

EMBARGOED: Until Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 12:00pm-noon

Cecilia Concerts launches 2017/18 season featuring Musician-In-Residence Dominic Desautels, and soprano Jane Archibald

Halifax, Nova Scotia (May 8, 2017): Cecilia Concerts, Halifax's premier presenter of non-symphonic classical music, is delighted to announce its 2017/18 concert season featuring 14 concerts.

Highlights include the season launcher on September 16 with the first of three residency concerts by clarinetist **Dominic Desautels**. Known for his singing approach to clarinet playing, Desautels is the winner of several competitions and awards in Canada, including Radio-Canada's *Auditions Jeunes Artistes*, and the concerto competitions of the Université de Montréal and Orchestre de la Francophonie. "Dominic has truly embraced the role of Musician-In-Residence suggesting highly creative programming and recommending unique musical collaborations," says Cecilia Concerts' Chairperson Jules Chamberlain. "We're delighted to be working with this highly sought-after artist."

Belgian ensemble **Psallentes** is known around the world for their performance of plainchant and has released more than 25 recordings. Presented on October 29 at St. Mary's Basilica on Spring Garden Road, the concert is presented in partnership with The Fountain School of Performing Arts and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, which is currently exhibiting "*Centuries of Silence: The Discovery of the Salzennes Antiphonal*", an exhibition featuring the ancient manuscript containing the music the vocalists of **Psallentes** will perform during this special presentation. Also from Belgium, magical collective **Ô-Celli**, an ensemble featuring eight cellists, will perform October 29 and will take their Halifax audience on a tour through a wide exploration of musical territory ranging from Tchaikovsky to Strauss, and from Piazzolla to Nino Rota.

The winner of multiple Juno awards and the recipient of an Order of Canada, renowned pianist **Jane Coop** will perform masterpieces by Beethoven and Rachmaninoff in her November 12 piano recital "*Giants of the Piano*". Canadian fusion group **Ladom Ensemble** will perform on March 10, 2018. The spread of the group reaches far across the world as their all-original repertoire incorporates inspirations from Argentinian jazz/classical tango, Serbian folk dance, and Persian classical dulcimer. Reflecting a beautiful new world with a Western classical toolset, critics call them "elegant and contemplative," and "rocking and fiery".

"This season's launch is our most ambitious ever, acknowledging the wealth of local, national and international talent we will be presenting in 2017/18," says Cecilia Concerts' Executive Director D'Arcy Poultney. Other season highlights include: **Postcards From France** (Cameron Crozman, cello; Hugo Lee, oboe; Philip Chiu, piano); **O Mistress Moon** (Jennifer King, piano); **Heemin Choi Recital** (Heemin Choi, violin); **Faune & Naiades** (Ariane Brisson, flute; Olivier

Hébert-Bouchard, piano); *Red Piano* (Jeanne Amièle, piano; Simon Larivière, piano); and a production of Mozart & da Ponte's opera *Don Giovanni*.

The season finishes with a special presentation recital by celebrated soprano **Jane Archibald**. She has generated excitement across Europe and North America, debuting many coloratura roles, which she continues to perform. Renowned for her extraordinary technical abilities, Jane won the JUNO Award for Classical Album of the Year for her debut solo album. She will be joined by esteemed pianist Liz Upchurch.

With the exception of Psallentes, all concerts will take place at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, 6199 Chebucto Road in Halifax. Tickets and ticket passes for Cecilia Concerts 2017/18 Season are now available online at ceciliaconcerts.ca and by phone at 902 423 0143.

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About Cecilia Concerts

Cecilia Concerts presents local, national and international classical music in a series of concerts throughout the year. For more than a quarter century, they have presented the best in classical music experiences for Halifax audiences in a welcoming atmosphere, and at accessible ticket prices. They have supported and presented works by many emerging and established over the years including: Soprano Suzie LeBlanc; Violinist Philippe Djokic and pianist Lynn Stodola; Flautist Marina Piccinini; Cellist Shimon Walt; Pianist, Composer & Conductor Dinuk Wijeratne; Composer/Musician/Broadcaster Peter Togni; Soprano Rebecca Caine; Blue Engine String Quartet; and Composer and Pianist Peter Allen.

Cecilia Concerts operates with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage and Arts Nova Scotia, as well as with the support of many generous donors and partners.

For further information or to book an artist interview or media appearance (French or English) please contact:

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For high-resolution artist photography please visit ceciliaconcerts.ca/media

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2017/18 Cecilia Concerts Season At-A-Glance

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 2017 – 7PM

Musician-In-Residence Dominic Desautels & Friends

Dominic Desautels, clarinet; Stéphane Tétreault, cello; Jean-Philippe Sylvestre, piano

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 2017 – 8PM

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Psallentes

Belgian Medieval Vocalists, Directed by Hendrik Vanden Abeele

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 2017 – 7PM

Postcards From France

Cameron Crozman, cello; Hugo Lee, oboe; Philip Chiu, piano

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 2017 – 2PM

Ô-Celli

Belgian Cello Octet

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 2017 – 2PM

Giants of the Piano

Jane Coop, piano

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 2017 – 7PM

Mozart & da Ponte's *Don Giovanni*

Performances by Jeunesse Musicales

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25 2017 – 7PM

The Parcival Project

Emmanuel Vukovich, violin; Victor Fournelle-Blain, violin; Marina Thibeault, viola; Julia MacLaine, cello; Dominic Desautels, clarinet

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 2018 – 2PM

O Mistress Moon

Jennifer King, piano

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 2018 – 2PM

Heemin Choi Recital

Heemin Choi, violin

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 2018 – 2PM

Faune & Naiades

Palladium Duo: Ariane Brisson, flute; Olivier Hébert-Bouchard, piano

SATURDAY, MARCH 10 2018 – 7PM

Ladom Ensemble

Michael Bridge, accordion; Adam Campbell, percussions; Pouya Hamidi, piano; Marie-Cristine P. St-Jacques, cello

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 2018 – 7PM

A Celebration of Spring

Dominic Desautels, clarinet; Pascale Beaudin, soprano; and Walter Delahunt, piano

SUNDAY, APRIL 8 2018 – 2PM

Red Piano

Jeanne Amière, piano; Simon Larivière, piano

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 2018 – 7PM

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Jane Archibald Recital

Jane Archibald, coloratura; and Liz Upchurch, pianist