

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cecilia Concerts launches 2017/18 classical music season with concert featuring six-million-dollar, three-hundred-year-old Stradivarius cello on stage in Halifax

Halifax, Nova Scotia (September 5, 2017): An all-star trio of young Canadian musicians including clarinetist Dominic Desautels, who is Cecilia Concerts' 2017/18 Musician-In-Residence, cellist Stéphane Tétreault and pianist Jean-Philippe Sylvestre perform Beethoven and Brahms clarinet trios on Saturday, September 16 at 7:00pm at the Lilian Piercey Concert Hall in the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts (6199 Chebucto Road) in Halifax.

The celebrated Stéphane Tétreault will play a 1707 Stradivarius cello worth more than six-million-dollars. The instrument had previously belonged to the Countess of Stainlein, Italian composer Niccolò Paganini in the mid-1800s and then to the famous Parisian luthier Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume. The instrument is currently on indefinite loan by Mrs. Jacqueline Desmarais.

In addition to numerous awards and honours, Stéphane was selected as laureate of the 2015-2016 Classe d'Excellence de violoncelle Gautier Capuçon from the Fondation Louis Vuitton, and received the 2015 Women's Musical Club of Toronto Career Development Award. He was the very first recipient of the \$50,000 Fernand-Lindsay Career Award as well as the Choquette-Symcox Award laureate in 2013.

Dominic Desautels has been the principal clarinetist at Symphony Nova Scotia since 2012. He has quickly earned acclaim and recognition since his debut as soloist at age 21 with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Known for his singing approach to clarinet playing, Dominic 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 Desautels has recently been named a Backun Artist and plays MoBa clarinets made with cocobolo wood, crafted in Canada.

Jean-Philippe Sylvestre won the Virginia Parker prize, the highest distinction attributed by the Canadian Council for the Arts to any musician. Laureate of the first prize of the Montreal Symphonic Orchestra Competition, he also won the CBC National Radio Competition for Young Performers and the International Radio Competition for Young Musicians 'Concertino Praga'. He plays regularly in Canada, in the United States, in South America, and in Europe. Not only is he a talented international classical pianist, but he is also an excellent jazz piano player.

The exciting concert is presented in partnership with Backun Musical Services. Tickets and season passes are available online (\$30 Adult, \$20 Senior, \$15 Student, \$10 Child) at ceciliaconcerts.ca, by phone at 902-423-0143, and also at the door.

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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: Grammy Award-winning soprano Suzie LeBlanc, tenor Ben Heppner, Violinist Philippe Djokic and pianist Lynn Stodola; Pianist/Composer/Conductor Dinuk Wijeratne; Composer/Musician/Broadcaster Peter Togni; Composer/Pianist Peter Allen; flautist Marina Piccinini, Grammy Award-winning composer Paul Halley; YAS Quartet with violinist Artem Kolesov; and opera/musical theatre star Rebecca Caine.

Cecilia Concerts operates with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Arts Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Support4Culture, the city of Halifax, ArtsVest – Business for the Arts, and Music Nova Scotia. Season Sponsors include Scotiabank, Premier Suites Atlantic, Jules Chamberlain of Red Door Realty and The Craig Foundation. Cecilia Concerts also operates 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

Dominic Desautels, clarinet; Emmanuel Vukovich, violin; Tina Chong, piano

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 & 17 2017 – 2PM

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Deantha Edmunds-Ramsey: Pillorikput Inuit: Inuktitut Arias for All Seasons

Deantha Edmunds-Ramsey, soprano; and Tara Scott, piano

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 Amièle, piano; Simon Larivière, piano

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 2018 – 7PM

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Jane Archibald Recital

Jane Archibald, coloratura; and Liz Upchurch, pianist