

December 2000 Newsletter

Well it's been a busy month around here, with four productions in 30 days! We had full houses for the **Caput** ensemble at the Church of St. George the Martyr back on October 27 and for Murray Schafer's *Winter Diary* at Gallery one2one on November 17. Our opening reception for Gordon Monahan's *When It Rains* got off to a bit of a slow start, but about 100 people turned up as the evening wore on. The installation was up and running for three weeks and about 300 people visited the gallery during that time.

November 11 turned out to be a very special day as we presented the Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal's *Generation 2000*, in an event which combined the ECM's first Toronto performance, the premiere of 5 new works, the culmination of the Massey Hall New Music Festival, the presentation of the Jules Léger Prize for New Chamber Music, and the first of three co-productions to take place this season with CBC's Two New Hours. While they have frequently recorded our concerts for broadcast in the past, these new co-presentations mean a much stronger financial commitment from the CBC which makes it possible to do larger productions than our budget would otherwise allow. The most significant evidence of this will be the concert we are calling *All Canadian, Eh?* next May which features large chamber works by Rudolph Komorous (with soloist Eve Egoyan), Rose Bolton and Yannick Plamondon. In addition to contributing artists' fees we have just received word that the CBC will also fund our commission of a new work by Chris Paul Harman for the concert. I'm also pleased to announce that local arts patron Roger D. Moore is a generous sponsor of that event.

This season has seen us enter into collaborative ventures on a much wider scale than in previous years. All four of the events of the past month were cooperative efforts which saw us partnering with The Music Gallery (Caput), Gallery one2one (Monahan and Schafer) and Two New Hours (Ensemble contemporain de Montréal), and the presentation of the Léger Prize also involved working together with the Canada Council and the Canadian Music Centre. We also got good cooperation from the Bureau de Québec à Toronto to promote the ECM and a promise to help with our *Isabelle Panneton: A Portrait* in the spring. Add to this the initiative we have taken to sponsor meetings with many other members of the contemporary music community (currently some 30 organizations and individuals) with the aim of organizing joint marketing, publicity, outreach and education projects, and meetings with the Toronto Arts Council and the Canada Council, you can see it has been a very "collaborative" couple of months.

We have also implemented a series of outreach concert/lectures which we are calling *Music Speaks*, with solo repertoire of the 20th century, commentary and question and answer sessions to facilitate listening for the uninitiated. Robert Aitken gave the first of these to an attentive audience of 30 at the Neilson Park Creative Centre during Etobicoke's Autumn Arts Fest. We have scheduled appearances there for David Hetherington (January 28) and Joe Macerollo (February 4) and David will repeat his performance at the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Arts on February 18. We hope to schedule several more and I'll keep you posted with all the details.

The Music Gallery joins us once again this month as we embark on our most ambitious production of the season, *~infoweaver* by composer Kristi Allik and media artist Robert Mulder. This involves four performances of an "interactive" music theatre work which promises to provide "state of the art entertainment". I'm at a bit of loss to describe *~infoweaver*; Robert Mulder assures me "you have to be there to get it". The evening-long work combines stunning imagery and electroacoustic music performed and manipulated in real time by "infoweavers" Allik and Mulder. ***~infoweaver* will take place December 7, 8 and 9, at 8:00PM, with a Sunday matinée, December 10 at 3:00PM at the Robert Gill Theatre, 214 College St. (St. George St. entrance). Call the box office at 416 978-7986 for tickets, which are \$20, \$10 for students and seniors. Subscribers please pick up your tickets at the box office.** I hope to see you all there.

Best regards,
David Olds, General Manager

New Music Concerts • 157 Carlton Suite 203 • 416.961.9594 • www.interlog.com/~nmc

New Music Concerts and The Music Gallery present

~infoweaver

Opens Thursday December 7th

*a live performance
interactive multi-media
music theatre experience by*

**Kristi Allik &
Robert Mulder**

*~infoweaver is an exploration of our
Canadian heritage and collective cultural
memories, transporting us on a journey
through past, present and future using
computer-generated images and music*



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Millennium Fund Fonds du nouveau millénaire

December 7,8,9 @ 8:00pm • December 10 @ 3:00pm • \$20/10
Robert Gill Theatre • 214 College Street • (416) 978-7986