

New Music Concerts

Robert Aitken, c.m., Brian Current, co-Artistic Directors

157 Carlton Street, Ste. 203 • Toronto M5A 2K3 • 416-961-9594

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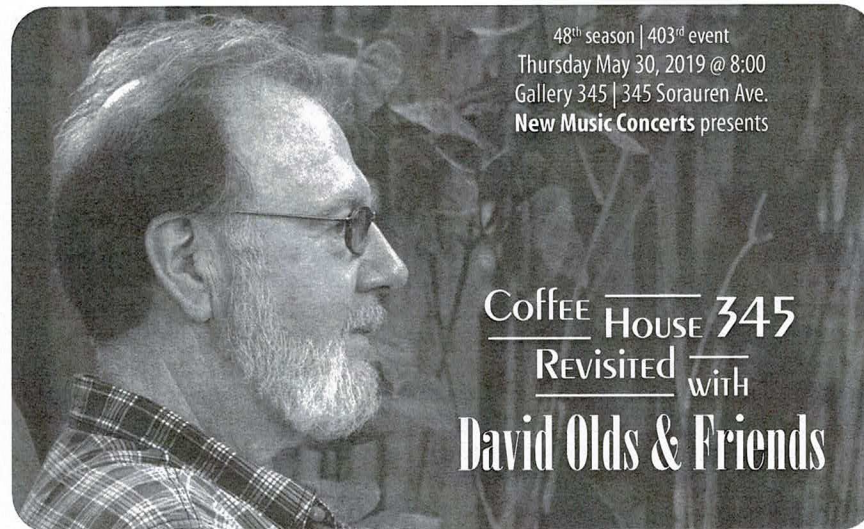


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48th season | 403rd event

Thursday May 30, 2019 @ 8:00

Gallery 345 | 345 Sorauren Ave.

New Music Concerts presents

Coffee House 345
REVISITED with
David Olds & Friends

Set One: David Olds

Tangled Up in Blue (Bob Dylan) • The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald (Gordon Lightfoot)
Northern Journey (Ian Tamblyn) • One of Us Cannot be Wrong (Leonard Cohen)
America (Paul Simon) • Blind Again (Norm Hacking) • Rain Keeps Falling (Shine on You) (David Olds)
Everybody's Talkin' (Fred Neil) • Strange Feelin' (Tim Buckley)

Set Two: David and Friends

With Sheryl Keith

The Swimming Song (Loudon Wainwright III) • Angel from Montgomery (John Prine)
Pure Spring Water/Don't Let Me Down (Fraser & DeBolt/Lennon & McCartney)

With Sy Potma

The Dutchman (Michael Smith) • Lace and Pretty Flowers (Willie P. Bennett)
No Southern Comfort (Jon Randall Stewart)

With David Perlman

When I'm Gone (Phil Ochs) • Mindjoy (David Perlman)
By-law Blues (David Perlman)

With everybody

Moon Dance (Van Morrison) • You Ain't Goin' Nowhere (Bob Dylan)

David Olds is known across Canada as a broadcaster, annotator and administrator specializing in contemporary music and its dissemination. In 1993, as a result of his work as producer and host of "Transfigured Night" at CKLN-FM, he was awarded the first Canadian League of Composers Award (now the Friends of Canadian Music Award) for his "exceptional commitment to Canadian Composers." He served as a music programmer/producer at CJRT-FM from 1993-1998 and in 1999-2000 David produced "Canadian Currents," a series of 52 in-depth radio programs exploring the Canadian contemporary classical music scene for the Canadian Music Centre. Since 1999, he has been general manager of English Canada's senior contemporary music society New Music Concerts. David has been the editor of DISCoveries, WholeNote magazine's CD review section, since its inception in 2001. He was the convener of the Toronto Coalition of New Music Presenters (now the Toronto New Music Alliance) from 2000 to 2007, is a founding member of the Canadian Electroacoustic Community and the Canadian New Music Network, has been a voting member of both the Canadian Music Centre and The Music Gallery, and from 2007 to 2009 he served on the Toronto Arts Council's Music Committee.

Perhaps less well known is the fact that David is active as a folksinger and guitarist who made his first public appearance at the age of 12. In addition to a few original compositions, his repertoire includes music of such singer/songwriters and pop icons as James Taylor, Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Bruce Springsteen, Paul Simon, Gram Parsons, Tim Buckley, Fred Neil, Loudon Wainwright III and Canadians Leonard Cohen, Willie P. Bennett, Gordon Lightfoot, Ian Tamblyn, Norm Hacking, Allan Fraser and Daisy Debolt. His musical activities also include playing the cello in chamber ensembles with repertoire spanning Bach to Shostakovich.

The 2018-2019 season marks my last with New Music Concerts. I will retire in September after helping the organization transition to a new administrator. This evening is meant as a fond farewell and thank you to all the friends and colleagues I've had the pleasure and privilege of working with over the past 20 years, especially my dear, dear friend Robert Aitken. I will not be a stranger to NMC going forward however, and music making will continue to be an important part of my life in retirement. Among other projects, I intend to get better acquainted with the banjo, Appalachian dulcimer and small accordion that I have acquired in recent years, so my hands will by no means be idle. This evening I am joined by several old friends with whom I love to play to give you a taste of that other side of my musical life, and we will be singing some of my very favourite songs. — *David Olds*

Contact: david.olds@sympatico.ca

Link to previous Coffee House 345 set on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=628eBZT5q9I

About New Music Concerts

Having just completed its 48th season, New Music Concerts continues to be a vital and central part of Toronto's new music scene and has been providing a leadership role in the community throughout its history. Founded by internationally acclaimed Canadian musicians Robert Aitken and Norma Beecroft, NMC presented its first concert in January 1972 with guest composer/conductor Luciano Berio. Since that time many world renowned composers including such luminaries as John Adams, Harrison Birtwistle, Pierre Boulez, John Cage, Elliott Carter, George Crumb, Peter Maxwell Davies, Morton Feldman, Philip Glass, Heinz Holliger, Maurizio Kagel, Helmut Lachenmann, Steve Reich, Toru Takemitsu, Iannis Xenakis, Walter Zimmermann and early in their careers rising stars including Tan Dun, Toshio Hosokawa, Jörg Widmann and Raminta Serksnyte have come to Toronto at NMC's invitation. NMC's long history of diverse presentation activity with particular emphasis on Canadian creations and the active participation of challenging compositional voices from around the globe makes it unique. Thanks to the relationships that Artistic Director Robert Aitken has cultivated throughout his career, New Music Concerts is able to entice world renowned composers to Toronto who might otherwise not come here, thereby adding an international level of excellence to our city's arts scene. Our strong support of Canadian composers through commissions and performances and by combining them with international artists has kept us at the top of our field. As English Canada's senior contemporary music society, NMC's role has evolved over the years. Current programs reflect the ongoing concern to balance all aspects of our mandate to profile established and emerging Canadian and international composers. Encouraging creativity, innovative programming and interesting ways of presenting contemporary music are all vital parts of our policy and artists, programs and projects are selected and developed with this in mind. Since its inception NMC has presented over 400 concerts, commissioned more than 180 Canadian and international works and performed some 750 Canadian and world premieres. In the coming season Brian Current will assume the position of Co-Artistic Director, sharing duties with Robert Aitken.

Founding Artistic Director Robert Aitken

Having previously served as principal flute for the Vancouver and Toronto Symphony Orchestras, Robert Aitken embarked on a solo career in 1970 that continues to this day. He has more than 70 recordings to his credit and such notables as John Cage, George Crumb, Elliott Carter, Mauricio Kagel, Toru Takemitsu, Gilles Tremblay, John Beckwith and R. Murray Schafer have dedicated works to him. In 2003 he was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Flute Association (USA) and invited to sit on the NFA's board of directors. In 2004 he retired after 16 years as Professor für Flöte at the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, Germany. Aitken has been honoured with the Order of Canada and is a Chevalier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres (France). When citing Aitken for the 2009 Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts, the jury stated "A masterly force in the world of contemporary Canadian music, Robert Aitken has demonstrated over half a century a tireless commitment to its development, performance and promotion in every corner of the globe. As a flutist, composer, interpreter and teacher, he is a distinguished innovator and continues to exert a strong influence on upcoming generations."