

ICELANDIA

NMF
5

Wednesday, February 1 | 7:30 pm
Centennial Concert Hall

We bring you a very special evening of music by members of Iceland's own composer collective – the Bedroom Community. We open with the highly anticipated performance of *Credo*, composed by Kjartan Sveinsson (of Sigur Rós), featuring Prairie Voices and our WSO Strings. Nico Muhly joins us for the Canadian premiere of his new WSO co-commissioned work, *So Far So Good*. Distinguished guest artist Shauna Rolston returns to the stage to present the North American premiere of Daníel Bjarnason's enthralling piece for cello and orchestra, *Bow to String*. Finally, we present the North American premiere of Valgeir Sigurdsson's *Dreamland*, a new orchestral work based on his soundtrack to the prize-winning documentary of the same name.

ARTISTS:

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
Prairie Voices; Vic Pankratz, director
Shauna Rolston, cello

PROGRAM:

<i>Credo</i> (Canadian premiere)	Kjartan Sveinsson (IS)
<i>So Far So Good</i> (Canadian premiere)*	Nico Muhly (USA)
<i>Bow to String: for Cello and Orchestra</i> (North American premiere)	Daníel Bjarnason (IS)
<i>Dreamland</i> (North American premiere)	Valgeir Sigurdsson (IS)

*Commissioned by the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra, and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

IMRIS ICELANDAIR UPTOWN radio 98.3

LA LA LA HUMAN STEPS

NMF
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Thursday, February 2 | 7:30 pm
Centennial Concert Hall

Internationally acclaimed dance group La La La Human Steps returns to Winnipeg. Tonight, they present a thrilling new show choreographed to the extraordinary music of Gavin Bryars. Witness what critics and audiences have been raving about all over the world!

ARTISTS:

La La La Human Steps
Édouard Lock, choreographer
Gavin Bryars, composer
Blake Hargreaves, composer
Njo Kon Kie, musical director and piano
Jean-Christophe Lizotte, cello
Jennifer Thiessen, viola
Ida Toninato, saxophone

PROGRAM:

New Work

IMRIS

ICELANDIC FINALE: JÓHANSSON AND SVEINSSON

NMF
7

Friday, February 3 | 8:00 pm
Centennial Concert Hall

For our closing gala concert, we are proud to present two monumental works by two of Iceland's leading composers. Jóhann Jóhannsson joins us for the world premiere of his work, *A Prayer to the Dynamo*, commissioned by the WSO. Known for his ethereal colours and sonorous harmonies, Jóhannsson's new piece will leave you breathless as he takes you on an emotional musical journey. To conclude our Festival, we bring you a major musical event: Atli Heimir Sveinsson's *Symphony No. 2*. Hailed as an Icelandic masterpiece, Sveinsson's magnificent work makes its North American premiere tonight with Winnipeg's own Prairie Voices and an extended WSO.

ARTISTS:

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
Jóhann Jóhannsson, computer
Prairie Voices; Vic Pankratz, director

PROGRAM:

<i>A Prayer to the Dynamo</i> (World premiere)*	Jóhann Jóhannsson (IS)
<i>Symphony No.2</i> (North American premiere)	Atli Heimir Sveinsson (IS)

*Commissioned by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra with the assistance of the Danish Arts Foundation

IMRIS ICELANDAIR LIQUOR MARTS

LÖGBERG-HEIMSKRINGLA THE DANISH ARTS FOUNDATION

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND?

Year after year, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's New Music Festival has maintained its position as one of the world's premiere events of its kind. Hundreds of new works have been showcased and an array of musical stars have been featured. Now we bring you a collection of new works that showcases today's greatest composers and artists from Finland, Iceland, the U.S. and Canada.

Highlights you don't want to miss this year are:

- Modern dance sensation La La La Human Steps returns to Winnipeg for the presentation of their critically acclaimed show *New Work* (February 2)
- The return of Canadian superstar cellist Shauna Rolston as she presents the world premiere of WSO composer-in-residence Vincent Ho's new cello concerto *City Suites* (performed on her carbon-fibre cello, January 30)
- The world premiere of Jóhann Jóhannsson's *A Prayer to the Dynamo* (February 3)
- Uptown Magazine presents the After-Party on the night of our *Icelandia* evening (February 1)
- North American premieres of Iceland's hottest composers Daníel Bjarnason and Valgeir Sigurdsson (February 1)
- The Canadian premiere of *Credo* by Kjartan Sveinsson (of Sigur Rós) (February 1)

FESTIVAL PROGRAMS

Pick up a copy of the Festival Program when you arrive at the Concert Hall, and take your time reading through each event to mark down your must-see concerts to attend. Get to know all of our guest artists and composers by reading their bios and then meeting them in person.

PRE-CONCERT TALKS & PERFORMANCES

Join WSO music director Alexander Mickelthwate and composer-in-residence Vincent Ho, along with guest composers and artists, as they discuss musical topics of the evening's program.

AFTER PARTIES

Come meet Kaija Saariaho, Shauna Rolston, Nico Muhly, Jennifer Koh, La La La Human Steps and the many other stars of our Festival. The After Party is the place to be seen and heard and to hang out with this year's distinguished artists, composers and musicians.

For more information on the New Music Festival, visit
www.newmusicfestival.ca

FESTIVAL PASS

Adult: \$99.00
Senior: \$89.00
Student: \$59.00

INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICES*

Adult: \$25.00
Student: \$10.00

*Individual Ticket Prices do not include Opening Night, January 28 or Closing Night, February 3 performances (see below).

OPENING/CLOSING NIGHT TICKET PRICES**

Loge: \$96.00
Section 1: \$83.40
Section 2: \$69.75
Section 3: \$58.20
Section 4: \$43.50
Section 5: \$28.80

**Student and Senior discounts available. Contact the WSO box office for more information. Prices include taxes and applicable fees.

Tickets available at the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and all Ticketmaster outlets

WSO Box Office
949-3999
www.wso.ca

Ticketmaster
1-855-985-ARTS
ticketmaster.ca

Generously sponsored by:

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We gratefully acknowledge our funders:

Arts Stabilization Fund Canada Council for the Arts Conseil des Arts du Canada Manitoba

JAN 28 – FEB 3 | 2012

DISTINGUISHED GUEST COMPOSER:
Kaija Saariaho

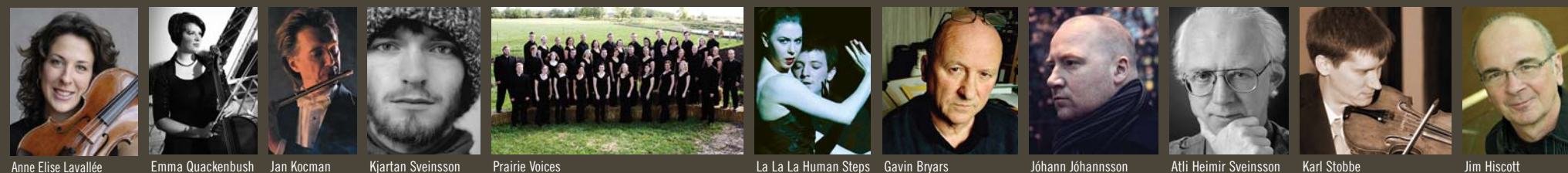
DISTINGUISHED GUEST ARTISTS:
La La La Human Steps | Jennifer Koh, violin | Shauna Rolston, cello

CURATORS
Alexander Mickelthwate, music director | Vincent Ho, composer-in-residence

FEATURED COMPOSERS:
Daníel Bjarnason | Tim Hecker | Jóhann Jóhannsson | Alexina Louie
Nico Muhly | Valgeir Sigurdsson | Kjartan Sveinsson | Atli Heimir Sveinsson

Tickets available at the Centennial Concert Hall and all Ticketmaster outlets
WSO Box Office **949-3999** www.wso.ca | **1-855-985-ARTS** ticketmaster.ca

www.newmusicfestival.ca





This year we bring you a celebration of Nordic musical culture! Throughout the week, you will hear many new works by some of Iceland's most celebrated composers including Kjartan Sveinsson (of Sigur Rós), Daníel Bjarnason, Valgeir Sigurdsson, Atli Heimir Sveinsson and Jóhann Jóhannsson. You will experience works few ever get to hear. As our distinguished guest composer, we are proud to have with us one of the world's foremost composers, Kaija Saariaho. Also featured this week are international dance sensation La La La Human Steps, violinist Jennifer Koh, cellist Shauna Rolston, and composers Alexina Louie, Nico Muhly and Tim Hecker. Be a part of the WSO's 2012 New Music Festival: The Nordic Edition.

PRE-CONCERT EVENTS

All pre-concert events occur on the Piano Nobile, Centennial Concert Hall, except Sunday, January 29 at the Westminster United Church

NMF1: SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM
7:10-7:30 PM – DISCUSSION

Guests: Composer Kaija Saariaho, hosted by Alexander Mickelthwate and Vincent Ho

7:30-7:50 PM – PERFORMANCE

Brandon University New Music Ensemble; Professor Megumi Masaki, director

NMF2: SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

DOORS OPEN AT 6:50 PM

7:00-7:20 PM – DISCUSSION: Westminster United Church

Guests: Composers Kaija Saariaho, Tim Hecker and Vincent Ho

NMF3: MONDAY, JANUARY 30

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

6:40-7:00 PM – DISCUSSION

Guests: Composers Alexina Louie, Daníel Bjarnason and Vincent Ho

7:00-7:20 PM – PERFORMANCE

The Brandon University Clarinet Choir; Dr. Cathy Wood, director

NMF5: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

6:40-7:00 PM – DISCUSSION

Guests: Daníel Bjarnason, Nico Muhly, Valgeir Sigurdsson and Matthew Patton, hosted by Vincent Ho

7:00-7:20 PM – PERFORMANCE

Brandon University New Music Ensemble; Professor Megumi Masaki, director

NMF6: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

6:40-7:00 PM – DISCUSSION

Guest: La La La Human Steps' creator and choreographer Edouard Lock hosted by Alexander Mickelthwate and Vincent Ho

7:00-7:20 PM – PERFORMANCE

Brandon University New Music Ensemble; Professor Megumi Masaki, director

NMF7: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

6:40-7:10 PM – BOOK LAUNCH

Book launch of Birna Bjarnadóttir's *Recesses of the Mind: Aesthetics in the work of Gudbergur Bergsson* with book signing and reading.

Guests: Birna Bjarnadóttir, Gudbergur Bergsson and Atli Heimir Sveinsson

7:10-7:30 PM – DISCUSSION

Guests: Jóhann Jóhannsson, Atli Heimir Sveinsson and Matthew Patton, hosted by Alexander Mickelthwate and Vincent Ho

7:30-7:50 PM – PERFORMANCE

University of Manitoba's Pizzicelli Ensemble; Minna Rose Chung, director

JANUARY 28 – FEBRUARY 3 | 2012

OPENING GALA: KANCHELI AND SAARIAHO



Saturday, January 28 | 8:00 pm
Centennial Concert Hall

For this New Music Festival we are proud to bring you one of the world's foremost composers, Kaija Saariaho, joining us for the performance of two of her celebrated works: *Du cristal* and *Graal Theatre* (featuring acclaimed violinist Jennifer Koh). To celebrate our many years of new music programming, we are bringing back a piece that has been regarded as one of NMF's memorable highlights – Giya Kancheli's *Styx*. This colossal work has been hailed as one of Kancheli's greatest musical achievements and its performance will feature the talents of our principal violist Daniel Scholz and the Canadian Mennonite University Chorus.

ARTISTS:

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
Jennifer Koh, violin
Daniel Scholz, viola
Canadian Mennonite University Chorus; Janet Brenneman and Rudy Schellenberg, directors

PROGRAM:

Du cristal (Canadian premiere) Kaija Saariaho (FI)
Graal Théâtre: for Violin and Orchestra Kaija Saariaho (FI)
Styx: for Viola, Choir and Orchestra Giya Kancheli (GE)



RAVEDEATH FOR ORGAN



Sunday, January 29 | 7:30 pm
Westminster United Church

Tonight's chamber music concert features a collection of works that are sure to excite and move you. Be dazzled by the performances of pianist Megumi Masaki and violinist Oleg Pokhanovski as they present works of S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté and Jurriaan Andriessen. This year's distinguished guest composer Kaija Saariaho joins us for the performance of her latest composition: *Tocar* (for violin and piano) and *Spins and Spells* (for solo cello). One of Iceland's new music superstars, composer Valgeir Sigurdsson, also joins us for the North American premiere of his string quartet, *Nebraska*, performed by the WSO Clearwater String Quartet. Cellist Minna Rose Chung presents Vincent Ho's haunting work, *Stigmata*. Rounding off the evening will be acclaimed Canadian sound artist Tim Hecker as he performs his new piece, *Ravedeath for Organ*.

ARTISTS:

Megumi Masaki, piano WSO Clearwater String Quartet
Oleg Pokhanovski, violin Minna Rose Chung, cello
Yuri Hooker, organ Tim Hecker, organ
Gwen Hoebig, violin Paul Corley, sound technician
David Moroz, piano

PROGRAM:

Letter A S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté (CAN)
Spins and Spells Kaija Saariaho (FI)
Reflections - Intro Jurriaan Andriessen (NL)
Tocar Kaija Saariaho (FI)
Reflections - Presto Jurriaan Andriessen (NL)
Stigmata Vincent Ho (CAN)
Tune for a Child S. C. Eckhardt Gramatté (CAN)
Nebraska Valgeir Sigurdsson (IS)
Ravedeath for Organ Tim Hecker (CAN)



SHAUNA ROLSTON: CITY SUITES (WORLD PREMIERE)



Monday, January 30 | 7:30 pm
Centennial Concert Hall

In celebration of our Festival's Icelandic theme, we are proud to present a new work by one of Iceland's fastest rising stars – Daniel Bjarnason. Hear the North American premiere of his orchestral work *Emergence*, a piece hailed for its exquisite colours and emotional profundity. Returning to the Festival as our distinguished guest artist is Canada's superstar cellist Shauna Rolston as she presents the world premiere of Vincent Ho's cello concerto, *City Suites*, written especially for her and her carbon-fibre cello. This year's Canadian Music Centre's Emerging Composer Prize-winning work also receives its premiere performance tonight. Concluding the program is Alexina Louie's thrilling concerto for string quartet, *Pursuit*, performed by our very own WSO Clearwater String Quartet.

ARTISTS:

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
Richard Lee, conductor
Shauna Rolston, cello
WSO Clearwater String Quartet

PROGRAM:

Emergence (North American premiere) Daniel Bjarnason (IS)
City Suites: Concerto for Cello and Orchestra (World premiere)* Vincent Ho (CAN)
*Tender is the Night*** Jesse Plessis (CAN)
Pursuit: Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra Alexina Louie (CAN)

*Commissioned by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra with the assistance of the Winnipeg Arts Council
**Winner of the Canadian Music Centre's 2012 Emerging Composer Prize



WAG EVENT: DOUBLE FEATURE GROUNDSWELL AND THE BEDROOM COMMUNITY



Tuesday, January 31 | 7:30 pm
Winnipeg Art Gallery

GroundSwell New Music returns to bring you a night of new music and theatre at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Hear wonderful new works by many of Manitoba's illustrious composers – Michael Matthews, Jim Hiscott, Gordon Fitzell and musical artist Diana McIntosh, who will present the world premiere of her one-woman piece, *You, Me and The Tree*. Also featured this evening is a special performance by Iceland's own Bedroom Community (Daníel Bjarnason, Nico Muhly and Valgeir Sigurdsson). Be part of an evening to remember at the WAG.

ARTISTS:

David Betz Heidi Ouellette David Storen Jan Kocman, flute Richard Lee, violin Anne Elise Lavallée, viola Emma Quackenbush, cello Diana McIntosh, performer Bedroom Community: Daniel Bjarnason Nico Muhly Valgeir Sigurdsson

PROGRAM:

PART 1:
Aeolian Mobile 1 Gordon Fitzell (CAN)
Vertical Garden Michael Matthews (CAN)
After Sorrow (World premiere) Jim Hiscott (CAN)
You, Me and The Tree (World premiere)* Diana McIntosh (CAN)

PART 2:

Bedroom Community

*Commissioned by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra with the assistance of the Winnipeg Arts Council

