

## THE MOSAÏQUE PROJECT

Ensemble Made In Canada's *Mosaïque Project* consists of three components: a commissioned suite of piano quartets by 14 Canadian composers, each inspired by a particular region of Canada, a national concert tour throughout the 2018-2019 season, and a specially designed website that will document audience-generated artwork inspired by the musical commission.

[www.mosaiqueproject.com](http://www.mosaiqueproject.com)

### The Mosaïque Project

A unique and exciting nation-wide project. Become a part of the creation and express yourself through drawing as you listen to the music of 14 Canadians, each inspired by a different region of our country.

Performed by piano quartet, Ensemble Made In Canada.

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## PROGRAM

[order tbd]

BRAID, DAVID (Northwest Territories) Great Bear River Blues

CROALL, BARBARA (St. Lawrence Seaway and Great Lakes) Nbiidaasamishkaamin/We Come Paddling Here

DOIRON, JULIE arr. Andrew Creeggan (New Brunswick) Blessed

DOWNING, ANDREW (Manitoba) Red River Fantasy

FUNG, VIVIAN (Alberta) Shifting Landscapes

GILBERT, NICOLAS (Québec) Îlôts

LAU, KEVIN (Yukon) Race to the Midnight Sun

LIZÉE, NICOLE (Saskatchewan) The Bessborough Hotel

MASCALL, RICHARD (Ontario) Petroglyphs

MOUSSA, SAMY (Nunavut) Orpheus in Nunavut

ROWSON, WILLIAM (Nova Scotia) Short Variations on Waves

SIGESMUND, DARREN (Prince Edward Island) Kensington Ceilidh

SLEAN, SARAH (Newfoundland) Jonny Pippy of Pouch Cove, on a Bicycle at Dawn

SOKOLOVIĆ, ANA (British Columbia) Splendor Sine Occasu

## PROGRAM NOTES

BRAID, DAVID (Northwest Territories) Great Bear River Blues

Situated in the Sahtu Region of the Northwest Territories is the Great Bear River, a 113-kilometre channel connecting to the Mackenzie River at the hamlet of Tulita, the birthplace of "Yatsule" (1879) a prolific musician of Dene Folk Music. This composition's motifs of harmony, melody, rhythm, and form come from geographical data pertaining to the river's striking meandering pattern. The music is stylized by "blue notes", glissandi, syncopation and driving rhythm - prominent qualities of contemporary Dene Folk Music.

CROALL, BARBARA (St. Lawrence Seaway and Great Lakes) Nbiidaasamishkaamin/We Come Paddling Here

For Anishinaabeg people, water is not just a substance. It is a spirit being deserving honour and respect, and different bodies and channels of water have distinctly different personalities and ways of expression. The St. Lawrence Seaway and River has been an essential part of Indigenous peoples' lives. The music describes the alternatively powerful and placid Gichigammi-Ziibii (Big Sea River), with canoers shooting arrows across the water toward embankments as they fished or hunted, and the voices of niibi-manidooq or the spirits of those who have traveled these waters long ago.

DOIRON, JULIE arr. Andrew Creeggan (New Brunswick) Blessed

I have the sun/and the sky and the grass 'neath my feet/and the sidewalk that leads down the street  
I have the wind/and the air that is all around me/and the breath I'm so lucky to breathe  
I am blessed/not once can I let myself forget  
I have the night/and the bed where I lay myself down/and the dreams that will follow me now  
I am blessed/not once can I let myself forget

DOWNING, ANDREW (Manitoba) Red River Fantasy

*Red River Fantasy* is based on a Métis fiddle tune called The Red River Jig after the dance it accompanies, most likely adapted from little bits of Scottish and French-Canadian fiddle tunes. Métis fiddle tunes are famously 'crooked', meaning phrase lengths are not consistent, bar lengths are not consistent, and there is a particular kind of flow to the tune that feels like it starts and stops in surprising places. This piece reflect the respects and reverence I feel for the recordings of the great fiddlers I've heard play The Red River Jig, such as Andy De Jarlis, John Arcand, and Grandy Fagnan.

FUNG, VIVIAN (Alberta) Shifting Landscapes

Shifting Landscapes is a reflection of Alberta's wide prairie fields, open skies, and ever-changing landscape, shaped by evolving skylines and influx of people, as well as melting glaciers and growing wildfires. It is a land of opportunity and growth, and my birthplace and childhood home.

GILBERT, NICOLAS (Québec) Îlots

*Îlots* is designed as a voyage from the city of Montreal to the St-Laurent Gulf, passing alternatively through a few cities and across increasingly long stretches of countryside. What binds the work together is the St-Lawrence river itself, represented literally by waves of sound. In the course of the piece, the very discursive, very *human* music of the cities will be eaten up by the landscape, which will become — and this is the paradox — something intimate and interior.

LAU, KEVIN (Yukon) Race to the Midnight Sun

*Race to the Midnight Sun* was inspired by detailed observations of the Yukon River by a family friend who resides in Whitehorse. The music is characterized by churning, restless rhythms, kaleidoscopic shifts in texture and harmonic colour, and an almost-lyrical melody which emerges and submerges, dipping in and out of perception -- all techniques meant to capture some aspect of the river's ferocious beauty. The title is a direct reference -- to a canoe race which takes place on the Yukon River every year, and which served as an apt image for the music's propulsive journey.

LIZÉE, NICOLE (Saskatchewan) The Bessborough Hotel

For as long as I can remember there have been ghost stories linked to a number of locations in Saskatchewan. Saskatoon's iconic Bessborough Hotel might be the most infamous for its paranormal activity. There are three areas in the hotel reportedly haunted: the ballroom, the stairwell and the third floor - each with their own benevolent spectre. These phantoms make appearances in sonic form throughout the piece.

MASCALL, RICHARD (Ontario) Petroglyphs

The Peterborough Petroglyphs are a highly identifiable symbol of Ontario as the most significant set of petroglyphs (rock carvings) in Canada. They are presumed to have been the work of ancient ancestors of First Nations people local to the area, but are impossible to accurately date and remain mysterious. Scholars have demonstrated that the inscriptions belie a great knowledge of astronomy; a kind of 'star map.' I prefer to think of them as a "alien communication" from the distant past; waiting to be decoded and interpreted, with a powerful message for our world today.

MOUSSA, SAMY (Nunavut) Orpheus in Nunavut  
Orpheus's death....frozen

ROWSON, WILLIAM (Nova Scotia) Short Variations on Waves

When writing my piece I looked at a lot of maritime paintings of Schooner ships, villages etc. done in the 30s and 40s. I listened to a lot of Scottish-Cape breton fiddle and folk music. Only fragments of that made into my piece. I think I got the best music when I was imagining the idea of early immigrants from Scotland and France coming to New Scotland or Acadia. My piece plays with memory. Dreams of an ideal community, a promised land. Not really possible anywhere but a dream.

SIGESMUND, DARREN (Prince Edward Island) Kensington Ceilidh

This impression of Prince Edward Island is rooted in the connection to land and sea. The haunting beauty of the island, rich red earth, pastoral landscapes, and extremes in nature inspire this work. A groove-based theme dances through a lazy waltz, some fiddle chopping, and a blistering jig reminiscent of east coast *ceilidh* social gatherings.

SLEAN, SARAH (Newfoundland) Jonny Pippy of Pouch Cove, on a Bicycle at Dawn

Jonny Pippy is a legendary fixture in the 'cove' - a truly unique Newfoundland character. He's an old man (nobody really knows how old) and lives alone in a bare bones house. His skin is weathered and worn like a fisherman's and he's missing nearly all of his teeth, but he is still lean, spritely and energetic. At dawn he rides his bike to a clearing that overlooks the bay and gets lost in his own thoughts looking at the sea. After chatting with neighbours or tourists and darting around doing whatever it is he does in town, he rides himself back up the hill into the sunset.

SOKOLOVIĆ, ANA (British Columbia) Splendor Sine Occasu

Each of the movements is inspired by a particular aspect of the nature in British Columbia: the landscape, the river, and the mountain range. The first part is a still observation of the beautiful landscape, the second part is faster, and depicts a river with its currents, and the third part depicts the abundance of mountain peaks.

## COMPOSER BIOS

BRAID, DAVID

Multi-Juno-Award-winning pianist David Braid has across Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, Australia, Brazil, the United States, and Canada. Combining principles fundamental to European classical music and the spontaneity of American jazz, Braid's fusion of art music engages audiences with a style described as 'refreshingly uncategorizable' (*Paris Transatlantic*), and hauntingly beautiful (*The Globe & Mail*).  
[www.davidbraid.com](http://www.davidbraid.com)

CROALL, BARBARA

Acclaimed Odawa First Nation composer and musician Barbara Croall from Canada (Manidoo Mníssing, Ginew dodem) has received world premiere performances of her music in several European countries, the UK, the United States, Asia, and Latin America. Selected as 'One of 100 Canadians To Watch' by Maclean's Magazine, Croall has continued to create musical works which have fascinated and enthralled critics and audiences alike for her distinctly Indigenous sound within the field of classical music, theatre, dance, film, and multidisciplinary performance. [www.barbaracroall.ca](http://www.barbaracroall.ca)

#### DOIRON, JULIE

Julie Doiron is an award-winning [Canadian](#) singer-songwriter of [Acadian](#) heritage. She has been the bass guitarist and co-vocalist for the Canadian indie rock band [Eric's Trip](#) since its formation in 1990. She has released ten solo albums, beginning with 1996's [Broken Girl](#), and is also the lead singer for the band Julie and the Wrong Guys.

#### DOWNING, ANDREW

Winner of two JUNOs, West Coast Music Awards, SOCAN Award and the Grand Prix de Jazz from the Montreal Jazz Festival, double bass player, cellist, composer and educator Andrew Downing plays primarily in the creative jazz scene in Canada, but also performs classical chamber music, improvised music, folk and roots music, and world music. [www.andrewdowning.com](http://www.andrewdowning.com)

#### FUNG, VIVIAN

JUNO Award-winning composer Vivian Fung has a talent for combining idiosyncratic textures and styles into large-scale works, often including influences such as non-Western folk music, Tibetan chant, and Brazilian rhythms. Recent works include Aqua, commissioned by the Chicago Sinfonietta, and Violin Concerto No. 2, commissioned and premiered by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra with Jonathan Crow, violin. [www.vivianfung.ca](http://www.vivianfung.ca)

#### GILBERT, NICOLAS

Nicolas Gilbert is a composer and novelist living and working in Montreal. His music is performed around the world by orchestras, ensembles and soloists such as the Montreal Symphony, Orchestre Métropolitain, Edmonton Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, SMCQ, Molinari and Bozzini Quartets, and Continuum. He is recipient of numerous grants and awards including the 2008 "Composer of the year" Opus Prize awarded by the Quebec Music Council and ten SOCAN Awards for Young Composers. [www.nicolasgilbert.ca](http://www.nicolasgilbert.ca)

#### LAU, KEVIN

Kevin Lau's music has been commissioned by ensembles such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, TorQ, and Via Salzburg. He recently composed the score for the National Ballet of Canada's original full-length ballet Le Petit Prince, featuring choreography by NBOC Principal Dancer and Choreographic Associate Guillaume Côté. [www.kevinlaumusic.com](http://www.kevinlaumusic.com)

#### LIZÉE, NICOLE

Called a "brilliant musical scientist" and lauded for "creating a stir with listeners for her breathless imagination and ability to capture Gen-X and beyond generation", JUNO-nominated composer Nicole Lizée creates new music from an eclectic mix of influences including turntablism, glitch, rave culture, 60s psychedelia, and Hitchcock. Her commission list of over 40 works includes the Kronos Quartet, BBC Proms, San Francisco Symphony, National Arts Centre Orchestra, and NYC's Kaufman Center. [www.nicolelizée.com](http://www.nicolelizée.com)

#### MASCALL, RICHARD

Richard Mascall's music has been widely performed across Canada by many of the leading orchestras, ensembles and soloists. With recent performances of his work in Estonia, England, Finland and South Korea his music is beginning to be heard around the globe. Mr. Mascall has taken a great interest in aboriginal art and culture and has to this point written eleven native themed works. In January 2012, Mr. Mascall was honoured with the spirit name 'Singing Beaver on Water'.

#### MOUSSA, SAMY

Composer and conductor, Samy Moussa has collaborated regularly with a number of orchestras, among them the Vienna Radio Symphony, the Bavarian Radio Symphony, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and the Vancouver Symphony. In 2010, Samy Moussa became Music Director of the INDEX Ensemble Munich. His music for orchestra has been championed by Kent Nagano who has commissioned him five works for the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal. [www.samymoussa.com](http://www.samymoussa.com)  
Samy Moussa's work is published by Editions Durand.

#### ROWSON, WILLIAM

William Rowson is a Canadian composer, conductor and violinist currently Assistant Conductor of the Vancouver Symphony. His music has recently been performed by the Hamilton Philharmonic, Ensemble Made In Canada, Mercer-Park Duo, and Tapestry New Opera. His works have been presented at Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival and the UBS Verbier Festival in Switzerland.  
[www.rowsonmusic.com](http://www.rowsonmusic.com)

#### SIGESMUND, DARREN

2010 JUNO nominee and Galaxie Rising Star winner Toronto trombonist Darren Sigesmund has established his Strands project as one of Canada's leading national and international touring ensembles. Sigesmund received the 2010 Galaxie Rising Star award for Best Composition at the Festival International de Jazz de Montreal. His latest release, Strands III, was selected Best Canadian Jazz CD of 2014 by the Ottawa Citizen. [www.darrensigesmund.ca](http://www.darrensigesmund.ca)

#### SLEAN, SARAH

Described as "one of the most compelling acts Canada has to offer", (TIME Magazine), "a national treasure" (Exclaim! Magazine) and nominated three times for her country's top music prize (Juno Awards), multifaceted Canadian singer/songwriter/pianist Sarah Slean possesses a unique and formidable creative force. Signed to Atlantic/Warner Records at the age of 19, Slean has since released more than 10 albums in over 10 countries worldwide. [www.sarahslean.com](http://www.sarahslean.com)

#### SOKOLOVIĆ, ANA

Serbian-born composer Ana Sokolović's work is suffused with her fascination for different forms of artistic expression. Both rich and playful, her compositions draw the listener into a vividly imagined world, often inspired by Balkan folk music and its asymmetrical festive rhythms. Over the years, Ana Sokolović has earned a steady stream of commissions and awards. Today, her repertoire includes orchestral, vocal, chamber, operatic and theatrical pieces. [www.anasokolovic.com](http://www.anasokolovic.com)