

new music concerts presents
Vancouver New Music



8:00 pm Wednesday January 22 1997 (free admission)
The Gallery School / Art Gallery of Ontario

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As the fourth concert of its 1996-97 season, **new music concerts** in partnership with the **Art Gallery of Ontario** is pleased to present the **Vancouver New Music** ensemble in the first appearance of their 25th anniversary tour.

The **Vancouver New Music** ensemble, comprised of some of the finest of Vancouver's professional musicians, has been the core performance group of Vancouver New Music Society for over a decade. They have developed an extraordinary flexibility as an ensemble and an acute sensitivity to the special demands of contemporary music performance. The ensemble, under conductor Owen Underhill, has commissioned over 40 works by Canadian composers and premièred numerous other works by John Abram, Janet Danielson, Jose Evangelista, Peter Hannan, Peter Hatch, John Rea and Linda C. Smith.

The Vancouver New Music Society was founded in 1972 by a group of musicians, radio producers, and university teachers, including Ian Hampton, George Laverock, Phyllis Mailing and Simon Streatfield, to initiate performances of contemporary works. At first, attention was given to early 20th century works — Webern, Berg, and the young Stravinsky. In 1973 the emphasis shifted to newer music. Theatrical works have often been presented, including music dramas by Birtwistle, Stravinsky, Davies, Nyman, Komorous and Vivier.

The society employs Vancouver musicians but prior to 1987, when Owen Underhill was appointed as its first artistic director, regularly imported guest conductors, including Lukas Foss (1974), Udo Kasemets, Serge Garant, and Peter Maxwell Davies (1976). Such foreign groups as Les Percussions de Strasbourg (1973), the Warsaw Music Workshop, the Kronos String Quartet, and Davies' Fires of

London (all in 1976), Stuttgart's Trio Ex Voco (1977), and Tashi (1979) have been presented. Other composers and performers from abroad have included Louis Andriessen, John Cage, Philip Glass, Vinko Globokar, Heinz Holliger, Meredith Monk, Steve Reich, Terry Riley, Morton Subotnick, Frances Marie Uitti, Kevin Volans, the New Music Indonesia gamelan, the Schoenberg Ensemble, and Margaret Leng Tan. An average of seven concerts have been presented annually and most of these have been recorded for nationwide broadcast on the CBC radio program 'Two New Hours'. The Ensemble's first cd, *West Light*, was released in 1990 and included works by Rudolf Komorous, Rodney Sharman, and Owen Underhill. In 1995 they recorded repertoire by Michael Bushnell, Christopher Butterfield, Jo Kondo, Alexina Louie, Michael O'Neill, and Toru Takemitsu for a soon-to-be-released CBC disc.

Included in the evening's programme of music devoted to Vancouver composers are three **world premières**: *Wings of Mercury* by UBC Computer Music Studio director Keith Hamel, Barry Truax's *Wings of Fire* for cello and tape with cellist Susan Round and *Hinge* for piano and ensemble by VNMS artistic director Owen Underhill. Flutist Kathryn Cernauskas will be featured in a performance of Michael Bushnell's *The Elusive Cabinet*. The full eight-member ensemble will also perform Janet Danielson's *Igniting the Dawn*, Michael Longton's *Octet* and two instrumental miniatures by composers Rudolf Komorous and Rodney Sharman.

The concert takes place on **Wednesday January 22, 1997 at 8 pm** in the **Gallery School of the Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. W.**
new music concerts artistic director **Robert Aitken** will host a
pre-concert discussion with the artists at **7:15.**

ADMISSIONS TO THE GALLERY AND CONCERT ARE FREE AFTER 5PM.



The Canada Council
Conseil des Arts du Canada

Vancouver New Music is supported in part by the City of Vancouver and the Province of BC through the Ministry of Small Business, Tourism & Culture. Their appearance is made possible with the assistance of the Touring Office of the Canada Council and The SOCAN Foundation.



SOCAN
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New Music

Friday, October 11th, 1996, 8PM, Glenn Gould Studio

John Beckwith ...a portrait

Sunday, December 8th, 1996, 8PM, duMaurier Theatre

Luigi Nono...a portrait

Wednesday, January 22nd, 1997, 8PM at the AGO

Vancouver New Music Society

Thursday, February 20th, 1997, 8PM, Glenn Gould Studio

Takemitsu remembered

Sunday, March 2nd, 1997, 8 PM, The Design Exchange

Der Weltbaumeister

Sunday, June 1st, 1997, 8PM, Glenn Gould Studio

Canadian Encounters

96 **Concerts** 97

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