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July 14, 2016

CentrePulse

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*The Canadian Music
Centre is the catalyst that
connects you to the ever-
evolving world of Canadian
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performance, education
and promotion.*

*Le Centre de musique
canadienne vous ouvre le
monde fascinant de notre
musique en la faisant
connaître, interpréter et
applaudir.*

Dear Friends,

We would like to let you know that our office is now on summer hours - Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM, effective until Labour Day.

In the meantime, please send us information about your August concerts and events for a future edition of Centrepulse (thanks, as always, if you have already done so).

We're particularly interested in finding out about your out-of-province and international concerts. Thank you for your continued support.

To submit a concert, event or news item to Centrepulse, please send all details, including date, time, place, address, a web link if there is one, and ticket price(s), to bcregion@musiccentre.ca.

We also welcome reader-submitted articles and other news items on the subject of Canadian music and composers.

NEW!

Sean Bickerton: Notes from Powell River

Last week I traveled to Powell River to present the biannual International Choral Kathaumixw with CMC BC's Certificate of Excellence, the second ever issued, deeming them a Centre of Excellence for their extraordinary contribution to Canadian music.

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I had the pleasure of making the presentation to founder Don James in front of an audience of more than 2600 on the final gala concert last Saturday. I was proud to be able to mention to the audience that William Orr, Curator of our Digital Archives, and my esteemed predecessor, Colin Miles, were both also at this year's Kathaumixw, and that Colin has attended all but one since its founding 34 years ago.

Kathaumixw is extraordinary, bringing both adult choirs and hundreds of young people from all over the world, this year alone from Cuba, South Africa, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Hungary, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, and many North American cities including Atlanta, Phoenix, San Francisco, Vancouver, and Portland.

One of the standouts was Sweet Scarlet, a smoking hot all-woman sextet from Vancouver, who won the Dr. Elmer Iseler Prize for Best Performance of a Canadian work (*Three Ways to Vacuum Your House - Part 1* by Stephen Hatfield), pictured here with yours truly!



NEW!

Bill Orr: From the Archives
International Choral Kathaumixw

Since 1984, the people of Powell River, BC have been the founders, organizers and hosts of the biennial International Choral Kathaumixw. [Kathaumixw is a Coast Salish word meaning "a gathering together of different peoples"]. Last week was the occasion of the 17th such festival - this year a place for sharing of talents between choral musicians from Africa, Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and North America. The Canadian Music Centre BC Region was represented by Regional Director Sean Bickerton who made a presentation to the people of Powell River recognizing their contribution to world musical culture.

The earliest dated record of Kathaumixw in the digital archive is the [program from 1988](#). Even by the third festival, the current program framework was in place: gala opening and closing concerts, choral competitions adjudicated by local and international experts, and daily performances by participating choirs. As this year, there were performances of several compositions by CMC Associate Composers including the Kathaumixw Anthem for massed choir, commissioned specifically for the festival, and *Hymn to Freedom* by [Oscar Peterson](#), which has been sung at the closing ceremony at every festival since. At the inaugural Kathaumixw in 1988, [Peter Berring](#) was the official composer of the Kathaumixw

Anthem. In 1994 the British Columbia Choral Federation commissioned BC Associate Composer [Tobin Stokes](#) to write the current Anthem, *The Spacious Firmament*.

This year's audience was especially moved by music representing folk and cultural traditions. Performances by the Bloemfontein Children's Choir (South Africa), the Kinder & Jugendsingakademie (Graz Austria), and the New Zealand Secondary Students' Choir (the Guest Choir this year) were especially noteworthy. The latter group were highly effective ambassadors for music of the indigenous peoples of New Zealand. Stephen Hatfield's *Tjak!*, performed by the Wah Yah College Kowloon Boys Choir (winners of the 2016 Choir of the World at Kathaumixw) was a powerfully engaging composition, influenced by the indigenous cultures of Bali. [An undated program](#) from the period when Peter Berring was the Kathaumixw composer includes the libretto for a performance of his *Song [Speech] of the Salish Chief* by the Elmer Iseler Singers, Osnabruckner Jugendchor and Powell River Youth Choir. Perhaps the enthusiastic response to performance of such music and the presentation of a totem pole to the 2016 Choir of the World at Kathaumixw by the Tla'amin Nation represent an invitation for Canadians to encourage composition of music that expresses the cultural experiences of our own First Nations Peoples.

NEW!

Recollections: In Celebration of Powell River's International Choral Kathaumixw

Twenty years ago, in the summer of 1996, I was a 15-year-old cellist in the Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra. That year, the VYSO's Senior Division, led by music director [Arthur Polson](#), had been invited to attend the International Choral Kathaumixw as Orchestra-in-Residence. Over the course of the festival, we performed several classic repertoire pieces with mass choir, including the big featured work that year, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*.

Although Mr. Polson had always made a point of programming an eclectic array of works by his favourite mid-20th century composers, Kathaumixw was one of my first experiences hearing and playing music by Canadian

composers. I still fondly remember the Kathaumixw anthem *The Spacious Firmament* by [Tobin Stokes](#), which is still performed at the festival to this day.

One day, I heard a choir in the main hall rehearsing a piece that immediately grabbed my attention. When they finished, some friends and I pulled the conductor aside and asked him about the music they had just sung. As it turned out, the piece was *Feller from Fortune* by [Harry Somers](#), and the conductor none other than the great Elmer Iseler himself. Dr. Iseler very kindly and enthusiastically spent a few minutes telling us about the piece and the composer, who was then still living. The Elmer Iseler Singers have long been closely associated with the choral music of Harry Somers, having recorded a fine album, [Sacred & Profane Somers](#), now available on the CMC's own Centrediscs label. The Elmer Iseler Singers have also had a longstanding association with Kathaumixw, having regularly attended the festival since the very beginning.

At the time, of course, I didn't understand the significance of having an audience with this legendary figure in Canadian musical history. Looking back, this brief meeting was made even more special by the fact that Elmer Iseler was attending the festival for the last time. Sadly, he passed away less than two years later at the age of 70.

The VYSO, however, did attend the next Kathaumixw in 1998, and I enjoyed my second visit every bit as much as the first. I am grateful for my two summers at Kathaumixw, which I count as some of the happiest times of my youth. My experiences there notably also contributed to my life-long passion for music by Canadian composers.

Stefan Hintersteininger
BC Head Librarian

NEXT WEEK!

**Canadian Association for Sound Ecology (CASE)
Audio Postcards Launch Event & Soundwalk**

Date: Monday, July 18
Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Place: Canadian Music Centre

Address: 837 Davie St., Vancouver

Tickets: free

Information: [available here](#)

Audio Postcards Canada is pleased to announce its launch event hosted by the Canadian Music Centre, BC Region. The evening is a listening salon of the Audio Postcards Canada sound art pieces and a discussion with [Hildegard Westerkamp](#) (Featured Contributor), Andrea Dancer (Curator) and Tyler Kinnear (Adjudicator). A Soundwalk will follow the event at 8:30. The exhibition website goes live on July 18th, 2016 and the event is also in celebration of [R. Murray Schafer](#)'s birthday and World Listening Day.

Audio Postcards Canada is a project of the Canadian Association for Sound Ecology. It is a curated online exhibition showcasing the diverse acoustic features of Canada. The online exhibition consists of 16 compelling 1-2 minute "audio postcards" from across Canada that range from field recordings, soundscape and electroacoustic compositions, radio art, and various combinations of these areas.

Vancouver / South Coast Area Concerts

TONIGHT!

Orchid Ensemble Duo Collaboration with Aeriosa Dance

Date: Thursday, July 14

Time: 12:30 PM, 2:30 PM (two shows)

Place: Stanley Park Air Force Garden of Remembrance

Address: near Stanley Park bus loop

Tickets: free

Information: [available here](#)

Lan Tung (erhu, vocals) and Jonathan Bernard (percussion) are thrilled to collaborate with Artistic Director Julia Taffe and her wonderful Aeriosa dancers and crew in the beautiful setting of Vancouver's Stanley Park.

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THIS WEEKEND!

Cor Flammae
REFUGE: Sanctuary

Date: Friday, July 15
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Christ Church Cathedral
Address: 690 Burrard St., Vancouver
Tickets: \$30 / \$20
Information: [available here](#)

Drawing on works as diverse as Meredith Monk's *Churchyard Entertainment* from *Book of Days*, Leonard Bernstein's *Mass*, and Isabella Leonarda's *Sic ergo anima*, Vancouver's summer chorus of queer classically trained singers presents REFUGE, an exploration of both found and created safety and shelter. Under the direction of Mark Reid, Cor Flammae's REFUGE includes premieres of new compositions by Vancouver composers Shane Raman and [Michael Park](#), plus works by Peter Tchaikovsky, Joan Szymko, Stephen Smith, [Rodney Sharman](#) (*Song About Forgetfulness*, with text by Bill Richardson), Dominique Phinot, and more.

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THIS WEEKEND!

Cor Flammae
REFUGE: City

Date: Saturday, July 16
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Pyatt Hall, VSO School of Music
Address: 843 Seymour St., Vancouver
Tickets: see above
Information: [available here](#)

See above for description.

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St. Andrew's-Wesley Church
Lalun

Date: Sunday, July 31
Time: 10:00 AM
Place: St. Andrew's-Wesley Church
Address: 1022 Nelson St., Vancouver

Tickets: free

Information: [available here](#)

Lalun is comprised of Liron Man on hand pans and flamenco guitar, Lan Tung on erhu and vocals, and Jonathan Bernard on percussion. With their unique instrumentation and hypnotic intercultural sound, this international ensemble presents original compositions by Lan Tung, [Itamar Erez](#), and Liron Man, and arrangements of traditional music from Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

Vancouver Island / Gulf Islands Concerts

Victoria Composers Collective Prior Art

Date: Wednesday, July 27

Time: 8:00 PM

Place: Wood Performance Hall, Victoria Conservatory

Address: 907 Pandora Ave., Victoria

Tickets: \$10

Information: [available here](#)

An evening of contemporary classical music, featuring new music composed and performed by local artists from Vancouver Island. This program features exciting works for strings, voice, solo piano, and bluegrass ensemble, and includes several world premieres.

Southern Interior Area Concerts

[Please let us know of any upcoming events!](#)

Central / Northern BC Area Concerts

[Please let us know of any upcoming events!](#)

Out Of Province / International Concerts

NEW!

**Gallery Singers
In Darkness to Light**

Date: Sunday, July 17

Place: Thames Tunnel Shaft, Brunel Museum, London

Information: [available here](#)

The Gallery Singers present [Stephen Chatman's](#) *Remember* as part of a concert entitled From Darkness to Light.

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**Orchestre de la Francophonie
Summer Performance Series**

Date: Wednesday, July 20

Place: Espace SAT, Montreal

Information: [available here](#)

The Orchestre de la Francophonie, directed by Jean-Philippe Tremblay, performs [Jeffrey Ryan's](#) *Moving, Still*, part of a triptych of works with [Simon Bertrand](#) and [Scott Good](#) inspired by Canadian art.

Composer Opportunities: Canada

**Association of Canadian Women Composers
A Spirit Indomitable: Call for Scores**

Deadline: Sunday, July 31

Information: reddoorstudio2@gmail.com

The ACWC is looking for scores by Canadian women composers, preferably with ties to British Columbia, for a concert to celebrate 100 years of women's suffrage in that province. The concert will take place in Victoria on April 7, 2017, and will feature the Emily Carr String Quartet and Ensemble Laude Women's Choir. Pieces should reflect the theme of women's suffrage, a strong female spirit or women's voices, and be no longer than 10 minutes.

Submissions must be anonymous. Recordings preferred but not required.

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Musicworks 2016 Contests
Electronic Music & Sonic Geography Writing

Deadline: Sunday, August 14

Information: [available here](#)

Musicworks invites participants to compose an experimental piece in any electronic music genre with a maximum length of 10 minutes. Musicworks also asks prose writers and poets to choose one location and describe in a maximum of 500 words how sound shapes your experience of this place.

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Redshift Music Society
Call for Scores: Composers of the Pacific Rim

Deadline: Tuesday, August 30

Information: [available here](#)

Redshift Music Society is seeking scores for solo flute for a 2016 / 2017 season performance event in Vancouver, Canada, by flutist Mark Takeshi McGregor. For this event we are specifically requesting works by composers who live in or originate from countries along the Pacific Rim.

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Canadian Music Centre
Associate Composer Applications

Deadline: Thursday, September 1

Information: [available here](#)

We're always looking to add fresh talent to our list of Associate Composers - and there are a lot of great ways you'll benefit from being a part of this distinguished group. For one thing, you'll have your very own Associate Composer showcase on the CMC website, complete with your biography, your submitted works, your commercial and archival recordings, your blog, news and events featuring you and your music, and a rich media section for your images, videos, writings, and more. We'll even

provide you with a bilingual version of your profile.

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**Elektra Women's Choir
Reading Session of New Compositions**

Deadline: Friday, September 16

Session: Monday, October 24

Information: [available here](#)

An important part of Elektra's mandate is to encourage the creation of new work for classically-based women's choirs. Up to four composers will be invited to participate. Only composers who are able to attend the reading session in person need apply to have their piece considered. After a general study session on the four works, each piece will be given approximately 20 minutes of rehearsal and discussion time with the choir and Elektra's Artistic Director Morna Edmundson. The session with the choir will be recorded and participants will receive a compact disc of their segment.

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**Vancouver Pro Musica
Fourth Annual Electroacoustic Festival**

Deadline: Friday, October 7

Festival: November 18-19

Information: [available here](#)

Vancouver Pro Musica is pleased to invite BC composers to submit new works for presentation at the Third Annual Electroacoustic Festival. Accepted works will be performed at the closing event of the festival on Saturday, November 19, 2016 at the Western Front.

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**Royal Canadian College of Organists (RCCO)
John White Memorial Composition Competition**

Deadline: Tuesday, November 1

Information: [available here](#)

The Toronto Centre of the RCCO is pleased to announce a competition in organ composition by a Canadian composer in celebration of the 150th anniversary of

Canada's confederation.

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**Chor Leoni Men's Choir
Canadian Choral Composition Contest (c/4)**

Deadline: Tuesday, November 15

Information: [available here](#)

Chor Leoni Men's Choir and Artistic Director Erick Lichte are pleased to announce the first annual Canadian Choral Composition Competition (c/4). Three finalist compositions will be selected by the choir's Artistic Director, and an independent panel of judges will determine their rankings (first prize \$2000, second prize \$1000, third prize \$500).

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NEW!

**Canadian Men's Chorus
Lloyd-Harris Composers Competition**

Deadline: Thursday, December 1

Information: [available here](#)

Emerging Canadian composers who have been composing professionally for ten years or less are invited to submit a composition based on Shakespeare's writings for a concert on February 25, 2017 at The Music Gallery in Toronto.

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**Sesquicentennial Carillon Composition Competition
Chime In, Canada!**

Deadline: Thursday, December 1

Information: [available here](#)

The Honourable Geoff Regan, Speaker of the House of Commons, is pleased to announce that the House of Commons will hold a nationwide carillon composition competition to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation and the 90th anniversary of the Peace Tower in 2017.

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Canadian Chamber Choir Canada 150 Composition Competition

Deadline: Tuesday, January 31

Information: [available here](#)

The Canadian Chamber Choir is pleased to announce the launch of its Canada 150 Composition Competition, which seeks to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial by promoting a new choral work from a Canadian composer in 2017.

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Jubilate! Chamber Choir (Vancouver) Invitation For Composers

Information: [available here](#)

Jubilate! is a fine choir, under the direction of [Dr. Larry Nickel](#). We have a very exciting 2013/2014 season planned. Composers are invited to audition for the choir as singers, and thereby learn about choral writing from the inside. Join the choir and write a piece for us! Please contact Dr. Larry Nickel at larrynickel@mac.com for more information.

Composer Opportunities: International

NEW!

Mise-En Music Festival 2017 Call for Scores

Deadline: Thursday, September 15

Festival: June 20-25, New York City

Information: [available here](#)

ensemble mise-en is very excited to announce a call for scores for the mise-en music festival. Applicants may be of any age and nationality. There are several categories of works including mixed ensemble, solo instruments, electronics or miniatures.

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