



THE WOMEN'S MUSICAL CLUB OF WINNIPEG

"...where tradition embraces the future."

N E W S L E T T E R

FALL 2014

2014-2015 SEASON

2:00 pm at the Winnipeg Art Gallery



Sunday, October 19, 2014 Cecilia String Quartet

Min-Jeong Koh, violin ~ Sarah Nematallah, violin
Rachel Desoer, cello ~ Caitlin Boyle, viola

Prizewinners at international string quartet competitions in both Osaka (2008) and Bordeaux (2010) and winners of a Galaxie Rising Stars Award in Canada, and captured

the First Prize at the Banff International String Quartet Competition. CSQ is represented by Gami Simonds. Tickets \$25, Students \$5



Sunday, November 16, 2014 Sarah Kirsch, soprano 37th Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition Winner

Sarah won second prize in the 2014 Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg's McLellan Competition in April. She was also featured during the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's 2014 New Music Festival, Cluster New Music + Integrated Arts Festival, and in the Groundswell and Canzona music series.

"Sarah is a born communicator in addition to being a brilliant soprano soloist." "Her ability to get under the skin of everything she sings and make it alive for the listener is remarkable."

- James Manishen

Tickets \$20, Students \$5

Sunday, December 28, 2014 WMC Scholarship Winners' Recital

\$3000 WMC Scholarship ~ Zander Howard-Scott, cello
\$2500 WMC Scholarship ~ Megan Dufprat, piano
\$2000 Madeleine Gauvin Scholarship ~ Laurelle Froese, mezzo-soprano
\$1500 Holtby Scholarship ~ Edvanny Silva, cello
\$1000 Berythe Birse Scholarship ~ Thomas Roberts, violin

Tickets \$20, Students \$5



Sunday, March 29, 2015 Jamie Parker, piano

Concerts given by Dr. Parker consistently garner artistic acclaim. His style has earned him praise as *"one of the most searching musical intellects and 10 of the nimblest fingers in the business"* according to *The Globe and Mail*.

James Parker is represented by Andrew Kwan. Tickets \$25, Students \$5

120th Anniversary Celebration "Tea with James"



James Ehnes
violin

Andrew Armstrong
piano



May 3, 2015

2:00 pm at The Hotel Fort Garry - Provencher Room

Mr. Ehnes has won numerous awards and prizes, including the first-ever Ivan Galamian Memorial Award, the Canada Council for the Arts' Virginia Parker Prize, and a 2005 Avery Fisher Career Grant. James has been honoured by Brandon University with a Doctor of Music degree (honoris causa) and in 2007 he became the youngest person ever elected as a Fellow to the Royal Society of Canada.

Concert sponsors are

"On behalf of the donors to The Winnipeg Foundation, we are pleased to support the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg as it celebrates its 120th anniversary year," says Richard Frost, the Foundation's CEO. *"The Club has enriched the lives of generations of Winnipeggers and we thank them for their steadfast role in our community."*



**The Gail Asper Family Foundation Inc., Dr. William Pope,
Mr. Ron Bell & Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael Buyachok**

James Ehnes appears by arrangement with Earl Blackburn

**Tickets: \$75 available to subscribers only until October 31, 2014.
This is a separate event from our concert series with limited seating.
Tickets will be available to the general public on November 1, 2014.**

Phone 204 944 9431

Subscriptions: Regular \$90 Student \$20

Send cheque or money order to:

WMC, 529 Laidlaw Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3P 0L2

Individual tickets: available from McNally Robinson or at the door (cash or cheque only). Student tickets \$5 at the door.

For a season brochure or to order a subscription phone 204 944 9431.

www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca

BIOGRAPHY

CECILIA STRING QUARTET

Min-Jeong Koh, violin ~ Sarah Nematallah, violin
Rachel Desoer, cello ~ Caitlin Boyle, viola

Sunday, October 19, 2014

2 pm, Winnipeg Art Gallery

The Cecilia String Quartet (CSQ) formed while students at the University of Toronto, taking their name from St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music. The quartet has performed at Konzerthaus Berlin, Concertgebouw Kleine Zaal (Amsterdam), Beethoven-Haus (Bonn), Wigmore Hall (London), and in venues in Italy and Belgium.

Prizewinners at international string quartet competitions in both Osaka (2008) and Bordeaux (2010) and winners of a Galaxie Rising Stars Award in Canada, the CSQ went on to capture the First Prize at the BISQC.

The CSQ now play for leading presenters in Canada, the United States, and Europe. They are also the Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. Their concert recordings have been broadcast on more than a dozen international public radio networks, including Australia, Canada (CBC/SRC), and Germany. Highly committed to teaching and outreach, the CSQ have held teaching duties at Austin Chamber Music Festival (Texas), San Diego State University (California), McGill University (Québec), QuartetFest at Wilfrid Laurier University (Ontario), Summer String Academy at Indiana University and were recent Quartet Fellows at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

The quartet enjoys developing innovative programming such as a collaboration with composer Ed Harsh and soprano Stacie Dunlop for the premier of a new commissioned work entitled Down from Heaven for string quartet and soprano as a response to Schoenberg's String Quartet No. 2 Op. 10. Once completed it was featured alongside the Schoenberg in a special program in the 2013-2014 season.

CSQ is represented by Gami Simonds.

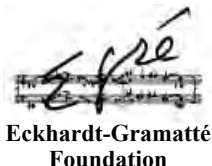
Our Sponsors

for the 2014 - 2015 Concert Season are:

120th Anniversary:

"On behalf of the donors to The Winnipeg Foundation, we are pleased to support the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg as it celebrates its 120th anniversary year," For Good. Forever. says Richard Frost, the Foundation's CEO. "The Club has enriched the lives of generations of Winnipeggers and we thank them for their steadfast role in our community."

The WMC is grateful for the recognition and financial support of The Winnipeg Foundation for our concert season, gala performance by James Ehnes at the Hotel Fort Garry, and publication of the history of the Women's Musical Club.



The Gail Asper Family Foundation Inc.
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We are thankful for our corporate donors and their generous support.
We thank the Winnipeg Art Gallery for use of the Muriel Richardson Auditorium at our Scholarship concert.

2014 WMC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS' RECITAL

Sunday, December 28, 2014

2:00 pm, Winnipeg Art Gallery

The five winners of the 2014 scholarship auditions, which took place at the Eva Clare Hall, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, U of M, on Saturday, May 10, 2014, will perform and receive their scholarships totaling \$10,000.

\$3000 WMC Scholarship ~ Zander Howard-Scott, cello, is halfway through the Bachelor of Music program in Cello Performance at McGill University, where he holds a full scholarship. A former student of Yuri Hooker, Zander now studies with world-renowned soloist Matt Haimovitz. Zander is very grateful for the WMC's generous support of aspiring young artists.

\$2500 WMC Scholarship ~ Megan Dufurat, piano, is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance at the University of Manitoba, Desautels Faculty of Music under the tutelage of David Moroz. In August 2014, Megan will be a featured Young Artist at the Tuckamore Chamber Music Festival.

\$2000 Madeleine Gauvin Scholarship ~ Laurelle Froese, mezzo-soprano, has completed her Masters in Vocal and Operatic Performance at the University of Toronto. She begins her professional debut the spring of 2014 in Saskatoon Opera's Die Zauberflöte as Second Lady, and will join Vancouver Opera's Yulanda M. Faris Young Artist Program for the 2014-2015 season. She has been named a 2013 & 2014 Jeune Ambassadeurs Lyrique Laureate.

\$1500 Holtby Scholarship ~ Edvanny Silva, cello, has completed her Bachelor of Music in Cello Performance at the University of Manitoba, Desautels Faculty of Music in 2014, under Dr. Minna Rose Chung. She has received many bursaries and awards throughout her undergraduate studies and was invited to play with the YOA - the Orchestra of the Americas.

\$1000 Berythe Birse Scholarship ~ Thomas Roberts, violin, completed his Bachelor of Music (Performance) program at the Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba in 2014 under the private tutelage of Dr. Oleg Pokhanovski and chamber music coaching of Dr. Minna Rose Chung. He will be auditioning for several post-graduate programs in Australia in the fall of 2014.

Tickets \$20, Students \$5

WMC SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

The auditions will be held Saturday, May 9, 2015, from 9:00am-4:30 pm at Eva Clare Hall, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, University of Manitoba. Please join us for the day or part of the day and provide an audience for our performers. Parking is available behind the Faculty of Music. Our five winners will perform at the Scholarship concert on December 27, 2015.

Deadline for application is April 12, 2015.

For more information, visit us at:

www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca 204 944 9431

THE WMC McLELLAN COMPETITION FOR SOLO PERFORMANCE WITH THE WSO

WMC has reached a major milestone as of 2014. There have been five competitions to date and a total of \$100,000 has been shared by the winners to further their musical careers.

For the fifth Competition, in January 2014, local adjudicators ranked the coded CD entries, and 12 semi-finalists were chosen for live auditions at the Winnipeg Art Gallery Friday, March 14th. These auditions took place at half-hour intervals during the day and were enjoyed by family and friends of the contestants and open to the public.

The talented twelve had the opportunity to audition before a jury comprised of Rachel Andrist, vocal, Douglas Finch, piano, Dr. Minna Rose Chung, strings, and Holly Harris, jury chair. Three were selected as finalists in the 2014 WMC McLellan Competition: Sarah Kirsch, soprano, Joshua Peters, violin, and Tony Zhou, piano. In addition, the adjudicators were asked to identify two runners-up: Jinsung Kim, piano, and Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk, viola.

The three finalists performed with the support of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, ably hosted by Claudia Garcia de la Huerta of Classic 107 Radio on April 4, at the Jubilee Place Auditorium of MBCI. For those of you who did not attend, you missed an amazing concert with three stellar performances.

The adjudicators were former Winnipegger John Greer, piano accompanist, vocal coach, arranger, composer and conductor; James Manishen, Artistic Operations Associate with the WSO; Canadian violinist Jasper Wood, Associate Professor of violin and chamber music at UBC; with Jury Chair, Holly Harris, local pianist, composer and writer.

The illustrious jury deliberated a long while before choosing : **First Place \$10,000 - Joshua Peters**, violin, performing Beethoven's Concerto in D Major: **Second Place \$6,000 - Sarah Kirsch**, soprano, performing songs and arias by Mozart, Bach, Villa-Lobos and others; **Third Place \$4,000 - Tony Zhou**, pianist, performing Prokofiev's Concerto No.3 in C Major.

An enthusiastic audience was invited to meet and congratulate all the winners at a punch and cheese reception in the outer lobby following the presentation of awards and photographs.

The Board of Women's Musical Club offers congratulations to the winners, who provided the audience with an outstanding concert experience, a thrilling finish to an exciting Competition!

We also thank the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra for their support of this competition. Their involvement enhances and enriches the performance experience of the three finalists, and assists the WMC in providing very special performance opportunities for young Manitoba musicians as they embark upon their musical careers.

Competition Chair, Carol Gamby, and the volunteer board members of the Women's Musical Club are indebted to the many private and corporate donors whose generosity has enabled the club to present this Competition five times and hopefully will continue on a biennial basis well into the future.

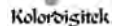


Joshua Peters, Tony Zhou, Sarah Kirsch

The Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg gratefully acknowledges the support of:



Winnipeg
Symphony
Orchestra



SWING INTO SPRING

Early in May, invitations were sent out to members, friends and guests for 'Swing into Spring'. They look forward to this event annually since its 2001 inauguration. For those who are not familiar with this project, the profits raised are earmarked for WMC scholarships.

On May 29, 2014, 173 guests attended, enjoying a glass of wine and a delicious luncheon while classical guitar was played by Andrew Erickson.

The WMC was most grateful to our charming hostess Dana Jessiman and her husband Peter for welcoming the guests into their gorgeous spacious home to host the event.

Thanks to a very hard working committee, this project continues to be one of the most popular events in the musical community, enabling the WMC to continue to offer some of the largest scholarships available in this province.

The committee looks forward to seeing you all in May next year.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Opera News by Brian Kellow, May, 2014 ~ The GEORGE LONDON FOUNDATION AWARDS

"My most exciting discovery was Canadian soprano **JESSICA STRONG**. She's a lyric coloratura with a big, beautiful sound who sang a wonderfully imaginative and spontaneous "Bel raggio lusinghier"; Strong showed a solid command of bel canto style and proved she knew how to bring out the music's elasticity. (She was also impressive in "Robert, toi que j'aime," from Robert le Diable, which she reprised during the London finals concert at the Morgan Library on February 20.)" Jessica has joined the Frankfurt Opera Studio for the 2014-2015 season.

The Manitoba Arts Network has announced the 2014 Manitoba Showcase Performing Artists. **Jasper Wood and Daniel Bolshoy** (both of whom we have had on our stage separately) have teamed up as Duo Rendezvous! They will be performing in Brandon, Manitoba October 23-26th at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium.

FROM THE PRESIDENT. KATHRYN A. YOUNG

Spring 2014 was a very exciting time for the Women's Musical Club. In early April, the fifth biennial WMC McLellan Competition was held in the Jubilee Place Auditorium. Classical music lovers were treated to inspiring performances by the three finalists of the juried competition: First, Joshua Peters, violinist; Second, Sarah Kirsch, soprano; and Third, Tony Zhou, pianist. In demonstrating their skill and passion for their music, all revealed that they are at the cusp of professional careers. Later in the month, the concert season came to a close in the Muriel Richardson Auditorium of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. On stage that afternoon were pianist Madeline Hildebrand and soprano Jessica Strong, both winners of the 2012 WMC McLellan Competition. It was wonderful to welcome back these young musicians and to witness their development as professional artists. With Andrew Erickson, their friend and classical guitarist, they presented a marvellous afternoon of exquisite singing and piano virtuosity.

At the beginning of May, WMC scholarship auditions were held at the Desautels Faculty of Music, University of Manitoba. The five

winners will be featured in the WMC concert series in December. Then as May drew to a close Swing into Spring, the annual fundraiser for WMC scholarships, took place in the elegant River Heights home of Dana and Peter Jessiman. Guests arrived on a beautiful, warm, sunny day to have lunch and to meet old and new friends.

June brought the WMC Annual General Meeting at the St Charles Golf and Country Club. The Board welcomed two new members, Judy Beddoes and Karen Clavelle, as members-at-large. Aija Svenne will move from member-at-large to her new position as corresponding secretary.

As autumn leaves turn, the Women's Musical Club (1894-2014) will launch its 120th year, thanks to the generosity of its sponsors and a grant from the Winnipeg Foundation. This will be a very special time in the musical history of Winnipeg and the province. Please join us.

THE WOMEN'S MUSICAL CLUB OF WINNIPEG BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014 - 2015

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Instrument donations are now being accepted for string, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. To donate instruments to the program, contact Tanya Derksen, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra director of education & outreach at (204) 949-3964 or tderksen@wso.mb.ca.

IN MEMORIAM

Norman Donogh, a long term supporter and friend of the WMC, passed away August 11, 2014.

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Thank you to Rinella Printers and to Chanh, for his outstanding work on the WMC publications.
Thank you to McNally Robinson Booksellers for selling our tickets.

