

### **Sonja Adams - Strings**



Before earning her Bachelor of Music in Performance degree from the University of Toronto, Sonja Adams was actively involved in the flourishing Vancouver music scene. She has incorporated that same interest in her new home in New Brunswick with an impressive private studio province wide, coaching youth orchestras, faculty at summer music camps and extensive in-school concert programs.

Her current activities include playing cello with the Saint John String Quartet, artist in residence at the University of New Brunswick, Saint John, principal cellist for Symphony New Brunswick and Atlantic Sinfonia.

Sonja is often heard on regional and national CBC programs as a chamber musician and has released 5 award winning CDs with the Saint John String Quartet. With the Quartet she has toured extensively, recently returning home from a 30 day tour of Latin America. Along with the many awards for her work with the SJSQ, Sonja has received the New Brunswick Merit Award for her contribution to Arts and Culture.

### **Robyn Cathcart – Vocal/Choir/Speech**



Tenor, director, voice teacher and clinician Robyn Vaughn Cathcart is a multi-faceted, dynamic and in-demand artist whose thirty-six year career spans the worlds of opera, musical theatre, jazz, pop, concert performance, commercial performance and recording. With over 190 productions, concerts and recital appearances to his credit, he is the founding Artistic Director of Enter Left Productions (ELP), and has served as the Associate Director of the historic Savoy Theatre in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.

In the mainstream Mr. Cathcart's work has been seen and heard by hundreds of thousands of people across Canada, the United States and Europe in his collaborations with "The Canadian Tenors" and "Tenore". A recipient of numerous awards, prizes, grants and scholarships, Mr. Cathcart is also a published author. Additional areas of expertise include design, enhanced performance techniques and yoga.

Mr. Cathcart is the owner/operator of "Sing: The Cape Breton Voice Studio" and was awarded a Cape Breton Vitality Award in 2014 for his contributions and leadership in the Arts & Culture Sector of Cape Breton Island. Mr. Cathcart has also nominated as one of the area's top entertainers by The Cape Breton Post.

Most recently, he originated the roll of "Casey Baldwin" to great acclaim in the world and Canadian premiere of "The Bells of Baddeck" at the Bell Museum in Baddeck, NS.

### **Gary Tucker – Junior Piano**



Gary Tucker has been, since 1994, a professor of Music at Mount Allison University, where he teaches courses in music theory and analysis and music history. He was Head of the Music Department from 2003 to 2008. With degrees from Mount Allison and Western University, he is principally a musicologist. He also occasionally performs as a pianist and has given several lecture-recitals on the music of early 20th-century Vienna. Dr. Tucker has been a piano and voice examiner with Mount Allison's Local Centre Examinations in Music since 1999; he was director of Local Centre from 2003 to 2009. He has also taught piano privately in Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Ontario.

### **Carl Philippe Gionet – Senior Piano**



Whether as a soloist or accompanist, Carl Philippe Gionet is a much sought after collaborator, mainly in Europe and North America. The diffusion of classical music to all audiences is very important to him. Despite his numerous travels, he remains very involved in promoting music in his native New Brunswick. In 2013, he founded *Musique sur mer en Acadie*, an event dedicated to the education and promotion of classical music in francophone minority communities. Since 2014, he is collaborative piano professor and vocal coach for the summer master class given by the *Associazione Cieli Vibranti* in Breno, Italy. Carl completed his doctorate in piano performance at Université de Montréal under the direction of Paul Stewart. He has received specialized training in collaborative piano in Austria and England, and participated in numerous prestigious summer programs such as the Heidelberg Akademie with Thomas Hampson, the Académie de Villecroze with Dalton Baldwin, the Britten-Pears Young Artist Program and the Franz-Schubert-Institut among others. Along with his commitments in the field of classical music, Carl has performed in Canada and Europe as an accompanist and composer with many artists of the Francophonie.

### **Jean-Guy Boisvert – Band/Winds/Percussion**



Jean-Guy Boisvert has performed extensively the more traditional repertoire with Alcan, Bozzini, Colorado, Laval, Arthur Leblanc and Penderecki quartets, pianists Valentin Bogolubov, David Despringres, Marc Durand, Suzanne Goyette, Jean Marchand, John Newmark and Lorraine Prieur among others.

A graduate of the Conservatoire de musique du Québec and London's Guildhall School of Music, Jean-Guy Boisvert holds a Doctorate in contemporary music performance from the Université de Montréal. He has studied with such diverse musicians as Robert Crowley, Rafaëlle Masella, Yona Ettlinger, Robert Marcellus and Suzan Stephens with whom he especially worked on the choreographic works of Stockhausen, including Harlekin.

Founding member of the wind quintet *Ventus Machina*, he teaches clarinet, saxophone and chamber music at the Université de Moncton.