



CLASSICAL SHOWCASE

VITRINE CLASSIQUE

May 7 mai 2022 | 2-4 PM | The Playhouse
Fredericton, NB

— FEATURING / EN VEDETTE —

MAUREEN BATT
ADAM CICCHILLITTI
GREJ
CATHERINE LITTLE
JENNIFER KING
SAINT JOHN STRING QUARTET





CLASSICAL NOMINATIONS CLASSIQUES

2022 CLASSICAL COMPOSER OF THE YEAR

2022 COMPOSITEUR CLASSIQUE DE L'ANNÉE

Adam Vincent Clarke

Amy Brandon

Clifford Crawley

Grej

Monica Pearce

2022 CLASSICAL RECORDING OF THE YEAR

2022 ENREGISTREMENT CLASSIQUE DE L'ANNÉE

Daniel Cabena and Stephen Runge

A Sanctuary in Song

Mark Fewer

Rossini: 6 Sonate A Quattro

Maureen Batt & Grej

Lighthouse

Sarah Hagen

Johann Sebastian Bach: Goldberg Variations

Steve Cowan and Adam Cicchillitti

Intimate Impressions

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE NOMINEES!

FÉLICITATIONS À TOUS LES FINALISTES !

CLASSICAL SHOWCASE – VITRINE CLASSIQUE

Presented by the Canadian Music Centre and Debut Atlantic
Présenté par le Centre de musique canadienne et Début Atlantique

Hosted by / Animé par Allegra Swanson

Aunt Helen

Maureen Batt*
Jennifer King

Monica Pearce*

3 Mélodies, Op. 7: No. 1, Après un rêve

Gabriel Fauré

Lied ohne Worte, Op. 109, BWV Q 34

Felix Mendelssohn

Catherine Little
Greg Myra

Rivers Freezing Over

Richard Gibson

Frost Moon

Amy Brandon*

The Dreamer

Kevin Lau

Jennifer King

Arabesque No. 1

Claude Debussy

Sonata op 61: I. Allegro

Joaquín Turina

Adam Cichillitti*

Come Find Me In A Dream

Grej*

Love You Forever Plus A Day

Grej

Hope On Ice

Grej

Maureen Batt*
Grej*

Folk 16

Adam Vincent Clarke*

Pales Blues & Insouciance

Clifford Crawley*

Northwest Passage

Stan Rogers

Knocking at the Door

Arkells

Saint John String Quartet*

PRESENTATIONS

Classical Composer of the Year | Compositeur classique de l'année
Classical Recording of the Year | Enregistrement Classique de l'année

* Denotes 2022 nominee | Désigne finaliste pour 2022

MAUREEN BATT AND GREJ



Maureen Batt and Grej come together for *Lighthouse*. *Lighthouse* was created from letters and journals written on a journey through grief. The music was composed by Grej in collaboration with Maureen. *Lighthouse* fuses classical and electronic genres, using voice, piano, harmonium, synthesizer,

and field recordings. This music is for anyone who has experienced the loss of someone close.

Maureen Batt focuses on celebrating new music by collaborating with composers to commission, premiere, and re-perform their works. Her discography includes JUNO-nominated *Breathing in the Shadows*; ECMA-nominated albums *Lighthouse* (with Grej), *Aunt Helen*, and *Lady of the Lake*; and *Mirror, Mirror*.

Celebrated for her "rich, warm sound and masterful acting" (Opera Canada), Maureen has created many Canadian opera roles. She is the co-artistic director of Essential Opera (founded in 2010). In 2015, Maureen founded Crossing Borders, a contemporary Western art music recital series which has toured the United States, Canada, and Colombia.

Her commissions, productions, and albums have received support from the SOCAN Foundation, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, SSHRC, FACTOR, Music Nova Scotia, and Arts Nova Scotia. She is also on the national board for the Canadian Music Centre. Maureen has regularly been on faculty at the Halifax Summer Opera Festival, she is a frequent festival adjudicator, and she offers masterclasses and workshops on voice and movement. Maureen has an MMus from the University of Toronto, a BMus from Dalhousie University, and a BA from St. Thomas University. maureenbatt.com.

The duo has performed various works by Canadian composers including Celso Machado and Anne Lauber, and they premiered a work dedicated to them by Nova Scotian composer, Adam Langille.

Toronto-based percussionist and Dora-nominated composer **Gregory Harrison (Grej)** is emerging as one of Canada's finest talents in contemporary music. His extensive resume spans artists and groups including Jeremy Dutcher, Cirque du Soleil, Video Games Live, R. Murray Schafer, and Fred Penner. He has performed extensively internationally at notable venues such as Massey Hall, NPR Tiny Desk Concerts, the JUNO's, and The Kennedy Center. Described as a "percussion & electronics wizard" (Bob Boilen - NPR Music), Harrison's performative and compositional style merge his classical music background with his passion for electronic music.

In recent years, Harrison's commissions have been coveted by Kaeja d'Dance, ProArte Danza, Toronto Dance Theatre, Human Body Expression, Architek Percussion, Fifth Wind Quintet, CCDT, Dr. Morris Palter (University of Arizona), Popular Demand Pictures Inc., NB Tourism, and Division 85 Films. Harrison is also co-founder of his groups Mear and Taktus marimba duo. grejmusic.com



Composer and guitarist **Amy Brandon's** pieces have been described as '...mesmerizing' (*Musicworks Magazine*), "...gut wrenching and horrific" (*Critipeg*), and "otherworldly and meditative ... a clashing of bleakness with beauty ..." (Minor Seventh).

Her performances, installations and acoustic works have been presented at the Gaudeamus Festival (Screen Dive), National Sawdust (NYC), Trinity College (Dublin), the mise-en Festival, and the Winnipeg New Music Festival. She has received Canadian and international composition awards and honourable mentions from the Leo Brouwer Guitar Composition Competition (Grand Prize 2019),

Central European String Quartet ('Most Innovative' 2018) and is a 2020 JACK Quartet Studio Artist.

In addition to performance and composition, she is completing an interdisciplinary PhD examining augmented reality, motor control and guitar performance at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
amybrandon.ca

There were several media accolades over the past years for Montreal-born guitarist

Adam Cicchillitti. The renowned American magazine *Classical Guitar* called him "a virtuoso at the top of his game" and CBC Music describes him as an "ardent ambassador for classical guitar." Adam has commissioned over two dozen new works since 2019 and recorded three albums with the Analekta record label. His album *Focus*, dedicated to new Canadian music for two guitars,



was awarded "Classical Recording of the Year" at the East Coast Music Awards in 2021. His album *Intimate Impressions* was nominated in the same category the following year. Adam regularly collaborates with guitarist Steve Cowan, having performed across Canada with the Prairie Debut and Debut Atlantic touring agencies. In 2022, the duo will premiere six new concerti for two guitars and the Ottawa-based chamber orchestra Thirteen Strings. They were awarded 3rd prize as finalists at the prestigious Guitar Foundation of America International Ensemble Competition in 2021. Adam will release his first guitar and flute album on the Leaf Music label in early-2023, this time with Canadian flautist Lara Deutsch. He is only the second guitarist to win the grand prize of the prestigious concerto competition Festival-concours de musique de Sherbrooke and has been a finalist and multiple-prize winner in over a dozen national and international competitions. He is a specialist in child pedagogy, is the founder of the guitar school at Ottawa Suzuki Strings, is a member of the ensemble Forestore, and is currently completing a doctorate in music performance at McGill University supported by les Fonds de recherche de Québec. adamcicchillitti.com

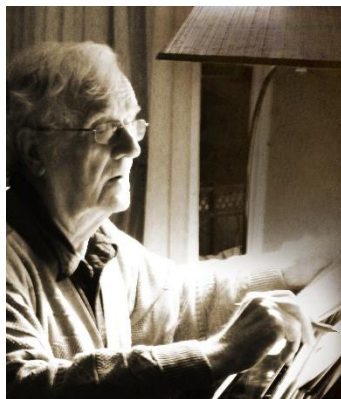


Adam Vincent Clarke is an Antwerp-based composer of contemporary music and sound artist. Rooted in Canada, developed in Germany, before establishing in Belgium; he is a vagabond of Canada's East Coast.

Adam draws inspiration through storytelling and folk tradition; seeking out nuances of language, instrumentation, performance style, and coupling this in his writing. He seeks to initiate a dialogue through performance, pursuing work

that confronts and connects, often composing with a tone of gewaltsame Schönheit (violent beauty). His music presents distant stories, images, and vibrant abstractions of an interpersonal nature. This desire for dialogue and story led him to the world of ballet, contemporary dance, theatre, and chamber music. Adam realizes creative concepts, through independent projects and his dance-theatre company Âmok/Âmok. Adam is composer-in-residence with the international touring group Ensemble Silakbo. adamvclarke.com

Clifford Crawley (1929-2016) was born in Dagenham, England. He held degrees from the University of Durham, the Royal College of Music, and Trinity College, London. He trained as a teacher and taught at both elementary and secondary levels. Before coming to Canada in 1973, he was involved in teacher training as Head of Music in a College of Education. In Canada, he was professor of composition and music education at Queen's University for twenty years. His students describe his good humoured and patient teaching and respect for diverse musical genres including the popular music they loved.



Affiliated with the Canadian League of Composers and the Canadian Music Centre, he was a prolific composer of more than 160 songs for

children, as well as several operas, dozens of song sets, choral and orchestral works, keyboard and chamber works. His musical style has been described as "warmly human," "contemporary (but) accessible and eclectic". He moved to St. John's, Newfoundland, in 2002 where musicians in both the classical and traditional music communities inspired some of his best loved works. His compositional style is eclectic, drawing at times on vernacular idioms, as a means to demonstrate his belief that "originality is not necessarily something new but often the result of looking at the familiar in a different way."



Energetic and insightful, **Jennifer King** is a versatile pianist who is equally at home as a soloist or a collaborator on the concert stage. With a career spanning almost three decades, she has established herself as a sought-after performer and recording artist in the region. She performs with many respected soloists and multidisciplinary artists throughout the Maritimes.

Jennifer's recent album, *O Mistress Moon: Canadian Edition*, released January 2022 with funding from Factor and Music Nova Scotia, has been featured on eight Apple Music playlists and was the number one track for Piano Spheres on Tidal.

Her debut album was nominated for an ECMA and Music Nova Scotia 2019 award for Classical Recording of the Year and her EP, *Doolittle: Minute Etudes "Excerpts" (Live)*, from 2019, was nominated for Classical Composition of the Year for ECMA 2021.

In October 2020, Jennifer released an independent album, *Twilight Hour: Collected Stories for Piano*, with an animated film created by filmmaker/ animator/ singer Katrina Westin. The video project was funded by a Digital Originals grant from the Canada Council of the Arts. jenniferkingpiano.com

With her 2021 debut release *Taking Five*, Nova Scotian cellist, **Catherine Little**, is on a mission to build a bridge to classical music.

She is no stranger to other genres - she's played with the likes of rocker Rod Stewart and has recorded pop, folk, blues, and rap. Born and raised in Nova Scotia, she's had the advantage of living in a rich song and Celtic culture too. This varied exposure has given her a unique perspective on music and audiences.



Foremost, she sees that familiarity with music promotes understanding and appreciation. As such, she is deliberate about her repertoire choices, and presenting educational and informative classical performances. Duly aware that the work of a great composer interpreted by a fine performer can touch people on the deepest level, Catherine has spent a lifetime honing her craft as a cellist in order to bring audiences her very best. catherinelittle.com



Originally from PEI, **Monica Pearce** is a composer, arts administrator, concert presenter, and writer specializing in opera, chamber music, and everything toy-piano-related. Pearce's work has been performed and commissioned by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, International Contemporary Ensemble, Chamber Cartel, Array Ensemble, Talisker Players, Essential Opera, Bicycle Opera Project, TorQ Percussion Quartet, junctQín

keyboard collective, and Thin Edge New Music Collective. Her operas have been performed across Canada and the United States and toured across Ontario. Her toy-piano works are frequently played

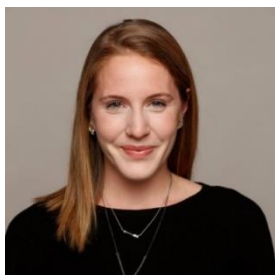
internationally. She was born in Prince Edward Island, began her professional career in Toronto, and recently relocated to South Texas. monicapearce.com

For 30 years the **Saint John String Quartet [SJSQ]** has stood among Canada's leading chamber music ensembles. Renowned for its flexibility, SJSQ is equally comfortable collaborating with blues artists and rock superstars, and performing



Classical masterworks on its own. SJSQ performs over 125 concerts annually and serves as musicians-in-residence for both Symphony New Brunswick and the University of New Brunswick. It has performed for numerous heads of state and at prestigious venues the world over, including many countries in the Far East, Europe, and South America.

With many recordings to its credit, SJSQ has earned a JUNO nomination [Classical Composition of the Year] and won an East Coast Music Award [Best Classical Album of the Year] and a Music NB award [Best Album of the Year]. Its albums feature new and innovative works and under-appreciated classical gems. sjsq.ca



Allegra Swanson has been the Executive Director of Music Nova Scotia since 2020. She has a passion for the music industry and over 10 years' experience in the non-profit arts sector.

Allegra worked with the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences & The JUNO

Awards where she was Manager, Planning & Development, and then Manager, Events. Prior to her work with CARAS, Allegra produced over 50 albums running the award-winning recording label, Centrediscs, at the Canadian Music Centre, where she was also Director of Communications.



The Canadian Music Centre is the catalyst that connects you to the ever-evolving world of Canadian musical creation through performance, education, and promotion. The CMC provides unique resources for exploring, discovering, and performing Canadian music. We are passionate about nurturing a musical community that honours our legacy and supports the professional development of Canadian musicians and composers. The Canadian Music Centre inspires fresh perspectives, celebrates inventive composers, and provides transformative experiences. We champion artistic diversity and embrace Canada's rich cultural heritage in creative centres across the country and internationally.

DÉBUT ATLANTIQUE



DEBUT ATLANTIC

Bringing Canada's exceptional classical music artists to Atlantic Canadian communities since 1979, Debut Atlantic is one of this country's most dynamic classical music touring organizations. Debut Atlantic continues to create and develop programs and initiatives that contribute to Atlantic Canada's cultural environment and is deeply committed to educational and community engagement as well as artist development. The list of artists waiting to be added to the touring roster and the calibre of our alumni is a testament to our success.



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