

# TSMAF *news*

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TORONTO SUMMER MUSIC ACADEMY AND FESTIVAL · AGNES GROSSMANN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

## Eternal Stars...will shine brightly very soon!



Sitting down with Grammy,  
Gramophone and  
multiple Juno award winner

### JAMES EHNES

*Violinist James Ehnes tells us a bit more about his upcoming debut at the Toronto Summer Music Festival with pianist Jon Kimura Parker.*

#### Tell us about your youth and musical beginnings.

I am originally from Brandon, Manitoba. There was a strong musical community there that I was born into and that helped me evolve into the musician I am today. My father is a trumpet teacher at Brandon University and my mother has a ballet school there. I was always surrounded by musicians and artists so it was natural for me to want to be involved. People gravitate towards the things they are surrounded by and for me, it was music. I took an early interest in the violin and from the time I was four, I really wanted a violin. I received my first violin as a Christmas present just before my fifth birthday!

#### How has winning a Grammy, Gramophone and multiple Juno awards affected your career (including a new Juno this year)?

It is very exciting to win both the Juno and the Grammy awards. I am certainly very proud of them. It's a neat thing to

have won them and they have helped to build awareness for me. I'm proud of my recordings and if they win an award that is wonderful but to be perfectly honest, it doesn't change how I perform or feel about my playing. It is important for me to keep music in perspective. At the end of the day, it's about giving my best performance and connecting with the audience. You never know when you will have a magical performance with a great audience. I've played concerts in small towns that were among the most musical performances I have done. These types of experiences really motivate me. It's realizing that any one concert can be really meaningful both to myself and to the audience.

#### For our 2009 Festival opening night concert, you'll be performing with pianist Jon Kimura Parker for the first time. Tell us a little bit more about this collaboration.

I've known Jackie (Jon Kimura Parker) for fifteen years and have never had the opportunity to perform with him. Year

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### *A Message from Artistic Director, Agnes Grossmann*



As we quickly approach our 2009 Toronto Summer Music Festival, I want to share more about the exciting programming I have planned for you to enjoy this summer.

The theme this year, **ETERNAL STARS**, is a celebration of the anniversaries of composers Mendelssohn, Haydn and Martinu.

These composers have created some of the most significant chamber works which will be performed by acclaimed artists from around the world. I've chosen all the artists not only for their high calibre of musicianship but also for their understanding of what chamber music is meant to be – a conversation amongst friends.

I am also delighted to announce that we will open the Festival at the historic Carlu Concert Hall with a first time performance from Grammy and Juno award winning violinist James Ehnes together with pianist Jon Kimura Parker. A dynamic series of thirteen more concerts will follow this spectacular opening evening including Menahem Pressler's new quartet (with Alexander Kerr, Lawrence Dutton and Paul Watkins), the piano duo Anagnoson & Kinton, the Leipzig String Quartet with Karl Leister, French star flutist Patrick Gallois with Cecilia Löfstrand and many others.

Returning to our program again this year is our Rising Stars Concert featuring some of the world's best emerging musicians at the threshold of their careers. Academy students will perform during our Emerging Artists concerts on Wednesdays and Fridays. All of these concerts are FREE!

I hope you will join me for a wonderful summer of music making. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, please do so as they're selling fast!

With warm regards,

*“A virtual oasis in the musical desert of the Toronto summer”*  
—The Globe and Mail

 TORONTO  
SUMMER MUSIC  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AGNES GROSSMANN



From L to R: Dan Wang, Emma Sinyard, Myron Kozak, Patricia Sinclair, Bradley Powell

We've put together a great team working behind the scenes to support Agnes' vision of Toronto Summer Music. Each of them contributes in their own way and we know they will do a great job making sure the Academy and Festival run smoothly!

Toronto Summer Music welcomes **Dan Wang** as our 2009 Artistic Coordinator. Dan is in his first year of an MA in musicology at the University of Western Ontario. He holds a Bachelor's degree in piano performance, and will complete the Master's next year on exchange at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. This is his fourth year with Toronto Summer Music, having participated for the past three years as a volunteer. He is a pianist, reader, librettist, watcher of films, and cookery amateur.

Dan works with Agnes Grossmann to coordinate all artistic aspects of the Festival concerts, including taking care of our artists, and manages the Academy program.

**Emma Sinyard** has come back to Toronto Summer Music as our Marketing and Fundraising Associate. She has recently completed her Sport and Event Management degree from George Brown College which she undertook following her B.A. degree in Psychology. Emma organizes fundraising and festival events, coordinates all individual and corporate sponsor benefits and assists with Festival promotion, logistics planning and volunteer management.

Many of you know **Myron Kozak** who continues on as our Marketing and Festival

Coordinator. Myron manages all the marketing and promotion of the Festival as well as the Festival logistics, box office coordination and volunteer management. Myron recently took some time to rest before the summer "busy-ness" sets in with a trip to Syria and Jordan.

**Patricia Sinclair**, also in her fourth year with Toronto Summer Music, continues to be instrumental in the fundraising area. She has done a great job of identifying prospective corporate sponsors and inviting them to support our Academy and Festival programs. Patricia also helps with government and individual fundraising. Patricia, together with Bradley are our behind the scenes powerhouses who really get the work done!

**Bradley Powell** works with us on fundraising, research and data analysis and Festival logistics. In September, he will enter his fourth year of the Honours Bachelor of Commerce Program at Trinity College, University of Toronto. Bradley, a former dancer, loves to keep busy and between his work at Toronto Summer Music, his summer job at Delaney Capital Management and ongoing work at the National Ballet School. He enjoys gymnastics, dance and recently climbed the CN Tower for the World Wildlife Fund in an amazing time of 16 minutes and 24 seconds!

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after year we see each other at different festivals but never have the chance to perform. We have really wanted to perform together for some time now and joke about the nature of our schedules which have prevented us from collaborating up until now. I remember watching him perform with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra which was absolutely amazing. We had artists who came to perform in Brandon and it sometimes felt like a sort of 'warm-up' for their big city performances something which I thought was insulting to the audience. It really doesn't matter where you are performing: the audience and the musicality are key. Jackie's performance in Brandon made us feel like we were at Carnegie Hall. There was a respect for the audience and for his performance that brought more depth and meaning to the concert.

I'm really excited about this concert. Jackie is an amazing musician. The repertoire is exciting. I think repertoire should be chosen more carefully than it normally is. We're proud of the program we have put together for this concert. It presents a nice mix of different styles and moods. The Prokofiev (Sonata No. 1 in F minor) is a powerful, emotional piece which will be well-tempered by the Ravel Sonata. Also, I love to spend time in Toronto in the summer. It seems when the weather is good, everyone is in a good mood and I just love it!

**What do you have planned for the next few months?**

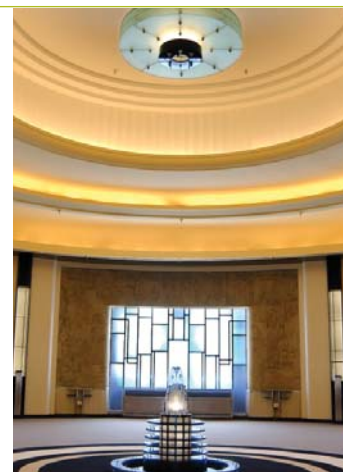
As for what is coming up for me, I am off to perform with the Timmins Symphony Orchestra and then the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. During the summer, I will give a

performance in Grant Park in Chicago. I'll also be taking in a White Sox [baseball] game with some friends there. I think Chicago with its Millennium Park is a great place for outdoor concerts. To tell you the truth, aside from these concerts, I'm looking forward to a nice break at the end of June when I'll have a few days off to go to as many baseball games as I can.

## OPENING NIGHT CONCERT

W. A. Mozart : Sonata in G Major, K. 301  
 S. Prokofiev : Sonata No. 1 in F Minor, Op. 80  
 A. J. Kernis : Air  
 M. Ravel : Sonata for Violin and Piano

*James Ehnes and Jon Kimura Parker perform July 21, 8:00pm at the Opening Night Concert at the Carlu Concert Hall followed by a post-concert reception to celebrate the opening of our 2009 Festival. Reserve your tickets now by calling 416-597-7840 or go to [www.torontosummertime.com](http://www.torontosummertime.com)*



# A message from our President Jane W. Smith



Photo: Colleen Nicholson

Jane and Stephen Smith; Integral House

On May 3, Toronto Summer Music held its annual fundraising event at Dr. James Stewart's Integral House. What an evening it was! Hailed by the Wall Street Journal as "one of the most important private houses built in North America in a long time", Dr. Stewart's home was designed by Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe as a setting for chamber music. Performances take place in an unadorned double-height concert space with a spectacular view of the Rosedale ravine. Balconies, like opera boxes, overlook the space and house the intimate living and dining areas.

Agnes Grossmann developed programming that was keenly attuned to the setting and to the audience attending the event. She chose an

inspiring selection of musical excerpts from the Festival that captivated the audience, its attention perceptibly shifting from the house to the music. The concert, given by the Tokai String Quartet and clarinetist Hubert Tanguay-Labrosse, was enthusiastically received. By their energetic and thoughtfully nuanced performances, the musicians, all recent prizewinners, confirmed that the acoustics were superb from every point in the 'hall'.

We extend a HUGE "thank you" to Diana Wiley, our Hospitality Chair who, together with her Fundraising Events Committee, coordinated this special evening. Diana was tireless in ensuring that every aspect of the evening, which raised almost

\$25,000 for Toronto Summer Music's upcoming Academy and Festival programs, was perfectly planned and executed. Our sponsors for the evening, Sublime Catering and Iron Gate Private Wine Management, provided exceptional fare, fine wines and seamless service.

Dr. Stewart's offer to open his home to our 200 guests for dinner and a chamber music concert was generous in the extreme; we are immensely grateful for his support. A former violinist with the Hamilton Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Stewart was a most gracious host, joining Toronto Summer Music patrons in a celebration of the sublime in both music and architecture.

Some events from our friends at Luminato that may interest you

## 10 DAYS TO LET THE MUSIC MOVE YOU

A world of creativity comes to Toronto this June, as Luminato returns for its third year June 5 – 14 to spotlight world and Canadian premieres of theatre, dance, music and visual arts, special celebrations and free events for all ages. Highlights of the music program include:

### *A Poe Cabaret: A Dream Within A Dream*

**June 8–10 | Buddies in Bad Times Theatre**

An intimate evening of Poe-inspired compositions featuring the Canadian premiere of librettist Mark Campbell and composer Lance Horne's opera *The Tell-Tale Heart*, and the world premieres of two Luminato commissions. Mike Ross premieres new songs sung by Patricia O'Callaghan, and Alexina Louie scores *The Raven*, which will be read by CBC's Tom Allen. Plus, harpist Lori Gemmell joins the Penderecki String Quartet in French composer André Caplet's take on *The Masque of the Red Death* – a spine-chilling concerto.

### *The Children's Crusade*

Composed by R. Murray Schafer | Produced in association with Soundstreams Canada

**June 5–11 | 153 Dufferin Street**

The world premiere of a dynamic, full-length new opera. Based on an extraordinary episode in 13th-century France, when thousands of children and young people were persuaded to embark on an ill-fated expedition to the Holy Land, *The Children's Crusade* tells a tragic, yet inspiring story of purity, innocence and passion pitted against cynicism and cruelty. The diverse talents of more than 100 performers, including The Canadian Children's Opera Company and the period instrument virtuosos of The Toronto Consort, combine to bring this spectacular operatic extravaganza to glorious life.

Tickets are now on sale. Call 416 872 1111 or visit [ticketmaster.ca](http://ticketmaster.ca). Visit [luminato.com](http://luminato.com) for details.



Penderecki Quartet

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2009 FESTIVAL EVENTS

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
JULY 19	20	21 OPENING NIGHT James Ehnes & Jon Kimura Parker 8 pm	22	23 Menahem Pressler & Friends 8 pm*	24	25 Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi & Friends 8 pm*
26	27	28 James Anagnoson & Leslie Kinton 8 pm*	29 Rising Stars 7:30 pm FREE!	30 Leipzig Quartet & Karl Leister 8 pm*	31 Penderecki Quartet 8 pm*	AUGUST 1 Anton Kuerti 8 pm*
2	3	4 Ian Swensen & Mayumi Seiler 8 pm*	5	6 Cecilia Quartet & Tokai Quartet 8 pm*	7	8 Patrick Gallois & Cecilia Löftstrand 8 pm*
9	10	11 Gryphon Trio & Monica Whicher 8 pm*	12	13 Opera Extravaganza 7:30 pm*	FREE Emerging Artist concerts on Wednesdays & Fridays! *Free Pre-Concert Lecture at 6:45pm (August 13, 6:15pm)	

RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW.  
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BY PHONE 416-597-7840

IN PERSON

UNTIL JULY 17

TS Ticketing  
Customer Service Centre  
212 King Street West  
1st floor  
Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

AFTER JULY 17

Toronto Summer Music Box Office  
Edward Johnson Building  
University of Toronto,  
Faculty of Music  
80 Queen's Park Crescent  
Mon-Sat, 12:30pm-8:30pm

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