SOUNDSTREAMS

LAWRENCE CHERNEY, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Uniquely Soundstreams cultivating and regenerating new music for chamber ensemble, choir & opera.

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Welcome to our 43rd season!



When legendary comedian George Burns turned 90, he famously said that if he'd known he was going to live that long, he would have taken better care of himself. Since founding Soundstreams in 1982, we've taken care of ourselves well enough to be able to continue telling compelling Canadian stories that resonate deeply with our time and place. And extraordinary as the pandemic was, Canada and the world now face an uncertain future in ways that are unprecedented in our lifetimes.

As storytellers, we alone can't bring stability to a fractured world. But through stories we can bring reflection upon, and context to, our world. Two programs speak to some of the great social justice issues of our time. *Mass for the Endangered*, an ode to the impact of humanity on the natural world, is universal in its exploration of how we must reimagine our relationship to the Earth. *In Terra Pax* (On Earth, Peace) is a meditation on war and peace in a world that is increasingly turning to aggression—military, economic and social—as a means of coercing submission. However, in spite of all those challenges, these Soundstreams programs speak eloquently to our capacity for change, and for finding hope in the midst of all.

Two other programs explore relationships: those with other humans; and spiritual relationships. In what will surely be one of the great choral events of the decade, the legendary *Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir* returns to celebrate Arvo Pärt's 90th birthday in a program of spiritual masterpieces. *Love Songs* takes a lighthearted, but nevertheless, profound look at our love for each other, even touching on how technology has influenced the ways we express that love.

Throughout the season, you'll find a heady mix of world premieres by Canadian and international composers, both established and emerging. *With Strings Attached: Quatuor Bozzini* has both, including six short new string quartets by participants in Soundstreams Bridges Emerging Composers Program.

We're so looking forward to sharing the season with you!

Lawrence Cherney Founding Artistic Director oundstreams Choir 21, Ensemble Soundstreams, Tõnu Kaljuste / Photo by Cylla von Tiedemann

Mass for the Endangered

November 22, 2025 7:30 pm Jeanne Lamon Hall, Trinity-St. Paul's Centre

FEATURED PERFORMERS David Fallis, Conductor Soundstreams Choir 21 Ensemble Soundstreams Hailed by National Public Radio as "one of today's most compelling composers for the human voice," **Sarah Kirkland Snider**'s *Mass for the Endangered* is a poignant choral meditation on the fragility of our natural world. Blending Nathaniel Bellows' evocative poetry with the traditional Latin Mass, this work is a plea for compassion and stewardship in the face of environmental crisis. Also presented alongside this work is **Andrew Balfour**'s *Gaze Upon the Trees*, and **R. Murray Schafer**'s virtuosic *Wild Bird* for violin and harp. Soundstreams' opening concert is a deeply moving reflection on our responsibility, relationship and connectivity to the planet and its creatures.

Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir Arvo Pärt at 90

February 14, 2026 7:30 pm Yorkminster Park Baptist Church

FEATURED PERFORMERS Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir

Tõnu Kaljuste, Artistic Director

Destined to be one of the great choral events of the decade, the world-renowned Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir (EPCC), led by esteemed founder and conductor Tõnu Kaljuste, returns to Toronto for a tribute to Arvo Pärt's 90th birthday. A favourite of Toronto audiences, the EPCC has captivated listeners under Soundstreams' auspices since 2000, with concerts that regularly sell out. Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience their luminous sound in the acoustic splendor of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. The program features some of Pärt's most celebrated works, alongside works by Philip Glass, Luciano Berio, and others. It also includes the world premiere of a new Soundstreams commission by adding a special local touch to this celebration of the legendary Estonian composer.

Estonian Philharmonic Chamber (Photo by Kaupo Kikkas



With Strings Attached: Quatuor Bozzini in Three Premieres

March 21, 2026 7:30 pm Jane Mallett Theatre

FEATURED PERFORMERS Quatuor Bozzini: Clemens Merkel, violin Alissa Cheung, violin Stéphanie Bozzini, viola Isabelle Bozzini, cello

Renowned for their "extraordinary playing" (The New Yorker). Montreal's Quatuor Bozzini is a bold force in contemporary music, known for their unmistakable sound and deep commitment to new and experimental works. In this innovative program, they bring to life three world premieres co-commissioned with New York's Time:Spans Festival and Montreal's Le Vivier. Hear their interpretation of brand-new works by internationally acclaimed Canadian composers Taylor Brook, Zosha Di Castri, and Cassandra Miller. This concert will include the world premieres of six short, compelling new works by participants in the Soundstreams Bridges Emerging Composers Program, developed under the mentorship of Zosha Di Castri and Cassandra Miller. As a highlight of each Soundstreams season, the Bridges Showcase unites a bold new generation of Canadian and international voices.

Love Songs

April 9, 2026 7:30 pm Jane Mallett Theatre

FEATURED PERFORMERS David Fallis, Music Director Carla Huhtanen, soprano Gregory Oh, piano Noam Bierstone, percussion

Soundstreams' *Love Songs*—for seven singers, piano and percussion, explores love, identity, connection, and censorship through works that challenge and captivate. At the heart of the program are **Claude Vivier**'s *Love Songs* and *Shiraz*—two intensely personal and spiritual works shaped in part by his travels to Japan, Indonesia and Iran. Previously toured by Soundstreams to the U.K. and Germany, London's *The Guardian* hailed Vivier's music in this program as "unruly and utterly distinctive." **Ana Sokolović**'s *Dring! Dring!* playfully reflects on our complex relationship with our cell phones, and **Nicole Lizée**'s *The Filthy Fifteen*, inspired by a 1985 list of songs compiled in the USA and deemed too obscene for public consumption, takes a subversive look at artistic censorship and the boundaries of expression. Together, these works challenge and captivate offering a striking meditation on identity, connection, and the forces that shape what we hear, say, and create.

> Love Songs (Claude Vivier) Southbank Centre, Purcell Room, 2022 Photo by Tristram Kenton



In Terra Pax

May 9, 2026 7:30 pm Jane Mallett Theatre

FEATURED PERFORMERS Anna Pidgorna, vocals Steven Dann, viola Anna Sagalova, piano Ensemble Soundstreams In Terra Pax (On Earth, Peace), closes Soundstreams' season with a powerful reflection on war, loss, and resilience. Curated by Anna Pidgorna - winner of our New Voices Curator Mentorship Program — the concert features Pidgorna as composer and vocalist, displaced Ukrainian pianist Anna Sagalova now based in Vancouver, and violist Steven Dann. At the heart of this program is Black Crow, a new commission by Pidgorna for voice, piano, and string orchestra, inspired by the poetry of the late Victoria Amelina, rooted in the Ukrainian tradition of female lamentation. Benjamin Britten's iconic Lachrymae for solo viola and string orchestra, along with works by Tonu Korvits, Linda Catlin Smith, and Oleksiy Voytenko, round out the program. The concert features projections of haunting Ukrainian landscapes by acclaimed photographer Yevhen Samuchenko.

Zoe Markle and Kalaisan Kalaichelvan Photo by Cylla von Tiedemann

Soundstreams Presents: TD Encounters

WE WELCOME YOU TO ENJOY OUR FREE CONCERT SERIES:

Soundstreams TD Encounters is a series of free events hosted in venues across the city. Always offering something different, these events are equal parts performance, artist discussion, and Q&A, and give audiences the opportunity to engage with artists and their work in an intimate and relaxed setting. Visit soundstreams.ca for further details throughout the 25/26 season.

This program is supported by TD Bank Group through the TD Ready Commitment.



Forgotten Heart Photo by Yevhen Samuel



This season we celebrate Arvo Pärt's 90th birthday, and next fall 2026, Soundstreams celebrates Steve Reich's 90th with a co-commissioned world premiere. Subscribers to our '25-26 season get exclusive priority seating for the Reich event in '26-27. Subscribe now!

SOUNDSTREAMS 2025/26 SEASON

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SOUNDWAVES

Soundstreams also offers a special discounted program for Students, Frontline Workers, Arts Workers, and Under-employed. Soundwaves patrons are given best available seating at the time of booking.

SOUNDSTREAMS 2024/25 SEASON PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Mass for the Endangered Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir With Strings Attached: Quatuor Bozzini Love Songs In Terra Pax

November 22, 2025 at 7:30pm February 14, 2026 at 7:30pm March 21, 2026 at 7:30pm April 9, 2026 at 7:30pm May 9, 2026 7:30pm

Choose three, four, or five concerts and choose your seating level Subscribe online at soundstreams.ca or by phone at 416.504.1282, x106

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"[Soundstreams] programming is consistently the best in Toronto,

giving us a chance to hear many rarely played works in their intended form — in flesh." — Cecilia Lee, Ludwig van Toronto

25

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