



Soundstreams presents

SQUEEZEBOX

February 10, 2016 at 8:00 pm, Trinity-St. Paul's Centre

Masters of the accordion family, including Joseph Macerollo and Michael Bridge, put a modern spin on this beloved instrument with works by R. Murray Schafer, Anna Pidgorna, and others.

Thursday, January 7 // Toronto – Soundstreams kicks off the new year with a cross-cultural concert celebrating all things accordion on February 10 at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre. Featuring pioneering Canadian accordionist **Joseph Macerollo** alongside one of his current protégés, **Michael Bridge**, the concert features various members of the accordion instrument family for a playful evening of contemporary works inspired by its folk, vaudeville, and traditional music roots. **Anna Pidgorna**, the first alumna of Soundstreams' Emerging Composer Workshop to receive a main stage commission, also premieres her new work for accordion and the Korean saenghwang.

Argentinean bandoneon player **Héctor del Curto** returns, following his acclaimed appearance in last season's *Encuentros* concert, to lead the audience on this new auditory adventure. Praised as a "splendid player" by *The New York Times*, del Curto will weave his popular tangos, by Astor Piazzolla and others, throughout the evening. He is joined by Canadian accordion master **Joseph Macerollo**, who has led the movement to bring this instrument to a concert setting over his extraordinary 60-year career. Macerollo will perform, with soprano **Carla Huhtanen**, one of the more than 200 works commissioned specifically for him, R. Murray Schafer's surreal *La Testa d'Adriana*. Dressed in a tattered tuxedo and top hat, he lures the audience to his side show, the bodiless head of a woman saved at the instant before her death. She is awakened by his music and sings an aria of gurgles, trills, whispers, and pops before subsiding once again into her comatose state. He will also revisit Alexina Louie's impressionistic *Refuge* for accordion, harp, and vibraphone, a study in textures exploiting the differences in sound between the three instruments, and featuring the piece's original harpist, **Erica Goodman**, and percussionist, **Beverley Johnston**.

Adding new flair to Macerollo's accordion revolution is his student, 22-year old virtuoso **Michael Bridge**. After making his solo orchestral debut with the Boston Pops at age 17, he has delighted audiences around the world with his innovative interpretations of classics and popular hits on both the acoustic and digital accordion. In this concert, he performs Marjan Mozetich's *Dance of the Blind* with string trio, a modern waltz reminiscent of the composer's Italo-Slovene musical heritage, as well as the world premiere of **Anna Pidgorna's** *On the Courtship Displays of Birds*, in which he and saenghwang player **gamin** are transformed into courting birds.

Anna Pidgorna's world premiere is supported by The Koerner Foundation.

Soundstreams' free Salon 21 at the Gardiner Museum on February 5 at 7:00 pm features an exploration of the accordion family of instruments, as well as performance demonstrations by Joseph Macerollo and Michael Bridge.

Squeezebox

February 10, 2016 at 8:00 pm

Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor Street West



Featuring:

Joseph Macerollo, accordion; **Michael Bridge**, accordion; **gamin**, saenghwang; **Héctor del Curto**, bandoneon; **Carla Huhtanen**, soprano; and assorted chamber ensembles.

Repertoire:

Marjan Mozetich

Dance of the Blind

Anna Pidgorna

On the Courtship Displays of Birds of Paradise

R. Murray Schafer

La Testa d'Adriane

Alexina Louie

Refuge

Astor Piazzolla

TBD

A pre-show chat with Artistic Director Lawrence Cherney will be held at 7:00 pm before the performance. Tickets range from \$22-\$67.50 and are available through The Royal Conservatory Box Office at 416-408-0208 or online at soundstreams.ca.

SOUNDSTREAMS 2015/2016 PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

The Music of James MacMillan

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 8:00 pm, Trinity-St. Paul's Centre

Electric Counterpoint (part of the **Ear Candy** series)

Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 8:00 pm, The Theatre Centre

Steve Reich at 80

Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 8:00 pm, Massey Hall

Soundstreams also offers [Salon 21](#), a free performance and discussion series at the Gardiner Museum.

ABOUT SOUNDSTREAMS

Led by Artistic Director Lawrence Cherney, Soundstreams showcases the work of living Canadian and international composers with a focus on innovative thematic and experiential programming. In collaboration with the finest Canadian and international artists, Soundstreams presents an annual concert series in Toronto as well as national and international tours. Soundstreams also serve the larger community through our free Salon 21 series at The Gardiner Museum, composer training activities, SoundWave program for music lovers under age 35, and digital performance space, including concert livestreams, SoundMakers website, and video content.

SOUNDSTREAMS SUPPORTERS

Soundstreams acknowledges the support of: Department of Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, TD Bank, BMO Financial Group, The Mary Margaret Webb Foundation, Metcalf Foundation, The Koerner Foundation, SOCAN Foundation, The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation, The RBC Emerging Artists Project, The Hal Jackman Foundation, Lloyd Carr-Harris Foundation, Ontario Arts Foundation, Classical 96.3 FM, NOW Magazine, The Gardiner Museum, Sovereign State, Harbord Bakery and Steam Whistle Brewery.

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