



**Passion abounds with Continuum's most ambitious chamber concert to date.
URGENT VOICES promises to be a multimedia extravaganza**

November 6, 2017 (Toronto, ON) - [Continuum Contemporary Music](#) continues its run of creative multi-disciplinary concerts with season opener ***Urgent Voices, December 8-9, 2017 at Aki Studio, Daniels Spectrum*** (585 Dundas St East). As Canada continues to commemorate its 150th, Continuum goes beyond the headlines to explore voices from the heart that shape us.

Continuum will weave together a vast landscape of stories, reflections, hopes and dreams through song, spoken word, multimedia, and new Canadian musical works. World premieres include *The Invisible Forest* by **Anna Höstman**, *Clinical Notes of the Bipolar Therapist* by **James Rolfe**, and *From the Diaries of William Lyon Mackenzie King* by **Scott Wilson**. Pianist Laurent Philippe will also perform *Glass Houses* by **Ann Southam** accompanying Michael Mitchell's stunning film *John's Canoe*.

"I started to consider a response to Canada's 150th several years ago and slowly began to weave together and create narratives with some of my favourite composers and poets. As the new scores begin to arrive, I am over-the-moon with anticipation to experience these works performed by our extraordinary musicians and singers!"
- **Artistic Director, Ryan Scott**

Scenography will be put together by **Sonja Rainey**, creating a flow throughout the concert, in particular between the imagery of sheets of ice and paper connecting with the various components of the works. Each of the premieres is based on poetry, creating a unique collaboration between composer and poet. The poetry is based on uniquely Canadian reflections on pressing themes - climate change in indigenous culture, corruption and ego in politics and PTSD and the trauma of war on Canadian soldiers returning home. Also, a canoe.

Picking up on the Canada 150 theme – and commemorating the 85th anniversary of his birth – Continuum invites audience members to join us them 7:45 pm for a special pre-concert performance by Glenn Gould of music from Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 2, as reproduced on Steinway's Spirio, the world's finest high-resolution player piano. As Glenn Gould performs the works on film, the Spirio will reproduce his touch – almost as if experiencing his performance live.



LISTING INFORMATION

Urgent Voices

December 8 & 9, 2017, 8 pm

Aki Studio, Daniels Spectrum

585 Dundas Street East

Composers

Anna Höstman* (CA)

Scott Wilson* (CA)

James Rolfe* (CA)

Ann Southam (CA)

Poets

Phoebe Tsang (CA)

Alexandra Oliver (CA)

Steven Heighton (CA)

*World Premiere

Continuum's ensemble with special guests Alex Dobson (baritone), Pascal Charbonneau (tenor) and Laurent Philippe (piano) plus Michael Mitchell (filmographer) and Sonja Rainey (scenographer)

Tickets

\$35 Regular | \$25 Seniors/Arts Workers | \$15 students

Available at nativeearth.ca/urgent-voices

For more than 30 years, Continuum has supported new ideas in 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. Since 1985, Continuum has commissioned more than 185 new works from emerging and established Canadian and international composers, recorded three CDs, and toured in Canada and Europe. Drawing from a collective of some of Canada's most celebrated contemporary music performers, the organization has earned international acclaim.

Continuum Contemporary Music is generously supported by The Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council, the SOCAN Foundation and many private donors.

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