

**new music  
concerts  
presents  
solitary climb  
a one-woman  
multi-media  
show  
with diana  
mcintosh  
and works by  
rodney sharman  
january 12, 1992  
betty oliphant  
theatre  
404 jarvis street  
at 8 p.m.  
illuminating  
introduction  
at 7.15 p.m.  
961-9594**

New Music Concerts is pleased to present a concert of *Solitary Climb*, a one-woman music-theatre work by Diana McIntosh, and works by Rodney Sharman at the Betty Oliphant Theatre, 404 Jarvis Street, on January 12, 1992 at 8 p.m.

Rodney Sharman lives in Vancouver and teaches at the University of British Columbia. His works have been regularly featured at festivals of new music in Europe and the United States, including the Bourges Festival in France, Ars Musica in Belgium, the International Gaudeamus Music Week, the Holland Festival and the Darmstadt Summer Courses for New Music, where he was awarded the 1990 Kranichsteiner Music Prize for outstanding achievement in the field of composition. Dr. Sharman is a graduate of the University of Victoria School of Music, the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg and the State

University of New York in Buffalo. He has been secretary of the Canadian League of Composers since 1989, and chair of the Canadian section of the International Society of Contemporary Music (ISCM) since 1991.

"In 1989, I began writing a series of opera transcriptions for piano in response to Michael Finnis's *Verdi Transcriptions*, a work which I greatly admire. The first and third transcriptions were written at the request of Anthony de Mare, who selected the aria *Nessun dorma*, which serves as a cantus firmus to *Opera*

*Transcriptions: Turandot*, first performed in Ghent, Belgium, and *La Canzone di Doretta*, which serves as the basis of *Opera Transcriptions: La Rondine*, which receives its premiere this evening.

*Opera Transcriptions: Madama Butterfly*, based on *Tu, tu, piccolo iddio*, was written at the request of Yvar Mikhashoff, who premiered the piece at the tenth Almeida Festival in London in 1990.

*Echo and Narcissus* for piano and amplified string quartet was performed in a shorter version at the 1990 Darmstadt Summer Course for New Music by pianist Yvar Mikhashoff and the Arditti String Quartet. The longer version, to be heard at this concert, was first performed by John Sniijders and the Ives Ensemble at a concert sponsored by the Rotterdam Arts Council, who commissioned it.

*Narcissus* was the Greek youth who fell in love with his own water reflection; *Echo* was the unfortunate

and chatty nymph, cursed by Hera to repeat the words she last heard. Unable to initiate a successful seduction of Narcissus, she pined for him until nothing remained but her voice.

Although the work has no programme as such, the relationship between the piano and string quartet, as well as the distances

between the hands and fingers of the piano part are often an exact mirror. But, as water is disturbed by movement, one part will move on its own, to be found later, eventually restoring a ferocious, static calm, the mirror once again still. I would like to thank my friend Yvar Mikhashoff for initiating the composition of *Echo and Narcissus*."—R.S.

Diana McIntosh is one of a kind. She is a composer/performer whose imagination and sense of humour never cease to amaze audiences and critics alike. McIntosh performs recitals of 20th century and contemporary piano music by a wide variety of composers, including herself. She is now touring with her multi-media, one-woman show *Solitary Climb*, a unique

and fascinating music-theatre piece that guides its audiences up the dangerous face of new music.

McIntosh can be heard on several commercially available discs, including *The Original McIntosh* (Aurum 101). Her video *Serious Fun with McIntosh* is distributed by the Winnipeg Film Group.

McIntosh has performed throughout Canada, in the USA, England, Portugal and France, and on the radio and television networks of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Her compositions have

been performed by other musicians for radio broadcast in the USA and Germany as well as Canada. Her own compositions include works for chamber orchestra, choir, chamber ensembles, solo instruments, electronic tape and multi-media. She has also commissioned numerous works by other composers.

McIntosh is founding Artistic Director of the 14-year-old Winnipeg new-music concert series *Music Inter Alia*.

The creation and development of *Solitary Climb* have proven to be an exciting process involving the exploration of fascinating materials, concepts and ideas. The route has twisted and turned along the way often, uncovering surprising discoveries.

*Solitary Climb* places the music concert format within the boundaries of a play, creating a type of music/theatre experience. Using sampling keyboard, piano, sound, stories, anecdotes, slides, and climbing, the play takes us on an intriguing journey into mountains and new music. With McIntosh as our guide, we experience the risks and excitement of taking on the impossible, taking a shot at an elusive goal.

The gamble may seem too great. But does that really matter? "That's the pull of it!" The subject matter is music and mountains, but hopefully the message goes further.

**composer's world**  
**january 11, 1992**  
**at 11 a.m.**  
**royal conservatory of music**

**illuminating introduction**  
**precedes the concert**  
**at 7.15 p.m.**

**illuminating introduction  
with austin clarkson  
at 7.15 p.m.  
composer's world  
january 11, 1992  
11 a.m.**