



continuum
contemporarymusic

2015/16



Ice, 2015, Installation by Fareena Chanda & Jimmie LeBlanc;
photo © Kevin Jones

**“Continuum
performs magic
with sound.”**

DE TELEGRAAF, AMSTERDAM

Formed in 1985, Continuum Contemporary Music is committed to presenting and promoting contemporary chamber music through unique and compelling programming.

Under Artistic Director (and ensemble percussionist) Ryan Scott and Operations Manager Josh Grossman, Continuum each year presents a series of diversely themed concerts, often involving interdisciplinary collaborations. Over the past 30 years, Continuum has been responsible for commissioning over 175 new works from emerging and established Canadian and international composers; drawing from a collective of some of Canada’s top contemporary music performers, the organization has earned international acclaim: *De Telegraaf* wrote “Ensemble Continuum performs magic with sound”; Bragbants Dagblad hailed the ensemble as “sublimely skilled”.

Continuum has performed across Canada and has toured twice to Europe. In 2012 Continuum served as resident ensemble for the new music series at *Chamberfest Ottawa*; in 2015, Continuum was featured at the opening gala concert for *Classical:NEXT* in Rotterdam. Past special projects have included *SHIFT*, a festival of Canadian and Dutch music, film and literature that took place in Amsterdam and in Toronto; *Contes pour enfants pas sages*, settings of Jacques Prévert’s children’s stories by Victoria composer Christopher Butterfield; and *Singing the Earth*, a collaboration of Anna Höstman (composer), Dylan Robinson, Patrick Nickelson and Marion Newman. During the 2014-2015 season Continuum celebrated its 30th anniversary with two sold-out concerts including *Collide*, a collaboration with Subtle Technologies bringing together scientists, media artists and composers in search of new meanings in music.

The 2015-2016 season is the first curated entirely by newly appointed Artistic Director Ryan Scott, and it is action-packed: ten concerts, nine premieres, a tour to British Columbia for a collaborative project with Ballet Kelowna, a concert in Montreal produced by the SMCQ, and two concerts featuring Okeanos (UK) – including one as part of the 21C Music Festival celebrating the music of next generation Japanese composers. Additional activity includes a return and expansion of our education collaboration with the Toronto District School Board and participation in *New Music 101*, a lecture recital series in collaboration with the Toronto New Music Alliance.

Continuum has recorded three full-length CDs, was awarded the 1994 Chalmers Award and in 2014 was shortlisted for the Toronto Arts Foundation’s *Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition*.

Continuum is generously supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council, the SOCAN Foundation and many private donors. Continuum is a member of the Canadian New Music Network and the Toronto New Music Alliance.

CONTINUUMMUSIC.ORG

Continuum Contemporary Music
Ryan Scott, Artistic Director
Josh Grossman, Operations Manager

A vital part of the contemporary cultural scene in Canada and abroad for 31 years, Continuum celebrates emerging and established composers from Canada and around the world.

SEPTEMBER 19, 2015
AT THE SEAMS
JULES LÉGER CELEBRATION

In this showcase concert bursting with the finest in Canadian composition, Thierry Tidrow receives the Jules Léger Prize for his 2014 composition *Au fond du cloître humide*, commissioned by Continuum. Also featured are three world premieres by former Léger contenders Chris Paul Harman, André Ristic and Alec Hall and a work for solo piano featuring Gregory Oh by New York-based composer Caroline Shaw.

DECEMBER 5, 2015
LE DIABLE DANS LE BEFFROI
MONTREAL

Produced by the Société de Musique contemporaine du Québec (SMCQ), Continuum presents an evening of wind quintets featuring soloists as part of the series of concerts in tribute to Canadian composer John Rea.

APRIL 21–MAY 6, 2016
RENAISSANCE
CONTINUUM ON TOUR, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Continuum and Ballet Kelowna present *Renaissance*, a concert of early music reconceived with dance. Repertoire includes works based on Henri Purcell's *The Fairy Queen*, the music of William Byrd and Jean-Baptiste Lully; also included is Arvo Pärt's *Fratres*. This programme will repeat in Toronto and Southern Ontario in autumn, 2016.

MAY 24, 2016
ENLIVEN THE MA

Ma – the tension between silence and sound – is explored in this concert featuring Okeanos, a UK-based ensemble specializing in the performance of contemporary music on traditional Japanese instruments. Featured are masterworks from the late 20th century, traditional works and a premiere by Max de Wardener with newly created film installations by artists Rebecca Salter (Royal Academy) and David Anthony Hall. The pre-concert film follows Rebecca Salter's research in Japan with master woodblock print artists.

MAY 26, 2016
JAPAN: NEXT
21C MUSIC FESTIVAL

Instruments from East and West merge in new ways for this presentation of extraordinary works by the next generation of internationally acclaimed Japanese composers. Visiting artists from Okeanos (UK) join an extended Continuum ensemble for a sensational experience from the sonic fringe. Also featured is a world premiere by Hiroki Tsurumoto.

SPECIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER 21, 2015
MA O IKASU
LECTURE/RECITAL, NEW MUSIC 101

Continuum explores the meaning behind *ma* – a uniquely Japanese concept that thrives in all things around and between us. This multi-media lecture recital will draw upon Artistic Director Ryan Scott's Doctoral research in Tokyo with legendary composers including Toshi Ichihyanagi and Jo Kondo.

MARCH 30, 2016
**CONTINUUM
IN THE CLASSROOM**

Continuum is excited to once again collaborate with the Toronto District School Board on this exploration of musical composition. Under the guidance of educator Doug Friesen and composer Christopher Thornborrow, elementary school students use technology to create original works performed by secondary school students along with Continuum's ensemble.