new music concerts

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April 13, 2009

I had hoped there might be time to catch our breath following the Roger Reynolds concert, but I have to say that turned into just another pipe-dream. February through April is the busiest time of the year administratively with all of the major grant applications for the next season coming due. Add to this rehearsing and mounting our two largest concerts of the season and preparations for our annual fundraising drive (to be launched next Monday at Gallery 345) and it's no wonder I'm still out of breath.

I'd like to thank those of you who have not waited to be asked and have sent in your annual donations already. Your support is both inspiring and timely and it is greatly appreciated. This is the time of year when cash flow becomes a real issue as a number of our grants are not paid in full until we have filed a final report at the end of season activities. This means having to pay for musicians' services and concert hall rentals before the money is in the bank. Once again this year I'd like to give special thanks to Roger D. Moore for stepping forward with generous support of our next concert. Without his sponsorship of our three singers I'm not sure how we would have managed. We also thank the Swiss government for its generous support through Pro Helvetia making Jürg Wyttenbach's visit possible. Mr. Wyttenbach arrives later today and will spend an intensive week preparing for Saturday's performance with our musicians who have already been hard at work for more than a week. There will of course be a pre-concert "Illuminating Introduction" with Wyttenbach and Bob Aitken in the lobby of Glenn Gould Studio beginning at 7:15 and the concert will be followed by a wine and cheese reception courtesy of the Consulate General of Switzerland.

We are especially grateful to Professor Wyttenbach who has agreed to give the English premiere of "Beethoven: the Avant-garde Composer", a lecture/recital which he has previously given to great success in French, German and Italian. We have it on no less authority than Heinz Holliger's that this is "one of the most brilliant things I have ever seen." As mentioned above, Monday evening's event will launch our annual fundraising campaign and a charitable receipt for income tax purposes will be issued for the portion of the \$50 ticket price allowed under Canada Revenue Agency guidelines. I hope you will be able attend this entertaining and edifying evening and help New Music Concerts meet its annual fundraising goal.

Sincerely yours,

David Olds

p.s. Please visit <u>www.showtimemagazine.ca</u> and <u>www.thelivemusicreport.com</u> for reviews of our March 29 Roger Reynolds concert. And one final note, on Sunday April 19 Bob Aitken will be one of the fine musicians paying tribute to the late Talivaldis Kenins in a Toronto Latvian Concert Association event at Glenn Gould Studio at 7:00.