Aventa Ensemble 2016/17

Welcome to Aventa's 2016/17 concert season

This season represents a slight departure in the way that we have assembled and chosen the pieces of the puzzle that we know as *new music*. To achieve the full picture, our programming has been guided by three primary considerations – where music has come from, where it is today and where it is headed tomorrow.

When we consider the provenance of contemporary music, Schoenberg, Webern and Stravinsky jump to mind. I, however, believe that Carl Nielsen has had a profound influence on the development of music. With this in mind, our opening concert features Hans Abrahamsen's brilliant transcription of Nielsen's ever-enigmatic 1924-5 work, *Symphony No. 6*.

This season, we continue our exploration of large-scale works from the current repertoire. Germany's acclaimed composer, Wolfgang Rihm, is recognized as being pivotal to the development of new music. There is no better introduction to his music than through his masterpiece, *Jagden und Formen*. Join us in March to see why this work has been celebrated as a "50-minute thrill ride"!

Finally, Aventa remains committed to the commissioning of new works – both nationally and internationally. I cannot stress enough the value that lies in the development and presentation of "new classics" of tomorrow. Aventa is honoured to present the world premiere of such a work – Philippe Leroux's *(D)Tourner*.

I always enjoy the challenge of finding a new adventure to share with you and invite you to join Aventa in our journey this season!

Bill Linwood – Artistic Director

Sinfonia Semplice

Sunday, October 2nd, 2016 8pm

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
(UVic School of Music, MacLaurin Building)
Tickets at the door $20
Pre-concert talk 7:15PM

Aventa Ensemble
Bill Linwood, conductor

Analia Llugdar – *Todos los recuerdos...*
Ana Sokolovic – *...and I need a room...*
Carl Nielsen/Hans Abrahamsen – *Symphony No. 6 (Sinfonia Semplice)**

Abrahamsen's (DK) transcription of Carl Nielsen's *Symphony No. 6 (Sinfonia Semplice)* captures the essence of his enigmatic work and highlights the profound influence Nielsen has had on generations of composers.

This concert also introduces Analia Llugdar (Argentina/Canada), a composer of profound, refined and poetic esthetic, and welcomes back Ana Sokolovic (QC), with her infectious Balkan-style rhythms.

* *North American premiere*

Hans Abrahamsen – "a colourist of Ravel's caliber"

– SØREN SCHAUSER, BERLINGSKE TIDENDE

Spanning Tree

Sunday, February 12th, 2017 8pm

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
(UVic School of Music, MacLaurin Building)
Tickets at the door $20
Pre-concert talk 7:15PM

Mark McGregor, flute
Bill Linwood, percussion

Michael Oesterle – *Spanning Tree*
Michael Oesterle – *Delilah*
Gilles Tremblay – *...le sifflement des vents, porteurs de l'amour...*

Aventa presents two of Michael Oesterle's most exquisite works. *Delilah*, for solo flute, is rooted in the work of mathematician Alan Turing and his search for humanity within patterns and systems. *Spanning Tree*, for solo percussion, guides the audience through a maze of six tableaux, following the growth of a tree toward the sun, spanning the distance between itself and the light – each branch, each new angle reaching forward.

Quebec composer Gilles Tremblay has traveled an exemplary route. His music is distinguished by an exceptional open-mindedness and a keen awareness of the very nature of sound. Acclaimed for its richness of sound and aesthetics, Tremblay's music has strongly influenced the development of music and contemporary art in Canada. Aventa presents the composer's classic work for flute and percussion, *...le sifflement des vents porteurs de l'amour...*

"...Tremblay's infallible ear for colour rarely denies even the simplest gesture its sensuous potential."

– ELISSA POOLE, THE GLOBE AND MAIL

"Jagden und Formen, a 50-minute, single-movement musical thrill-ride for large ensemble"

– TOM SERVICE, THE GUARDIAN

Jagden und Formen

Sunday, March 12th, 2017 8:00pm

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
(UVic School of Music, MacLaurin Building)
Tickets at the door $20
Pre-concert talk 7:15PM

Aventa Ensemble
Bill Linwood, conductor

Gerhard Staebler/Michael Oesterle – *Den Mullfahrern von San Francisco*
Moritz Eggert – *Interior at Petworth**
Wolfgang Rihm – *Jagden und Formen**

With his music full of energy and immediate appeal, Wolfgang Rihm is considered by many to be one of the most radical figures writing today. Massively ambitious in scale, with a torrent of ideas and addictive energy, *Jagden und Formen* (Hunts and Forms) is one the composers most engaging works to date. Tom Service from the Guardian writes; *"Whatever else post-tonal music was supposed to do, it was supposed to sound like this - you'll experience one of the most life-enhancing jolts of musical energy in post-war music."*

* *Canadian premiere*

"Philippe Leroux is already emblematic of what will be the twenty-first century"

– PIERRE GERVASONI, THE WORLD

"... Aventa played with wonderful fluidity, ease and naturalness."

– GRAHAM STRAHLE, THE AUSTRALIAN

(D)Tourner

Sunday, April 23rd, 2017 8:00pm

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
(UVic School of Music, MacLaurin Building)
Tickets at the door $20
Pre-concert talk 7:15PM

Aventa Ensemble
Bill Linwood, conductor
Aiyun Huang, percussion

Patrick Giguère – *Insularité III: plenitudes et envies**
David Eagle – *As mountain winds**
Bertrand Dubedout – *ZAZPIAK Z*
Philippe Leroux – *(D)Tourner**

Aventa presents new works from Philippe Leroux (FR/CDN), David Eagle (AB) and Patrick Giguère (QC), alongside the dazzling *ZAZPIAK Z* by Bertrand Dubedout (FR).

Leroux, possessing a keen understanding of instrumental capabilities and the delicate relationship that exists between live musicians and electronics, continues to push the boundaries of what is possible for the modern ensemble. Aventa is proud to welcome virtuoso percussionist Aiyun Huang (QC) in the premiere of Leroux's 2017 work, *(D)Tourner.*

Aventa gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts in the commissioning of new works from Philippe Leroux and David Eagle.

* *Premiere performance*

"One would be hard pressed to find anyone who better embodies the spirit of drumming than Aiyun Huang"

– DONALD PAULKER, THE WHOLENOTE MAGAZINE

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Since 2003, Aventa has taken Victoria audiences on a fascinating journey of new music. With groundbreaking international and Canadian works, the ensemble continues to inspire the imagination. Please consider purchasing a subscription to our concert series to receive a 10% discount. Tickets will be mailed to address provided below.

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Thank you for your consideration and support.

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"I can hardly give enough praise to the ... Aventa Ensemble and conductor Bill Linwood, who tackled all this difficult music with skill, passion and dedication."

– ROBERT EVERETT-GREEN, THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Aventa Ensemble

With a reputation for superb performance and ambitious programming, Aventa has established itself as one of Canada's leading contemporary music ensembles. Comprised of musicians who are passionate about new music and its place in our culture, Aventa pushes musical boundaries through diverse projects, collaboration and cultural exchange.

Promoting and fostering new music has been at the core of Aventa's work since its founding. The ensemble regularly commissions both Canadian and international new works and has presented premieres of over 120 works both in Canada and on tour. Under the artistic direction of Bill Linwood, the ensemble works closely with Canadian and international composers to develop instrumental techniques and refine interpretation.

The ensemble is committed to music education through a wide range of activities including composer workshops, mentorship and clinics. Through these outreach activities, Aventa introduces new music to a diverse audience.

Aventa gratefully acknowledges the support of the following sponsors:

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