014 artists included terence koh, Los Carpinteros and Lost Train (Kid Koala, Fred Morin and Jason Shron). 2013: Marina Abramovic Institute (MAI) Prototype, touring temporary venue in Trinity Bellwoods Park (including commissioning the build, all the items within and running the venue), *Stockpile* at Brookfield Place; *Viktor&Rolf DOLLS* at ROM, also *L'Allegro Movement Project* and *Future Tastes: at the Kid's Table*
- Sept – Dec 2013
 Production Manager and Programmer
 Toronto Christmas Market
 Inspired by German Christmas Markets, the installation included of 30 booths, Santas house, roving carollers, fully programmed outdoor stage, rides and a 52' Christmas tree.
- September 2012
 Parade Co-ordinator
 Canadian Olympic Committee, Olympic Heroes Parade, Toronto.
 Responsible for parade line up, marshalling area, accessibility of floats for Paralympian athletes.
 Dispersal.
- March 2012– June 2012 (also 2010 and 2011)
 Production Manager, Visual Arts and Community events
 LuminaTO Festival of Creativity. Responsible for all production requirements of Visual Arts and Community programs. Including project managing
 2012 '*The Carretillas Project*' (Rainer Prohaska) (kitchens made up of shopping carts)
 and *Re//Ply* (Dan Bergeron) (sidewalk art interventions created out of condo boards)

2011 *Habit* (David Levine) at OCAD, *Sargasso* (Phillip Beazley) at Brookfield Place
 2010 *Ship o' Fools* Janet Cardiff/George Bures Miller; *Wish Come True* Friends with You; *David Picault tribute*; Mark Fast installation; Coleman Lemieux et Compagnie closing celebration at Nelson Mandela Park Public School.

- Nov 2012 – Jan 2013
 Production Manager
 Theatre Direct Canada
 Presentation of *Sanctuary Song* at National Arts Centre (*also revival in Jan 2011*)
- May 2011 to Dec 2011
 Production Manager
 Jumblies Theatre – *Like an Old Tale*
 Bringing three years of community arts outreach work in Scarborough to a culminating performance. Involving 23 community groups, upwards of 250 people, opera singers, choirs and musicians in a found space in Scarborough for 10 days of performances
- September 2010 to January 2011
 Associate Project Manager,
 Sony Centre re-opening of the refurbished theatre
- March 2010 – May 2010
 Production/Project Manager
 Jumblies Theatre
Like an old Tale – workshop presentation of work to date on *The Winter's Tale*. At Cedar Ridge Creative Centre. Involving 22 storytellings by 18 community groups over 11 days.
- March 2009 – June 2009
 Production Manger
 Soundstreams Canada/Luminato 09 coproduction of *The Children's Crusade*. Premiere of promenade opera by R.Murray Schafer in a disused warehouse with 115 performers including 35 children. Part of LuminaTO 2009
- Jan 2009 – May 2009
 Production Manager
 Nightswimming - *City of Wine*
 Premiere of a seven-play cycle, performed by 105 university drama students from across Canada.

Appendix 2 - Video Production Company

Riddle Films is a Gemini Award-winning and Genie-nominated production company committed to making high-quality films and television. Helmed by producers Jason Charters and Liam Romalis, their work has played on television screens and at film festivals around the world, including VisionTV, Bravo!,

PBS, CBC, YLE, Canal+, the Toronto International Film Festival, the Sundance Film Festival, the Rotterdam International Film Festival, and New York's Museum of Modern Art.

Productions include the documentary short *Remembering Arthur Goss*, the music series *God's Greatest Hits*, the thirteen-part documentary series *Sex + Religion*, the Gemini Award-winning series *Gospel Challenge*, the Genie Award-nominated short film *Noise* and the Gemini Award-winning music documentary *Carry Me Home*.

Other productions include *What Killed Joe Fisher?* for the series *Supernatural Investigator*, *Samba Squad: Drums We Love*, *Techniques 101*: an online glossary of cooking techniques for FoodTV.ca, *Evalyn Parry: Live at Lula* and *An Indigo Christmas with the Nathaniel Dett Chorale*, distributed by Rhombus International. Collaborations include projects with cartoonist Ben Katchor, dancer and choreographer Danny Grossman, musicians The St. Lawrence String Quartet, The Banff International String Quartet Competition, singer/songwriter Bruce Cockburn, jazz and gospel singer Dione Taylor and urban philosopher Jane Jacobs.

APPENDIX 3 – Video Montage Content Ideas

NB: This list is an example of ideal video content. More examples will be sourced and explored after discussions with Classical:NEXT.

1. *Music from the New Wilderness*, presented by Western Front (Vancouver, BC)
An immersive exploration of the B.C. soundscape, the production features new compositions by Adam Basanta (QC), Christian Calon (QC), Alicia Hansen (BC), Jennifer Schine (BC), and Jesse Zubot (BC); a Vancouver-based string quartet comprised of Peggy Lee, Jean René, Jesse Zubot and Joshua Zubot; and visuals by Krista Belle Stewart (BC).
<http://front.bc.ca/events/music-from-the-new-wilderness-3/>
2. Modulus Festival and Orpheus Project, presented by Music on Main (Vancouver, BC)
<http://www.musiconmain.ca/concerts/2014-modulus-festival/>
<http://www.musiconmain.ca/concerts/the-orpheus-project/>
3. “Splash!” event, presented by Victoria Symphony (BC)
Annual outdoor public event which in 2014 included a premiere of a new work by composer-in-residence Jared Miller (Can/US) entitled *The Unknown Warrior*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSWdT-KEwtc>
<http://victoriasymphony.ca/community-2/splash/#toggle-id-9>
4. “Harbor Symphony” event, presented by Sound Symposium (Nfld)
Biennial public event in the harbor in St. John's featuring live fog-horn performance for multiple ships, coordinated by stopwatches and graphic scores by Canadian composers.
<http://www.soundsymposium.com/events/harbour-symphony/>

5. *Stickboy*, by Neil Weisensel (comp.), Shane Koyczan (lib.), presented by Vancouver Opera (BC)
http://www.vancouveropera.ca/whats_on/2014-2015_season/stickboy
6. *Lillian Alling*, by John Estacio (comp.), John Murrell (lib.), presented by Vancouver Opera (BC)
<http://www.vancouveropera.ca/sites/default/files/files/VO-Rentals-LA1.pdf>
7. *Madame Merveille*, by André Ristic (comp.), Cecil Castellucci (lib.), presented by ECM+ (QC)
<http://vimeo.com/13185842>
<http://www.ecm.qc.ca/media/ECM+CommMmeMerv2011BILINGUE.pdf>
8. *Inuit Games*, orchestral piece by Pat Carrabré (MB)
Recording featuring Inuit throat singers Pauline Pemik & Inukshuk Aksalnik (Nunavut)
<http://www.musiccentre.ca/node/70324>
9. *Orchestral Tuning Arrangement*, by Linda Caitlin-Smith (ON) and John Oswald (ON)
<http://www.musiccentre.ca/node/11571>
10. Footage from The Shaw Amphitheatre at The Banff Centre
<http://www.banffcentre.ca/revitalization/shawamphitheatre.aspx>
11. Video used by presenter David Pay, Music on Main, in his presentation for the International Society of Contemporary Music bid earlier this year in Poland. This video shows Vancouver, what is to be the host city for the ISCM Conference in 2017. We would aim to use footage similar to this, though focusing on the whole of Canada, as a grounding element to tie the above videos together and to show the breadth of the Canadian landscape.
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/wgji8489v0lam6w/2017%20Bid.mov?dl=0>