

**New Music Concerts** is a vital and central part of Toronto's new music scene and has provided a leadership role in the community throughout its history. Founded by internationally acclaimed musicians Robert Aitken and Norma Beecroft, NMC presented its first concert in January 1972 with guest composer/conductor Luciano Berio. Since that time dozens of world renowned composers including such luminaries as 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 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's long history of diverse presentations with particular emphasis on international activities and the active participation of challenging compositional voices from around the globe make it unique. Thanks to the relationships that Artistic Director Robert Aitken has cultivated throughout his career as an international soloist, New Music Concerts is able to entice world renowned composers to Toronto who might not otherwise come here, thereby adding an international level of excellence to our city's arts scene. Strong support of Canadian composers through commissions and performances and by combining them with international artists has kept us at the top of our field. Our activities have included a broad range of presentation: contemporary classics, mixed-&-multi-media presentations, electroacoustics, sound sculpture, radiophonic works, films and music theatre (including world premieres of R. Murray Schafer's *Princess of the Stars* on Heart Lake in 1981 and the North American premieres of John Cage's *Roaratorio* at Convocation Hall and the Icelandic opera *Grettir* at Betty Oliphant Theatre). As English Canada's senior contemporary music society, NMC has presented 335 concerts, commissioned more than 120 Canadian and international works and performed some 700 Canadian and world premieres. Far from resting on its laurels, New Music Concerts' energy has, if anything, increased in recent years.

Having previously served as principal flute for the Vancouver and Toronto Symphony Orchestras, **Founding Artistic Director Robert Aitken** embarked on a successful international solo career in 1970 that continues to this day. He has more than 70 recordings to his credit and such notables as John Cage, George Crumb, Elliott Carter, Mauricio Kagel, Toru Takemitsu, Gilles Tremblay, John Beckwith and R. Murray Schafer have dedicated works to him. In 2003 he was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Flute Association (USA) and invited to sit on the NFA's board of directors. In 2004 he retired after 16 years as Professor für Flöte at the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, Germany. Aitken has been honoured with the Order of Canada and is a Chevalier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres (France). When citing Aitken for the 2009 Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts, the jury stated "A masterly force in the world of contemporary Canadian music, Robert Aitken has demonstrated over half a century a tireless commitment to its development, performance and promotion in every corner of the globe. As a flutist, composer, interpreter and teacher, he is a distinguished innovator and continues to exert a strong influence on upcoming generations."

**Final concert of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season, Sunday May 8 at the Music Gallery:**

KEE-YONG CHONG AND MALAYSIAN VOICES – Following on the success of last year's Lunar New Year concert and 2007's "Music from Beijing" we have been eager to explore other aspects of music from the Far East. Still in his thirties, Kee-Yong Chong is Malaysia's leading composer with a rare talent for fashioning an individual sound from modern instrumental techniques. His style is highly personal and innovative, yet deeply spiritual and lyrical in its own way. Chong will curate a concert of music by Malaysian composers which includes a new chamber flute concerto that he has composed especially for the occasion, a work which is dedicated to the victims of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Guest percussionist Aiyun Huang will also give the world premiere of Chong's *Bell Stone*.

Concert @ 8:00 | Introduction @ 7:15  
\$35 regular | \$25 seniors / arts workers | \$10 students  
Reservations 416.961.9594  
[www.NewMusicConcerts.com](http://www.NewMusicConcerts.com)



**Aiyun Huang** solo percussion  
**New Music Concerts Ensemble**  
**Robert Aitken** flute and direction

**Sunday May 8, 2011**  
**MALAYSIAN VOICES**  
The Music Gallery, 197 John St.

**Kee Yong Chong** (Malaysia 1971)

*Bell Stone* (2011) \* ☉

*Mourning the murder of an old  
banyan tree* (2002) \*

*Flute Concerto* (2011) \* ☉

**Chow Jun Yi** (Malaysia 1987)

*A Night Without Voices* (2009) \*

**Yii Kah Hoe** (Malaysia 1970)

*Wild Cursive* (2010) \*

**Tazul Izzan Tajuddin** (Malaysia 1969)

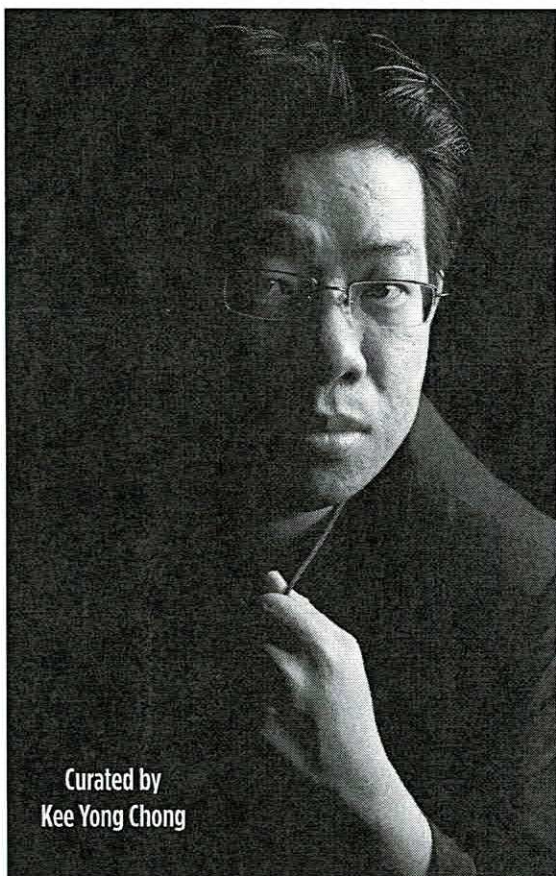
*Sebuah Tenunan IV*  
(Weaves IV) (2003) \*

**Neo Nai Wen** (Malaysia 1984)

*The Forgotten Sound* (2009) \*

\* Canadian premiere

☉ World premiere



Curated by  
**Kee Yong Chong**



Canada Council  
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Conseil des Arts  
du Canada



Canadian  
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# Malaysian Voices

Sunday May 8 2011 — 8:00 pm  
The Music Gallery | 197 John St.

▶ **\$5 DISCOUNT COUPON** ◀

\$35 regular | \$25 seniors/arts | \$10 students

NewMusicConcerts.com | 416.961.9594