

Announcing Soundstreams'

2015/2016 CONCERT SERIES

Season to include: Steve Reich's 80th-birthday bash, soprano Adrienne Pieczonka, the accordion, Scottish composer/conductor James MacMillan, the North American premiere of the opera *Julie*, and two world premieres.

Wednesday, February 25 // Toronto – Innovative collaborations with Canadian Stage and Massey Hall and fresh sounds from virtuoso Canadian and international artists form the core of Soundstreams' inventive 2015/16 concert series. Featuring four concerts and the North American premiere of **Philippe Boesmans'** opera *Julie*, the season spans four of Toronto's most iconic venues, includes world premieres by **Analia Llugdar** and **Anna Pidgorna**, and closes with an epic 80th-birthday celebration for the father of minimalism, composer **Steve Reich**.

"We are literally bursting at the seams in 2015/2016," says Artistic Director Lawrence Cherney. "Our programming has always defied easy categorization, but each project next season exudes its own vitality, energy, and dramatic flair that will stretch boundaries and take us physically and aurally into amazing new spaces."

The season opens September 29, 2015 with **Adrienne Pieczonka: *Beyond the Aria*** at Koerner Hall. This concert is a rare opportunity to hear acclaimed Canadian soprano **Adrienne Pieczonka's** exquisite interpretations of an eclectic range of 20th-century repertoire, from **George Crumb's** haunting *Ancient Voices of Children* to **The Beatles**. Also featuring mezzo-soprano **Krisztina Szabó**, this evening reimagining the possibilities of voice and percussion includes a world premiere by **Analia Llugdar**.

August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*, considered one of the 19th-century's most shocking dramas, portrays a flirtation that turns into an erotic danse macabre between its aristocratic title character and her father's valet. In this exciting inaugural collaboration with **Canadian Stage**, Soundstreams presents the North American premiere of **Julie**, Belgian composer Philippe Boesmans' stunning 21st-century operatic adaptation of the Strindberg play, directed by Canadian Stage Artistic & General Director **Matthew Jocelyn**. With music direction by **Les Dala**, *Julie* runs for eight performances from November 17 to 29, 2015 at the Bluma Appel Theatre.

The series continues with **Squeezebox** at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre on February 10, 2016. From street music to concert hall, this cross-cultural carnival features the accordion and its extended family. Acclaimed Canadian accordionist **Joe Macerollo** joins Canadian wunderkind **Michael Bridge**, Argentinian bandoneón virtuoso **Héctor del Curto**, and saengwhang player **gamin** in a lively celebration featuring tango, works by **Marjan Mozetich** and **Alexina Louie**, and a world premiere by **Anna Pidgorna**.

Next up is **The Music of James MacMillan** on March 8, 2016 at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, an extraordinary night of choral music conducted by **James MacMillan**, Scotland's most celebrated composer and one of the world's most-performed living composers. Emotionally potent, rhythmically thrilling, and reflective of his Catholic faith and political conscience, the program includes R. Murray Schafer, J.S. Bach, and MacMillan's own spellbinding cantata *Seven Last Words from the Cross*, justly regarded as one of his masterpieces.

The season concludes with **Steve Reich at 80** on April 14, 2016 at Massey Hall, presented in partnership with **The Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall**. **Steve Reich**, the Pulitzer Prize-winning father of minimalism has had a profound impact on the contemporary music scene, influencing artists as diverse as Radiohead and John Adams. Having showcased many of his compositions over the years,

Soundstreams welcomes this musical legend to the stage for an epic 80th-birthday bash with special guests and featuring *Clapping Music*, the iconic *Music for 18 Musicians*, and the Canadian premiere of *Tehillim*.

“Soundstreams is committed to presenting new and innovative programs that illustrate Canada’s growing position in the music world,” says Executive Director Susan Worthington. “This season, we continue to put the finest Canadian and international artists on our stages, engaging our audiences with unique and thrilling works that convey the breadth of human experience.”

2015/2016 Subscriptions are available now by calling the Soundstreams office at 416-504-1282 or online at www.soundstreams.ca

2015/2016 CONCERT SERIES

Adrienne Pieczonka: Beyond the Aria

Tuesday, September 29, 2015, 8:00 pm, Koerner Hall, TELUS Centre

Her voice hailed as “impeccably pure and iridescent,” Canadian soprano Adrienne Pieczonka has dazzled opera lovers in Europe, North America, and Asia. Now comes a rare opportunity to hear her gorgeous interpretations of contemporary repertoire, including George Crumb’s *Ancient Voices of Children*, a haunting sonic exploration of poems by Federico García Lorca that she first performed for Soundstreams in 1988. Mezzo-soprano Krisztina Szabó joins Pieczonka and a chamber orchestra for this electric evening reimagining the possibilities of voice and percussion, which also features a world premiere by Analia Llugdar, selections from Crumb’s *American Songbook*, and Luciano Berio’s arrangements of songs by Kurt Weill, and Lennon and McCartney.

Julie

Composed by Philippe Boesmans

Libretto by Luc Bondy & Marie-Louise Bischofberger

November 17-29, 2015, Bluma Appel Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts

Depicting a flirtation that turns into an erotic danse macabre between its aristocratic title character and her father’s valet, August Strindberg’s *Miss Julie* was considered too scandalous to be produced when it was written in 1888—only to become a defining classic of modern drama. In this innovative inaugural collaboration, Soundstreams and Canadian Stage present the North American premiere of the acclaimed chamber-opera adaptation of Strindberg’s play. Canadian Stage Artistic & General Director Matthew Jocelyn directs this landmark tragedy of social and sexual transgression, brilliantly captured by Belgium’s Philippe Boesmans, one of the pre-eminent opera composers of our time. With music direction by Les Dala.

A Canadian Stage production presented in association with Soundstreams with support from The Théâtre d’Orléans, France.

Squeezebox

Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 8:00 pm, Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre

The accordion, the concertina, the Argentinian bandoneón, the Russian bayan, the Chinese sheng, the Korean saengwhang: all belong to a global family of instruments whose distinctive sounds bring as lively a presence to the concert hall as to the organ grinder’s street corner. Acclaimed Canadian accordionist Joe

Macerollo joins Canadian wunderkind Michael Bridge, Argentinian bandoneón virtuoso Héctor del Curto, and saengwhang player gamin in a multi-cultural celebration of the “squeezebox” accompanied by a small chamber ensemble. Including tangos and works by Canadians Marjan Mozetich and Alexina Louie, the program also features a world premiere by Anna Pidgorna, one of Canada’s most exciting emerging composers.

The Music of James MacMillan

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

Emotionally potent, rhythmically thrilling, and richly reflective of its creator’s Catholic faith, Celtic cultural roots, and outspoken political conscience, the work of Scottish composer and conductor James MacMillan has won international critical and popular acclaim. MacMillan himself conducts Choir 21 and the Virtuoso String Orchestra in a program comprising R. Murray Schafer, J.S. Bach, and his own *Seven Last Words from the Cross*. Combining dramatic narrative with spiritual meditation, this spellbinding sequence of seven adagio movements, inspired by the four gospel accounts of the Crucifixion, is justly regarded as one of his masterpieces.

Steve Reich at 80

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

Hailed by *The New York Times* as “our greatest living composer,” Steve Reich turns 80 in 2016. In devising a whole new way of thinking about music, the Pulitzer Prize-winning father of minimalism has had a profound impact on the contemporary music scene, influencing artists as diverse as Radiohead and John Adams. Having showcased many of Reich’s compositions over the years, among them the 2010 world premiere of *Mallet Quartet*, Soundstreams welcomes this musical legend to the stage for a birthday bash with special guests and featuring *Clapping Music*, the iconic *Music for 18 Musicians*, and the Canadian premiere of *Tehillim*,

Presented in partnership with The Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall.

ABOUT SOUNDSTREAMS

Led by Artistic Director Lawrence Cherney and Executive Director Susan Worthington, Soundstreams is a Toronto-based music presenter that commissions, develops, and showcases the work of contemporary Canadian composers and their international counterparts. These innovative collaborations are performed by the finest artists from Canada and around the world, and are presented in an annual concert series, online in our digital concert hall, in our Salon 21 series at The Gardiner Museum, in national and international tours, and through a variety of outreach activities including the annual Emerging Composers Workshop.

SOUNDSTREAMS SUPPORTERS

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