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PATRICIA GREEN + MAX CHRISTIE
NMC BENEFIT CONCERT
 GALLERY 345 • SUNDAY JUNE 12 @ 7PM

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Robert Aitken, artistic director

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NEW MUSIC CONCERTS PRESENTS

NMC BENEFIT CONCERT

GALLERY 345 • SUNDAY JUNE 12 @ 7PM

PATRICIA GREEN, MEZZO-SOPRANO
MAX CHRISTIE, CLARINET
LINDA C. SMITH, PIANO

Programme:

- Dawn Aria** (from *Princess of the Stars*, 1981) **R. Murray Schafer** (1933)
- Gra** for solo clarinet (1993) **Elliott Carter** (1908)
- Autumn Leaves** (2000) **Xiao Hu** (1957)
- Text by Li Yu*
- The Wonderful Widow of Eighteen Springs** (1942) **John Cage** (1912-1992)
Text by James Joyce
- Poems of Louis Zukofsky** (2008) **Elliott Carter**
1. Tall and Singularly Dark 2. Alba 3. Finally a Valentine
4. O Sleep 5. The Rains 6. Rune 7. Strange
8. Daisy 9. You who were made for this music
- Film at Eleven** (Uncle Sam's Songbag) **Scott McAllister** (1969)
Text by Richard Wright
- Hyacinth** (1970) **Moonyeen Albrecht** (1955)
Text by Edna St Vincent Millay
- Nostalgia** (1995) **Linda C. Smith** (1957)
Text by composer

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New Music Concerts

Robert Aitken, c.m., Artistic Director

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PATRICIA GREEN, MEZZO-SOPRANO

Praised for "singing with a poignancy and molten resonance", Saskatchewan-born mezzo-soprano Patricia Green has gained international renown for her remarkable versatility and exceptional musicianship appearing at venues such as the Concertgebouw, Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, the National Centre of the Performing Arts in Mumbai, India, Glazunov Hall in St. Petersburg, Russia and the Kennedy Centre in Washington. Ms Green has worked with l'Orchestre de Radio-France, the Dutch Radio Philharmonic, the Northern Israel Symphony, the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Washington Bach Consort, Library of Congress Concerts, Washington Choral Arts, Bethlehem Bach Society, Soundstreams Canada, Opera in Concert, the U.S. Memorial Holocaust Museum series, and at many summer festivals.

Patricia Green has created more than 30 world premieres working with composers Boulez, Schafer, Ligeti, Dusapin, Laitman, Andriessen, Eggert, Ran, Thoressen, Del Tredici, Tann, Schwendinger, Holliger and Goehr performing with New Music Concerts, Robert Helps Festival, Vancouver New Music, Esprit Orchestra, New York's Cygnus, Theatre Chamber Players, MUSICA Festival, Nouvelles Musiques Montréal and Continuum (UK). She recently "brilliantly conveyed Marie's conflicted state" (Opera Canada) in Berg's *Wozzeck* at the Yerba Buena Arts Centre in San Francisco with Ensemble Parallèle and in a second production at the Astoria Festival (Oregon). Recently released CDs on the Blue Griffin Recording label with international rave reviews are: *UNSLEEPING – Songs of Living Composers* and *THE ICE AGE and BEYOND – Works of Canadian Women Composers*. A passionate educator, she is Associate Professor of Voice at the University of Western Ontario. www.patriciagreenmezzo.com

MAX CHRISTIE, CLARINET

Clarinetist Max Christie is recognized as one of Canada's most capable and adept performers of contemporary music. He has recorded the works of Harry Somers, Brian Current, Melissa Hui, Rudolph Komouros, Brian Cherney Elliott Carter and many other prominent composers. He is a sought-after collaborator whose facility on all the members of the clarinet family has become his calling card.

Christie has for nearly 20 years been the Principal Clarinet of the National Ballet Orchestra, performing in the pit some of the most beloved music of the classical repertoire, and at times joining the dancers on stage to perform Mozart's Clarinet Quintet in James Kudelka's ballet *Musings*.



The Ontario Arts Council is an agency of the Government of Ontario



As a member of Continuum Contemporary Ensemble, he recently returned from a successful tour of Britain and the Netherlands. The ensemble works on the broadest and most eclectic array of contemporary compositions, often incorporating elements of theatre into their performances. He has been principal clarinet with Esprit Orchestra for the past dozen years, in which time he has performed as a soloist and recorded numerous discs and film scores.

As a member of the New Music Concerts ensemble he has worked with some of the most celebrated composers on the international scene, including Pierre Boulez, Heinz Holliger, Roger Reynolds, and Elliott Carter. His performance of Michel Gonnevillle's *La Cheminement de la Baleine*, a double concerto for clarinet and Ondes Martenot, drew unqualified praise from the composer.

SONG TEXTS

Autumn Leaves (2000)

Xiao Hu (1957)

Text by Li Yu

Silently I ascend alone the western tower.
The moon is like a hook,
the desolate shaded courtyard locks in the
lucid autumn.

Snipped, it breaks not
Unraveled, it entwines again.
It is the sorrow of separation.
Not the usual sensation to the heart.

The Wonderful Widow of Eighteen Springs (1942) John Cage (1912-1992)

Text by James Joyce

Night by silent sailing night, Isobel, wildwoods eyes and primarose hair
quietly all the woods so wild in mauves of moss and daphne dewes
how all so still she lay 'neath of the white thorn, child of tree
like song lost happy leaf,
like blowing flower stilled
as fain would she anon
for soon again 'twill be
win me, woo me wed me
ah! weary me deeply....

now even calm lay sleeping, night, Isobel
sister Isobel, saintette Isobel,
madame Isa, veuvela belle

Poems of Louis Zukofsky (2008)

Elliott Carter

1. Tall and Singularly Dark

Tall and singularly dark you pass
among the breakers --companionship as of
another world bordering on this;
To the intelligence fastened by the senses
you are lost in a world of sunlight
where nothing is amiss:
For nothing but the sun is there
and peace vital with the sun,
The heaviest changes shift through
no feature more than a smile,
Currents spread, and are gone,
and as the high waves appear, you dive,
in the calming are as lost awhile.
How in that while intelligence escapes
from sense and fear with hurled human
might darkens upon bliss!
Till as again you stand above the waters
Fear turns to sleep as one who dreamt
of falling, an abyss.

2. Alba (1952)

In sleep where all that's past goes on—
a dawn loves more than sleep.
Clear as leaves of spring.
Loves no less, wintering,
Greener than summer goes--
A sleep gainsays the dawn.

3. Finally a Valentine

There is a heart—has no complaint
better apart than faint,
so the faintest part of it
has no complaint
a part.

4. O Sleep

O sleep, the sky goes down,
behind the poplars,
I scrape the gravel with my shoes
and toe the ties:
the milky moon is in the clearing.
Only the power plant hurries in winter.

5. The Rains

The rains, the rains toward spring pour thru
The winter night and freeze to hail.
Seasoned armies tested in defeat
retreating now in that order
they cannot yield,
no more than weather of their hemisphere:
The rain that turns to hail before the thunderstorms,
The rains, the rains of spring call out.

6. Rune

Rune ruinin' runs Mexico

7. Strange

Strange to reach that age
remember a tide
and full for a time be young.

8. Daisy

Bellis perennis daisy of history ing lace
water formed a hid pin-eyed thrumeyed
bre hon rule eve adam adam eve meadows
birth-hymn drupe-studded strawberry
oversell spring freeze whipperwill storm
pied daisy rays vogue
green erin discs may not excel white
double ray largess
sails gold-discs heritage
fort at Montauk.

9. You Who Were Made For This Music

You who were made for this music
or how else does it say
you, move thru your fingers, or your bow arm,
lead to this glory-- God has God's
but one's deepest conviction your art, its use

you, happy, by rote, by heart. Is thought?
What was broken was sense
but is happy again almost seen,
the first trembling of a string
a worth whose immortal ground drops so often
you plait viable strands for your use.
Or so pride loving itself looks to more
fortunate glory, with a power apart from the
trembling sense only glory restores.

Film at Eleven (Uncle Sam's Songbag)

Scott McAllister (1969)

Text by Richard Wright

Film at Eleven

I heard a news flash one day. Film at eleven
decapitated baby. fried and filleted.
I saw a news flash one day.
Pretty ballerina seven years old lying in the basement
what was her name?
I saw a news flash one day.
Mother driving children to a watery grave watching O.J. get away
while Jeffrey had an all you can eat buffet.
I heard a news flash one day. Film at eleven
I think I'll go to bed early.

Hyacinth (1970)

Moonyeen Albrecht (1955)

Text by Edna St Vincent Millay

I am in love with him to whom a hyacinth is dearer than I shall ever be dear.
On nights when the field mice are abroad he cannot sleep: he hears their
narrow teeth at the bulbs of his hyacinths.
but the gnawing at my heart,
he does not hear.

Nostalgia (1995)

Linda C. Smith (1957)

Text by Linda C. Smith

Nostalgia

A cigarette. and through the haze, the smoulder of your gaze. A slow
dance in an empty room. A sweet and melancholy tune
A melted ice cube in the bottom of a glass
The beauty of things past.

2011-2012 Season Highlights

Secret of the Seven Stars

September 25, 2011 – Glenn Gould Studio

World Premieres by Hope Lee and Andrew Staniland and works by Ann Southam, Thomas Kessler and Nicolas A. Huber with featured accordion soloists Joseph Macerollo and Ina Henning.

Percussion Symphony

October 30, 2011 – Betty Oliphant Theatre

Charles Wuorinen returns to Toronto for a performance of his extended work for 24 players organized by Rick Sacks who participated in the world premiere in 1976.

Celebrating the Originality of Globokar

December 11, 2011 – Betty Oliphant Theatre

The renowned composer-trombonist is featured in a concert of inventive spatial creations.

Legends

January 29, 2012 – Enwave Theatre

An evening of premieres inspired by cultural traditions: *Ballade for an Ancient Warrior* for percussion solo, soprano and ensemble by Alice Ping Yee Ho; *The Whitening of the Ox* for baritone and ensemble by Jeffrey Ryan and *Mehetapja* (Husband Killer) for three sopranos and ensemble by Omar Daniel.

Peter Eötvös

March 10, 2012 – Glenn Gould Studio

The prominent Hungarian composer conducts an evening of music by Zoltan Jeney, Igor Stravinsky and, of course, Eötvös.

The Korean Story with Sukhi Kang

May 6, 2012 – Betty Oliphant Theatre

The pioneering Korean composer curates a concert of works by his protégés including a world premiere by Sojeong Ahn.

(Programs subject to change without notice)