

# NEW MUSIC CONCERTS

TORONTO

Dedicated to the sounds of our time, *New Music Concerts* presents the world's most distinguished contemporary composers and their music. Founded in 1971 by Toronto composer *Norma Beecroft* and flutist-composer *Robert Aitken* who administer and give artistic leadership to each season, the subscription concerts feature a cross section of international musical styles as well as the latest creations of Canadian composers. The high standard of programming and performance has attracted an exceptional public of enthusiastic adults and students, resulting in capacity audiences during the past two seasons.

As concrete acknowledgement of its rapidly increasing success, *New Music Concerts* is subsidized by the Canada Council, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, and through radio broadcasts is supported by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. During recent years, the ensemble has performed in various centres in Canada and the United States. 1976 is the occasion of its first international tour which encompasses the Nordic countries, Britain and central Europe.







Since its inaugural event in January of 1972, *New Music Concerts* has presented performances of over 240 works, 150 of them first hearings in Canada, including 34 world premieres. Among the list of distinguished artists invited to participate in the presentation of these concerts, one finds the names of *Berio, Reynolds, Globokar* and the *New Phonic Arts, Bedford, Hanson, de Pablo, Goeyvaerts, Crumb, Nordheim, Kagel* with the *Cologne New Music-Theatre Ensemble, Takemitsu, Holliger, Foss, Reich, Martirano, Krauze* with the *Warsaw Music Workshop, Xenakis* and *Maxwell Davies*. Other ensembles such as *Harpans Kraft, Les Percussions de Strasbourg, MEV, and Les Solistes de l'ORTF*, all presented their unique fare within this series.

Music by Canadian composers constitutes a major portion of *New Music Concerts'* programming with at least one third of the series devoted to the performance of their works. Many have been commissioned by the organization with the assistance of government funds. Compositions by *Schafer, Tremblay, Coulombe-St. Marcoux,*

*Garant, Hodkinson, Mather, Hawkins, Freedman, Somers, Weinzweig, Vivier, Steven, Montgomery* and *Buxton*, as well as by founders *Aitken* and *Beecroft*, and newcomers to Canada *Komorou* and *Hambraeus*, frequently appear on the seasons' programs.

From the performance of this extensive repertoire has evolved a nucleus of musicians accustomed to the challenges of these multifaceted works. Within this specialized group and featured on this international tour are many of Canada's foremost musicians: • *Robert Aitken* (artistic director/conductor)—celebrated flutist and noted interpreter of contemporary music • *Mary Morrison* (soprano), *Patricia Rideout* (contralto), *Gary Relyea* (baritone)—well-known to Canadians through their careers as soloists in all forms of vocal literature • *Russell Hartenberger* and *Robin Engelman*—both members of the famed percussion ensemble *Nexus* • *Douglas Stewart* (flute), *Lawrence Cherney* (oboe), and *James MacDonald* (horn)—young performers in the outstanding woodwind quintet *York Winds* • *John Hawkins*—one of Canada's

foremost pianist-composers and *Monica Gaylord*—highly versatile keyboard performer • *Erica Goodman*—gifted harpist experiencing a very active solo career • *Eric Wilson* (cello)—PhD candidate and soloist specializing in contemporary music • *William Kuinka*—a unique talent for the unusual combination of mandolin, guitar, banjo and double bass.

Stage production for the *New Music Concerts'* tour is by composer *William Buxton* and percussionist *Allen Beard*, also a member of the performing group. Electronics technicians are filmmaker *Charles Bagnall* and composer *James Montgomery* of the Canadian Electronic Ensemble. Coordination and promotion for the tour, as during the winter season, is by *Laraine Herzog*. President and general manager is *Norma Beecroft*.

*New Music Concerts'* 1976 Spring Tour is under the auspices of the Canadian Department of External Affairs, the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation, BMI (Canada) Ltd., and the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada.

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