



Robert Aitken, artistic director

Dear Friends,

Well the season got off to a very good start with "Let's Hear It from Beckwith." There was a large and enthusiastic audience and we're very pleased that the concert was recorded for future broadcast on *The Signal* on CBC Radio 2. I'll keep you posted as to when you can tune in to hear it, but in the interim you can catch last May's "Brian's Picks" concert on the CBC website at Concerts On Demand. I'm listening as I write this and I must say that the concert sounds great second time around!

I'd like to thank all of you who checked the "Yes I'd like to start the season right with a charitable donation" box on our subscription form – it's very comforting to have a head start on our season fundraising activities. And along those same lines, I'd like to thank Rick Sacks for generously providing an opportunity to really kick things off with a fundraising evening on Wednesday October 13. Well-known as one of Toronto's finest percussionists, Rick has been an integral member of the Arraymusic ensemble for many years and was recently appointed Array's artistic director. He is also a composer and award winning sound designer for contemporary dance and theatre. Rick has served on New Music Concerts' board of directors for the past two years and has been an active part of our ensemble for more than two decades – at least as far back as 1986 when he was one of the three percussionists involved in our world premiere performance of George Crumb's *An Idyll for the Misbegotten*. We are especially grateful that Rick has offered to perform a number of his own theatrical compositions for us, including three Toronto premieres. It promises to be a very entertaining evening and NMC president and Gallery 345 owner Edward Epstein will provide a welcoming wine and cheese reception.

The evening also provides us with a chance to launch **two new CDs**. James Harley's Centredisc "**Neue Bilder**" features CBC broadcast recordings of ensemble pieces performed on our concert series over the years and a new studio recording of the solo flute piece *Portrait* performed by Bob Aitken. "**Lutosławski's Last Concert**" is our latest Naxos release, a re-issue of our independent 1998 CD featuring performances by Fujiko Imajishi and an expanded

New Music Concerts Ensemble under the direction of Witold Lutosławski at the Premiere Dance Theatre in October 1993, just a few months before his death. We are thrilled to have these performances available again through the auspices of the world's largest record company.

All in all it promises to be a great evening. Please note the early start time of 7PM. A charitable receipt will be issued for the CRA allowable portion of the \$50 ticket price, and the proceeds of the CD sales will also benefit New Music Concerts. Please call the office to purchase your tickets in advance at 416.961.9594. Gallery 345 is located at 345 Sorauren Avenue, which runs south from Dundas West between Lansdowne and Roncesvalles and is serviced by both the Dundas and Carlton street cars. I hope we'll see you there! (but in case you are unable to attend I am enclosing a donation form).

Sincerely yours,

David Olds
General Manager

Wednesday October 13 2010

**THE MUSICAL THEATRE OF
RICK SACKS**

**Gallery 345 • 345 Sorauren 7^{pm}
\$50 SPECIAL EVENT – CALL 416.961.9594**

Programme:

Humber River Lock System (Le Bateau)

Sample of ***Drums Suite***:

Drum Song; The March; Fruit Loops; Enter
The Drummer; Taps; Cookin' with Drums

Light at the End of the Tunnel (Toronto Premiere)

Mbira Sketch for MalletKat (Toronto Premiere)

Life in the Factory

MalletKat Sketch II on a Bohlen Pierce Scale

(Toronto Premiere) by Rick Sacks and Peter Hannan

About Rick Sacks

Richard Sacks holds a master's degree in percussion from SUNY Stony Brook. He performs with Arraymusic, the Glass Orchestra, New Music Concerts, Aventa, Red Sky Performance, the Evergreen Club Gamelan and others. Rick has toured worldwide with these groups. He also works as a composer/designer in contemporary dance and theatre. He has performed with Desrosiers, Dancemakers, Le Groupe de la Place Royale, Bill James, Carbon 14, and TDT and Theatre Gargantua. He created the compositions for CanStage's *Midsummer Night's Dream in the Park* at High Park, *Midsummer Night's Dream* at Passe Muraille, the hit show *Sibs* (Tarragon), and the award-winning children's show *Danny, King of the Basement* (Roseneath). His most recent work as co-composer/music director of Red Sky's *Tono* won the 2010 Dora award for best sound design/composition. Rick is Arraymusic's new artistic director.

His own performance pieces mix percussion, theatre and movement in unique ways for soloist and large ensemble exploring a mix of new technologies and traditional theatrical devices. He has recently completed *World on a String*, a 50,000 word interactive web-based SciFi and *The MetaMOOphosis*, a permanent installation of interactive theatre based on Kafka's *Metamorphosis* (see *High Wired* - University of Michigan Press). All can be found at Rik's Café Canadian, a World Wide Web site focusing on Toronto's rich cultural resources at www.rifax.com/

About New Music Concerts

Now embarking on its 40th season, New Music Concerts has enjoyed a leadership role in Toronto's new music scene throughout its history. Founded in 1971 by internationally acclaimed Canadian musicians Robert Aitken and Norma Beecroft, NMC presented its first concert in January 1972 with guest composer/conductor Luciano Berio. Since that time most of the world's renowned composers including John Adams, Harrison Birtwistle, Pierre Boulez, John Cage, Elliott Carter, George Crumb, Peter Maxwell Davies, Morton Feldman, Philip Glass, Heinz Holliger, Maurizio Kagel, Helmut Lachenmann, Toru Takemitsu, Iannis Xenakis, Walter Zimmermann and, early in their careers, rising stars like Tan Dun, Toshio Hosokawa, Jörg Widmann and Raminta Serksnyte, have come to Toronto at NMC's invitation. NMC supports Canadian composers through commissions and performances and by combining them with international artists, promoting their success. A short list of some of NMC's most notable Canadian commissions includes Claude Vivier's *Zipangu*, Barbara Pentland's *Eventa*, Harry Somer's *Chura Churum*, John Beckwith's *Eureka*, Harry Freedman's *Strands of Blue*, Alexina Louie's *Sanctuary*, John Weinzwieg's *Prisoner of Conscience*, Bruce Mather's *Ausone*, Gilles Tremblay's *Triojubilus*, plus Omar Daniel's *Zwei Lieder nach Rilke* and Chris Paul Harman's *Amerika* both of which went on to win the Jules-Léger Prize.

Since its inception NMC has presented more than 325 concerts, commissioned more than 125 Canadian and international works and performed some 700 Canadian and world premieres. As English Canada's senior contemporary music society, NMC's prime activity is producing high calibre concerts of contemporary music, but NMC's activities have included a very broad range of presentation from contemporary classics, to electroacoustics, mixed- and multi-media presentations, sound sculpture, radiophonic works, films and music theatre (including world premiere performances of R. Murray Schafer's *Princess of the Stars* on Heart Lake in 1981 and the North American premieres of John Cage's *Roaratorio* and Thorkell Sigurbjornsson's *Grettir*) Current programs reflect the ongoing concern to balance all aspects of NMC's mandate to profile established and emerging Canadian and international composers. Far from resting on its laurels, New Music Concerts' energy has, if anything, increased in recent years. Fresh from the success of its first event, "Let's Hear It From Beckwith", NMC's 40th anniversary season continues with the return of Montreal's ECM+ ensemble on November 14 with "Generation 2010", a touring programme featuring emerging Canadian composers, directed by Véronique Lacroix. "Elliott Carter at 102" brings Canadian and world premieres of this eminent composer's latest works to Toronto on December 10. The dynamic Diotima string quartet presents the Canadian premieres of works by Dillon, Nunes, Czernowin and Reynolds on January 14. Jonathan Harvey arrives from England for a March 6 concert with several premieres including the first performance of a flute concerto by his compatriot Geoffrey Palmer. Canadian works by Hamel, Ristic, Pritchard and Fitzell are featured in an evening of world premieres curated by Paul Steenhuisen on April 10. The season concludes on May 8 with Malaysian composer Kee Yong Chong introducing innovative new music from his homeland.

For more details, visit www.newmusicconcerts.com.



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

FONDATION
SOCANI
FOUNDATION

NM

www.newmusicconcerts.com

203-157 Carlton • Toronto Ont. M5A 2K3 • 416-961-9594

Canadian New Music Network
Réseau canadien pour les musiques nouvelles 