

# 2021 — 2022 NMC Concert Season

## Crossing Over

### A Message from NMC's Board of Directors

The NMC (New Music Concerts) Board of Directors is thrilled to welcome Brian Current to the position of Artistic Director. Brian is an award-winning Canadian composer, whose music has been performed by major orchestras and renowned music ensembles at home and around the world. He is a sought-after conductor, whose openness and passion for new developments in contemporary music is extraordinary. And for many years he has been, and continues to be, a cherished teacher and mentor to emerging generations of musicians. He has a talent for making the world of new music accessible to all audiences while meeting challenges the material can present to his musicians in the most professional and efficient manner.

After the significant 50-year leadership of Robert Aitken, the role of re-envisioning and executing a ground-breaking future for NMC now rests with Brian Current and

the dynamic NMC team. Brian Current has his finger on the pulse of the times - political and cultural as well as musical. He brings to NMC a welcome vision of inclusivity and a desire to collaborate with a wide range of diverse communities both in Canada and internationally. We look forward to supporting Brian as he transforms the ways in which NMC engages its audience and participates in this vital field of the arts. We know that Brian will surprise us all with revolutionary programming ideas and fresh modes of dialogue and interaction with the Toronto new music community and beyond.

### Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. Today Toronto is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, work, and live on this island.

### About the Organization

Brian Current, Artistic Director  
Adam Scime, General Manager

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Doina Popescu, President  
George Bulat, Secretary-Treasurer  
David Jaeger, c.m.  
Kerrie Blaise  
Eliot Britton

**DIRECTORS EMERITI**  
Austin Clarkson  
Mary Morrison, o.c.  
Michael Koerner, c.m.

Robert Aitken c.m, Co-founder  
Norma Beecroft, Co-founder

### Greetings From NMC's Artistic Director

Welcome back to live music. NMC is thrilled to embark upon a bold new era of channeling the limitless power of music to traverse all boundaries: between musical traditions, between humans and technology, even between music and memory.

This Fall we continue our virtual programming filmed at magnificent Koerner Hall. Not Alone explores our musical relationship to cutting-edge technology and features Luigi Nono's La Fabbrica Illuminata, the first-ever piece written for voice and electronics. Aulos celebrates the world-class accomplishments of our Founding Artistic Director Robert Aitken who led NMC through no less than fifty incredible, ground-breaking seasons. Finally, we continue our signature Commissions for Distanced Ensemble with five genre-bending World Premieres.

In the Spring, join us in person as we emerge from the Covid era into a renaissance of exceptional live music. Celebrate our collective rebirth with the discovery of extraordinary guest co-curators Seth Parker Woods, Keiko Devaux and Sandeep Bhagwati, who each bring an unmissable voice to our stages.

It is an exciting new era for NMC and we sincerely hope that you will be a part of it.

No matter where you come from, if you love adventurous music, you will always have a home at NMC.

Brian Current  
Artistic Director



### NMC gratefully acknowledges the support of:

- The Canada Council for the Arts
- Canadian Heritage
- The Toronto Arts Council
- The Ontario Arts Council
- The Amphion Foundation
- The Merryweather Fund
- The Michael and Sonja Koerner Foundation
- The SOCAN Foundation
- The Royal Conservatory of Music
- Tapestry Opera
- The Azrieli Foundation
- Steam Whistle Brewery



Bruno Mantovani  
Composer



George Lewis  
Composer



Rebekah Cummings  
Composer



Luigi Nono  
Composer



Malin Bång  
Composer

## Not Alone — Oct.28.21

Broadcast Free Online from Koerner Hall

Exquisite contemporary works for soloists and electronics as performed by NMC's exceptional musicians.

Online Broadcast @ 8pm  
Virtual Introduction @ 7:15pm

Featuring:

Leslie Newman — Flute  
Amahl Arulanandam — Cello  
Aysel Taghi-Zada — Violin  
Rob MacDonald — Guitar  
Rick Sacks — Percussion  
Maev Palmer — Soprano  
Adam Scime — Electronics



Michael van der Aa  
Composer

PROGRAM:

George Lewis (USA) *Emergent for Flute and Electronics* (2014)  
Malin Bång (SWE) *Purfling for Violin and Electronics* (2011)  
Michael van der Aa (NLD) *Auburn for Guitar and Electronics* (1994)  
Rebekah Cummings (CAN) *Forget for Cello and Electronics* (2016)  
Bruno Mantovani (FRA) *Le Grand Jeu for Percussion and Electronics* (1998–1999)  
Luigi Nono (ITA) *La Fabbrica Illuminata for Soprano and Electronics* (1964)



Hilda Paredes  
Composer

## Aulos — Nov.21

Broadcast Free Online From Koerner Hall  
Throughout November

Virtuoso music for flutes, featuring Robert Aitken and Dianne Aitken

BROADCAST 1 NOVEMBER 11, 2021 @8PM

Shawn E. Okpebholo (USA) *On a Poem by Miho Nonaka: Harvard Square for Flute* (2013)  
Toru Takemitsu (JPN) *Masque: Continuo & Incidental, Incidental II for Two Flutes* (1959–1961)

BROADCAST 2 NOVEMBER 18, 2021 @8PM

Maurice Ohana (FRA) *Satyres for Two Flutes* (1976)  
Hilda Paredes (MEX) *Chacazidib for Piccolo* (1992)  
Hitomi Kaneko (JPN) *Miyabi for Two Flutes* (1991)

BROADCAST 3 NOVEMBER 25, 2021 @8PM

Yoshihisa Taira (JPN/FRA) *Maya for Bass Flute* (1972)  
Thorkell Sigurbjörnsson (ISL) *Kalais for Flute* (1976)  
Diego Luzuriaga (ECA) *Paris-Yangana-Paris for Flute* (1984) and *Tierra... tierra... for Flute/Piccolo and Flute/Alto Flute* (1992)



Toru Takemitsu  
Composer



Shawn E. Okpebholo  
Composer

# 2021 — 2022

## Imagined Sounds — Apr.10.22

Co-curated by Keiko Devaux  
Steam Whistle Brewery  
Pilsner Hall, 255 Bremner Blvd.



Tyshawn Sorey  
Composer



David Lang  
Composer



Cassandra Miller  
Composer



Olivier Alary  
Composer



Keiko Devaux  
Co-Curator



Margaretta Jeric  
Composer



Carolyn Chen  
Composer

Celebrated composer Keiko Devaux curates a concert of exciting new works to accompany her Azrieli Prize-winning work *Arras*. Each piece examines our relationship with musical memory. This concert also features the direction of Juliane Gallant in collaboration with Tapestry Opera's Women in Musical Leadership Project. This concert is generously supported by the Azrieli Foundation

Concert @ 8pm  
Introduction @ 7:15pm

PROGRAM:

Keiko Devaux (CAN) *Arras* (2020)  
Tyshawn Sorey (USA) *Sentimental Shards* (2014)  
Carolyn Chen (USA) *Oceans in Oceans* (2014)  
Cassandra Miller (CAN) *Bel Canto* (2010)  
Olivier Alary (FRA) *Rest* (2018)  
Margaretta Jeric (CAN) *New Work\**  
David Lang (USA) *I Lie* (2001)

\*world premiere commissioned by Chantal Perrot

## Difficult Grace: Seth Parker Woods in Concert — Mar.10.22

The Harbourfront Theatre  
231 Queen's Quay West

Evocative, theatrical, and genre-bending, *Difficult Grace* is an evening-length, multimedia concert tour de force conceived by and featuring cellist Seth Parker Woods in the triple role of cellist, narrator/guide, and movement artist. It draws inspiration from *The Great Migration*, historic events from the *Chicago Defender*, acts of translation, and commentaries on the human condition.

Concert @ 8pm  
Introduction @ 7:15pm

PROGRAM:

Lembit Beecher (USA) *Suite* (2020)  
Monty Adkins (UK) *Winter Tendrils* (2020)  
Fredrick Gifford (USA) *Difficult Grace* (2019)  
Nathalie Joachim (USA) *The Race: 1915* (2019)  
Alvin Singleton (USA) *Argoru II* (1970)  
Freida Abtan (CAN) *My Heart is a River* (2020)  
Pierre Alexandre Tremblay (CAN) *asinglewordisnotenough 3 [invariant]* (2015)



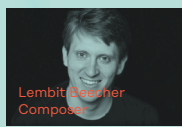
Seth Parker Woods  
Cello



Freida Abtan  
Composer



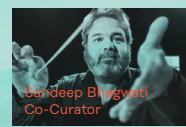
Alvin Singleton  
Composer



Lembit Beecher  
Composer



Juro Kim Feliz  
Composer



Sandeep Bhagwati  
Co-Curator



Bekah Simms  
Composer



James O'Callaghan  
Composer

## 50th Anniversary Commissions for Distanced Ensemble

Broadcast Free Online Throughout 2021-2023

Five composers, along with over fifty musicians, continue NMC's genre-bending series of new works for *Distanced Ensemble*, where composers are asked to imagine and create musical videos featuring musicians playing from their homes. Five new premieres are in production by Canadian composers John Oswald, Cris Derksen, Nicole Lizée, James O'Callaghan and Bekah Simms, and will be broadcast individually over the next two seasons. Supported by the Canada Council's Digital Now program.

## SWARA SUTRAS A Toronto Śabdagatitāra — Apr.30.22

the crossing over (tāra)  
of methods of making (gati)  
sound (śabda)

Swara Sutras created by Sandeep Bhagwati  
Also featuring a new work by NMC Composer  
in Residence Juro Kim Feliz Commissioned by NMC  
and the Ontario Arts Council

The Music Gallery, 918 Bathurst St.

What is Toronto's real musical sound?  
In a collective creative process spanning several months, Sandeep Bhagwati, an internationally renowned composer and music researcher, will work as a creative facilitator with a diverse group of outstanding Toronto musicians. Together, they develop a concert event that has many roots and unfolds in wonderfully unexpected ways.

Concert @ 8pm  
Introduction @ 7:15pm

PROGRAM:

Juro Kim Feliz *New Work*  
*New works by the Swara Sutra Ensemble*



Nicole Lizée  
Composer



John Oswald  
Composer



Cris Derksen  
Composer

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