



## NEWSLETTER



"Helping shape Canada's vast musical landscape"

Spring 2013

### WHAT'S NEW AT SUMMER SIZZLE AND KEYBOARD KAMP



McGill doctoral composition student Jason Noble holds a MMus in composition from The University of Western Ontario and honours degrees in music and philosophy from Memorial University of Newfoundland. His composition teachers have included Dr. Chris Harman, Dr. Omar Daniel and Prof. Clifford Crawley. Jason has composed for many of Canada's finest ensembles. His pieces have been featured on CBC national television and radio and in concerts in Argentina, the United States, France, Belgium and across Canada, with forthcoming choral, chamber, and orchestral performances scheduled in four provinces and in Italy. His collection of student piano music 'Sunny Skies and Dragonflies' is published by The Frederick Harris Music Company. Two of his piano pieces will be published in the next *Northern Lights* series. Jason is new to the electroacoustic medium, but intends to continue exploring its exciting possibilities in the future. Jason will be working with Keyboard Kamp students as a host composer, performing a dinner recital and leading a pedagogy workshop for teachers and senior students at Summer Sizzle.

A favourite attraction at Summer Sizzle and Keyboard Kamp returns for another year. Tyler Seidenberg will take on the roll of host for our new Canadian Jazz concert, presented by the talented Keyboard Kampers. He will, no doubt, be the source of lots of fun and entertainment throughout the three-day event.



Attending Summer Sizzle for the first time is Dr. John Burge. Since 1987 he has been teaching at Queen's University where he currently holds the position of Full Professor. John Burge has written a large body of vocal, chamber, and orchestral compositions. He is particularly well known though, for his choral music, which has been performed by such choirs as The Elmer Iseler Singers, and The BBC Singers. His composition, *Angels' Voices*, for choir and orchestra, received the 2006 Outstanding New Choral Composition Award from the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors.

Over the years Dr. Burge has had a long and productive relationship with the Kingston Symphony and their Music Director, Glen Fast. Since 1991 they have commissioned and premiered many of his orchestral compositions, including a *Piano Concerto*, *Clarinet Concerto*, *Trumpet Concerto* and a *Symphony*. Since 1993, Burge has also written five chamber orchestra works for The Thirteen Strings of Ottawa. With titles like, *Snowdrift*, *Rocky Mountain Overture*, *Upper Canada Fiddle Suite*, and *The Canadian Shield*, it is obvious that a number of his works for large ensemble draw their influence from a distinctively Canadian perspective. Orchestras and audiences seem taken with these works as they have received numerous performances across Canada and even as far away as Brazil and Russia. We are delighted to have Dr. Burge at Summer Sizzle in the roll of host composer, performer and pedagogy clinician.

A new workshop topic for Keyboard Kampers will be a musical workout with DrumFIT™, a fun, fast-paced fitness program that combines music, dance, rhythm and learning. It is guaranteed to leave you breathless and begging for more! The workouts incorporate patterning, Brain Gym activities, polyrhythms, hand-eye coordination, fine motor skill building, spatial awareness, team work games and more – not to mention the obvious benefit of cardiovascular exercise. Hopefully all Keyboard Kamp parents are able to join in the fun. DrumFIT™ will also offer a teacher workshop for all our Summer Sizzle registrants.

Also new this year is a workshop on Understanding Chords at the Keyboard for teachers, and Realizing a Lead Line for students. Keeping with our focus on Canadian Jazz Works for the Keyboard Kamp program, these hot topics will give teachers and students guides and tips for playing pop and jazz styles. Check our website for updates on workshops and activities.

## FROM A COMPOSER'S POINT OF VIEW

The *Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music's Summer Sizzle event is probably quite unique. Although it is a short three day program designed for students and teachers, it offers so many workshops, lectures, and recitals for the benefit of all participants. The fact that noon and evening meals are included is an added bonus and allows participants to remain on site for the whole day.

To me, the most exciting feature is the opportunity for students to work with Canadian composers. In some of the sessions students will perform pieces they have learned and get valuable feedback from the composer who wrote the piece. They can ask questions and discuss aspects of the music. As a composer, I find it most interesting to hear how a student interprets my music and his or her reasons for doing so.

Then there are all the sessions where students can use their own imagination to create music under the guidance of one of the composers. These sessions are absolutely great and the end result of a small group of students working together to develop a musical idea is most interesting. To hear the final result of all the different groups' work on the Tuesday afternoon is, to say the least, most interesting and entertaining.

The presentation of the new publications of Canadian works is of course a gala event. Many of the newly published pieces are performed and students have an opportunity to meet the composers present and receive their autograph. One must certainly be amazed at the work that is being done to select these compositions and bring them forward to be published.

Although the whole Summer Sizzle is a relatively short event, it is packed with so many worthwhile events for both students and teachers. It deserves a Five Star rating!

*Submitted by Ernst Schneider*

## A SPECIAL COMPOSER CONNECTION

I don't think of myself as a performer, but I do love my practice time, now more than ever. Sometimes when I'm playing a piece of music I feel like I'm having a good conversation with the composer. He's (of course it could be she, but this feeling comes to me whenever I'm working from a certain male composers' music) telling me all about a particular time in his life. He's sharing his most special thoughts. He's showing me his feelings, sharing opinions, and taking me to an imaginary world.

I must be careful with these precious thoughts, I must consider their meaning as I create my responses to the music. I must be thorough in my exploration of the music in order to carry on the conversation. As the performer, I have the opportunity to embrace these emotions and dreams, but I also have the power to neglect them. Every note on the page was put there purposefully, carefully. Just like every word in a good conversation. It's up to me to think, to interpret, and to respond.

As teachers we also hold a huge responsibility to guide our students. A deeper understanding of the score allows the performer some choices. What is the composer saying there? Whether the music is absolute or programmatic, it should speak to you. After all, music is a language.

So continue to study theory, harmony, and counterpoint, which deepen our understanding of the written page. Continue to practice technical exercises which increase our ability to execute passages with agility and beauty. Continue to dig into students brains to get their interpretation – it music be personalized to truly be understood. And continue to light the sparks of imagination among your students.

Make good use of the opportunities we have today. We, and our students, can meet, attend workshops, or use social media to connect with hundreds of living Canadian composers. Perhaps you'll soon find yourself having a conversation face to face. Until then, keep exploring your favourite composers' works!

*Submitted by Laura Gray*

**"REAL, LIVE, CANADIAN COMPOSERS!" BY KAREN EMMOND**

Happy to lend a hand, the young girl headed to the closed doors preoccupied with the heavy box in her arms. As she struggled with creatively opening the arena door, it suddenly swung open and she swept gratefully past the considerate man with a shy 'thank you'. "Do you know who that was?" the organizer asked, "That was Rémi Bouchard." My daughter just about dropped the box as she squealed, "Rémi Bouchard? Rémi Bouchard held the door open for ME? Oh, my gosh! I can't believe it - I play his pieces! This is going to be a great day!"

From our first encounter with a "real, live Canadian composer", true celebrities in our country's music industry, *Northern Lights* CNCM Summer Sizzle and Keyboard Kamp 2010 seemed to be a collection of 'best days' for Julia and I - a wonderfully encouraging environment packed with Canadian composer celebrities, gathered for the express purpose of assisting young pianists in developing their musicianship and musical creativity. Four of us had traveled from British Columbia for this experience: two silver-medal winners and their happy moms, one greatly appreciating the information presented through the camp's parent program, and myself, who enjoyed the interesting variety of pedagogy sessions in the teacher's program as well as the camaraderie of fellow musicians.

As a major world exporter of music, the incredible number of talented Canadian musicians, composers, arrangers, music leaders and teachers should come as no surprise. Our country offers three world-class national music conservatories. Our universities offer outstanding music programs for advanced students wishing to pursue degrees in music. Canada is recognized as the third largest exporter of musical talent in the world. Our country enjoys a strong \$3 billion a year music industry, encompassing more than 30,000 songwriters and composers actively involved in music-making.<sup>1</sup>

To fuel that success, we need to nurture the natural enthusiasm of young musicians. Inspiration feeds determination, encouragement affirms commitment, and fellowship with like-minded peers and successful mentors keeps the passion for music-making strong through the long, essential hours of practice, ensuring that all of us can look forward to fresh new sounds and the music of accomplished musicians who, in their turn, will inspire and nurture future generations.

This responsibility is well understood by the organizers of Summer Sizzle. The hours are filled with exciting opportunities for campers to learn new musical skills, polish and share performance pieces, have fun together, and experience the joys of group music-making with one of those 'real, live Canadian composers'!

Julia and I treasure our Summer Sizzle and Keyboard Kamp experience and feel great affinity towards the composers we met when we play their music. Both of us were inspired to push harder with our piano studies and performances. Julia is thinking of pursuing a Bachelor of Music and I love to "fire up" my students with an enthusiasm for making music that will last, hopefully, their entire lives! Both Julia and Ashley, the other silver-medal winner who attended with us, have composed pieces since Summer Sizzle, and are learning other instruments along with piano. Julia still talks about the composers she met and learned from, like Andrew Harbridge, whose music she and Ashley both played at the convocation, Tyler Seidenberg, who hosted the hilarious karaoke party, Michael Dobinson, her creative group leader, and the sincere encouragement of CNCM principal Debra Wanless.

The sports world knows the value of triumphant 'heroes' and the motivation those heroes provide for the young hearts and minds of their fans. At Keyboard Kamp, your young pianist will meet the heroes behind the contemporary music they play - music they 'own' - the music of their Canada. Summer Sizzle is an amazing way to experience the art of making music - an integral part of our culture and identity as Canadians. Hopefully, we'll see you in there this summer!

<sup>1</sup> Canadian Heritage 'Music – just the facts' - <http://pch.gc.ca/eng/1332351517856>

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR TEACHERS**

**Northern Lights  
Canadian  
National  
Conservatory of  
Music**

**PO Box 583  
Mount Forest,  
ON  
N0G 2L0**

**registrar@cncm.ca  
www.cncm.ca**

**1-866-889-8807**

**Summer Sizzle 2013  
July 21, 22, 23  
Mount Forest, ON**

Application Deadline	Examination Date
March 1, 2013	Spring 2013
June 1, 2013	Summer 2013
December 1, 2013	Winter 2014

- Please include bar numbers on music given to examiners at performance examinations.
- Please note that CNCM needs to be included on the cover of a student performance examination program. This could be the CNCM logo or name.
- CNCM has recently completed revisions of the Piano Syllabi. Please check the downloadable files on our website, and contact the Office of the Registrar to order your hard copy.

## CNCM IS ALL ABOUT...NEW CANADIAN MUSIC

### ***Northern Lights Christmas Festival***

Friday, December 5, 2012, Mount Forest, Ontario was alive with the strains of Christmas music in the air. Local and area students participated in the annual *Northern Lights Christmas Music Festival*, sponsored by the Mount Forest and District Arts Council and the Mount Forest Lions Club, hosted by *Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music. A non-competitive festival open to private music students and school classes celebrates the advent of the Christmas season with classes in traditional and popular Christmas repertoire. Entries in piano, vocal, string, recorder, and bells filled the day. Scholarships were generously provided by the Township of Wellington North, Mount Forest Lions Club, Mount Forest and District Arts Council, and private donors. Come celebrate the 2013 Christmas season with us. Contact registrar@cncm.ca for details. Submitted by Norine Broomhead

### **Introducing the New Edition of the Piano Syllabus**

*Northern Lights* CNCM has been hard at work to bring you an updated piano syllabus, with clear outlines of every program offered and clarification on details of requirements for each examination. The *Music for Everyone* curriculum is included within the syllabus for each grade.

Some other changes you will find are upgraded information on written program requirements for all performance examinations (see page 9 of 2012 Piano Syllabus). Additional information on choosing repertoire 'in the style of' for performance examinations is available on page 14 of the 2012 Piano Syllabus. You can also read through the article "Baroque and Renaissance Pieces In *Northern Lights* Collections" (see page 5 of newsletter).

New marking format, designed to keep a strong emphasis on repertoire as students progress through the intermediate and advanced grades appears on page 10 of the syllabus. As always, our exams provide ample time for candidates to present every element, and examination lengths are clearly presented. Teachers will be delighted to find musical examples throughout the syllabus of technical elements, and clearly defined musicianship skills.

*Northern Lights* CNCM is now offering a Licentiate Performance Diploma. Check the website for more information on this exciting program.

Download your Piano Syllabus for free at cncm.ca or contact the Office of the Registrar to purchase a hard copy.

Now Available  
**Grades 1-9**  
Plus, grades 6, 7 and 8 have been revised!

# CNCM Teaching Aids

These musicianship books are designed as a study aid for students who are preparing for the Canadian National Conservatory's musicianship exams.

The books were created to assist pupils, parents and teachers by providing supplemental study material.

**Bonnie Alexander's  
Music Studio**

For more information or to order books, please call 705•445•5744 or email bonniealexander@rogers.com

## NEW RELEASES IN THE NORTHERN LIGHTS SERIES

CNCM is excited to launch the latest *Northern Lights* collections at Summer Sizzle 2013 in July. Look for the *Grade 8B Musical Discoveries* as well as the first book in the *Northern Lights Piano Duet* series – Primary Duets. Selected works from each of these collections will be premiered at the Gala Celebration Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> in Mount Forest, Ontario.

## BAROQUE AND RENAISSANCE PIECES IN NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLECTIONS

The new 2012 CNCM Piano Syllabus now provides opportunities for Exam students to choose ‘in the style of’ (period) pieces. The *Northern Lights* collections provide a wide variety of styles within each grade level. Below is a list of the *Northern Lights* pieces that were written in Baroque or Renaissance style.

Northern Lights Collection	Title	Page	Composer
Primer 2	Greg's Song	19	Wanless
Preparatory A	Folk Song	17	Schneider
1A	Musette	18	Crawley
1A	Prelude...Canon	43	Dobinson
1B	'Cantus Planus' in Dorian	27	Badian
2A	Sarabande	33	Wanless
2A	The King's Command	28	Rowell
3A	Bourrée	43	Crawley
3B	A Stately Dance (Sarabande)	3	Schneider
4A	Gigue	42	Crawley
4A	King Arthur's Triumph	39	Neufeld
4A	Canon with a Twist	24	Snowdon
4B	Monastic Impressions (plainchant, organum)	34	Dobinson
5A	Prelude and Fugue	20	Wanless
5A	Ecoisaise	23	Harbridge
6A	The Bubble Bath	7	Richert
6A	Courante in B minor	21	Harbridge
6B	Minuetto	13	Rowell
7A	Allemande	12	Harbridge
7A	Captain John's Jig	40	Rowell
7B	Invention in Seven	28	Smythe
8A	Fugato	70	Wrzaskala
8A	Passacaglia in Baroque Style	48	Fiess

Submitted by Tenley Dyck

## FROM THE THEORY DEPARTMENT

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** *The new piano syllabus looks great – can you just clarify the options for earning a full Grade at any level?*

**Answer:** There are three options for Grades One through Nine:

- i. Candidates may choose a Performance Examination (in the format of a personal recital) as well as the corresponding Musicianship for the same grade or one grade higher.

Example: Grade Two Performance Examination AND the Grade Two or Three Musicianship results in a Grade Two Certificate.

OR

- ii. Candidates may choose a Workshop Examination —behind closed doors with an interactive session which may include parents and teacher as well as the corresponding Musicianship for the same grade.

Example: Grade Two Workshop Examination AND the Grade Two Musicianship results in a Grade Two Certificate

OR

- iii. Candidates may choose *Northern Lights Music For Everyone* Examinations – Popular AND Star Performance as well as the corresponding Musicianship for the same grade or one grade higher.

Example: Fiess (F) Level Music For Everyone Popular Stream Examination AND Fiess (F) Level Music For Everyone Star Performance Examination AND the Grade Two or Three Musicianship results in a Grade Two Certificate.

The three options offer all students a personal approach to examinations.

Candidates have a maximum of **twelve months** to complete the corresponding Musicianship Examination after successfully completing the Performance Examination and vice versa.

Remember you can contact the Office of the Registrar with your questions at any time. We're here to help!

registrar@cncm.ca

### Listening Portion of the CNCM History Program

In preparation for the CNCM history examinations, listening to the recommended Naxos cd's will not only prepare the candidate for the listening portion of the examinations but will enhance knowledge of the instrumentation and musical description of the scores. Use of "Norton Scores" is also suggested as a supplemental resource in the preparation of these exams.

Practice Examinations for all written subjects are available through the Office of the Registrar.

registrar@cncm.ca

### History Resources

#### History Examinations

CNCM is aware of the use of internet sources for information pertinent to history examinations. Candidates are encouraged to cross reference this type of resource material with a standard music history textbook such as *"The Enjoyment of Music"* by Machlis, current edition, to verify the reliability. The Naxos "Discover" CD series which includes supportive written materials, is the recommended resource for the listening portion of the exams. *Refer to the CNCM history syllabus for details.*

#### Suggested Theory Books

Although any theory book may be used for the CNCM theory program, the series that meets all CNCM requirements is the *Lawless Theory Course* published by Mayfair Music.

CNCM Gr. 5 Theory: *Lawless Preliminary Rudiments*  
 CNCM Gr. 6 Theory: *Lawless Grade One Rudiments*  
 CNCM Gr. 7 Theory: *Lawless Grade Two Rudiments*  
 CNCM Gr. 8 Theory: *Lawless Grade Two Rudiments*  
 AND *Lawless Elementary Harmony and Melody Writing*

www.cncm.ca

#### Reminder for theory/history proctors and candidates:

Please **do not** staple papers together on completion of the examination.

# CNCM IS ALL ABOUT...KEYBOARD KAMP

## Celebrate Summer Sizzle 13

Invite a friend or family member to join you at **Keyboard Kamp**.

Please share this information with your music community.

## Keyboard Kamp 2013 Registration Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fees: **13th Anniversary Special**  
\$230.00

Student: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Piano Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE PRINT

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ P.C.: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent  \$ 90

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parental fee admits one parent to accompany student to his/her individual/group events and includes two lunches, two dinners, coffee breaks and two concerts.

**I would like to volunteer to assist with student events and activities during Summer Sizzle Keyboard Kamp.**

Payment enclosed (**payable to CNCM**): Contact CNCM about special teacher/student group rates.

Cheque \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any special dietary needs or allergies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: *Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music,  
P.O. Box 583, Mount Forest, ON, N0G 2L0  
[registrar@cncm.ca](mailto:registrar@cncm.ca) 1.866.889.8807

## CNCM IS ALL ABOUT...SUMMER SIZZLE

### Summer Sizzle: A Pedagogy Symposium 2013 Registration Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees: 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special**

Before April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013  \$265.00 Group of 4 or more  \$235.00 each  
 After April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013  \$325.00 Group of 4 or more  \$295.00 each

ONE DAY ONLY:  Sunday, July 21, 2013 ONLY: Fee \$110.00  
 Monday, July 22, 2013 ONLY: Fee \$135.00  
 Tuesday, July 23, 2013 ONLY: Fee \$110.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ P.C.: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Payment enclosed (**payable to CNCM**): Contact CNCM about special teacher/student group rates.

Cheque \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any special dietary needs or allergies.

Mailing Address:

Canadian National Conservatory of Music; P.O. Box 583, Mount Forest, ON, N0G 2L0

**CNCM 2013 Convocation Dinner and Ceremony**

**Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013**

**Requires separate registration. Please contact the registrar office for details.**

[registrar@cncm.ca](mailto:registrar@cncm.ca) 1.866.889.8807