



Aventa Ensemble 2017/18

*a new music
experience*

Welcome to Aventa's 2017/18 concert season

I am pleased to present our 2017/18 season – a foray into exciting musical adventures with each concert. This season celebrates the legacy of the iconic Canadian composer Gilles Tremblay, introduces a wide variety of international composition, includes participation in ISCM *World New Music Days* and sees the world premiere of a chamber opera by Michael Finnissy, *The Undivine Comedy*.

Programming this season proved to be an interesting journey. At the outset, the one thing that I knew for certain was that this season would see the premiere of Finnissy's opera. I have always enjoyed presenting music from Scandinavia and am excited to continue with a venture into music from Iceland. When ISCM approached me about Aventa participating in their festival, I was given the music from a wide variety of composers to consider (most of whom I was not familiar with). This opportunity offered a virtual listening "feast", from which I had the pleasure of selecting three composers for our concert.

With every new season, my appreciation and passion for Canadian and international new music grows. I feel fortunate to have been part of the building of connections and relationships that have become so precious for Aventa and myself. In closing, I am excited at being given the opportunity of sharing my new discoveries with you at our concerts!

Bill Linwood – Artistic Director

Lambent Fires

Sunday, October 15th, 2017 8pm

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

Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 12pm

The Roundhouse, Vancouver BC
– presented as part of ISCM World New Music Days 2017

Aventa Ensemble
Bill Linwood, conductor

Dániel Péter Biró – *Mishpatim (Part ONE)*

Michael Taplin (UK) – *Lambent Fires**

Madeleine Isaksson (SW) – *Isär**

Stefan Prins (BE) – *Hände ohne Orte**

Giorgio Magnanensi – *Lied • TDU FS* for ensemble, video and electronics**

Aventa's opening concert is presented in both Victoria and Vancouver, in collaboration with ISCM (International Society of Contemporary Music) *World New Music Days*. This event introduces us to three remarkable international composers, placed alongside the groundbreaking music of British Columbia's Dániel Péter Biró and Giorgio Magnanensi.

Aventa also has the honor of being selected to perform a new work written by the winner of ISCM Young Composer Award, Stefan Prins.

* North American premiere

** World premiere

The Undivine Comedy

– an opera by Michael Finnissy

In a turbulent world a revolution is breaking out – destined to dissolve into ongoing deceit and corruption.

Sunday, January 14th, 2018 8pm

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
(UVic School of Music, MacLaurin Building)
Tickets at the door \$40
Pre-concert talk 7:15pm

Aventa Ensemble
Bill Linwood, conductor
Helen Pridmore, soprano
Richard Morris, baritone

Michael Finnissy – *The Undivine Comedy**

Michael Finnissy describes his 2017 chamber opera, *The Undivine Comedy*, as a glimpse into the world at any time. Two people, doubling as a news team, cope with the ramifications of their personal choices and with what life throws at them – be it politics, insanity, revolution or just trying to keep ones head out of the sand...

Aventa is pleased to welcome two outstanding vocalists, Canada's Helen Pridmore and Britain's Richard Morris. No stranger to the music of Michael Finnissy, Helen has appeared with Aventa in the composer's classic works *Mr. Punch* and *Whitman*. Baritone Richard Morris last appeared with Aventa in the Australian premiere of Gavin Bryars' opera *Marilyn Forever*.

I know a secret. I know what will happen when God grows old and Insane.

– BEATRICE FROM *THE UNDIVINE COMEDY*

* World premiere

Aventa gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the British Columbia Arts Council in the commissioning and production of Michael Finnissy's *The Undivine Comedy*.

“...Say goodbye to Alexandra leaving. Then say goodbye to Alexandra lost...”

– LEONARD COHEN

Phonotopographie

Sunday, March 4th, 2018 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
Mark McGregor, flute

Zosha di Castri – *Cortège*
Anna Thorvaldsdottir – *aequilibria*
Gordon Fitzell – *Techno Messiah* for flute, ensemble and electronics*
Zosha di Castri – *Phonotopographie*

Inspired by the idea of a strange procession, Zosha di Castri's *Cortège* is a relentless succession of people and sounds. Stemming from the poetry of Leonard Cohen's "Alexandra Leaving", this is music of impending loss – the night before the city falls into enemy hands or the evening before a lover leaves for good.

This concert introduces Iceland's Anna Thorvaldsdottir, whose music has been described as *inevitable, as if it had to exist* (Boston Globe), and welcomes back Gordon Fitzell (MB) for the world premiere of *Techno Messiah* for flute, ensemble and electronics.

* World premiere

Aventa gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts in the commissioning of Gordon Fitzell's *Techno Messiah*.

“... there is a seductive transparency to Gilles Tremblay’s music that charms”

– ELISSA POOLE, THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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

– GRAHAM STRAHLE, THE AUSTRALIAN

Adieu Gilles

Sunday, April 15th, 2018 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

Gilles Tremblay – *Solstices*
Michael Oesterle – *Tell Tales*
Mauricio Kagel – *Die Stücke der Windrose (Norden, Südwesten)*

In July 2017, Canada lost an icon of Canadian composition with the passing of Gilles Tremblay. This concert celebrates the composer's legacy with his ever-changing work, *Solstices*.

In *Tell Tales*, for piano and ensemble, Quebec composer Michael Oesterle develops a narrative for the piano that resembles a guest at a dinner party. The piano engages in various conversations with other instruments – a quick hello, a bit about the weather, have you heard about such and such, a long embrace, a peck on the cheek, oh crap! not him again, we really need to keep in touch...

Aventa gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts in the commissioning of Michael Oesterle's *Tell Tales*.

Subscriptions and Donations

– Support Aventa’s Journey

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 the address you provide.

The collective financial support of our private sponsors and donors has a remarkable impact on our ensemble. Please consider giving a donation to help Aventa remain vibrant and viable. To discuss further options for support, please call (250) 592-9713 or e-mail info@aventa.ca.

Thank you for your consideration and support!

- Aventa 2017/18 Subscription
– 3 Concerts and *The Undivine Comedy* \$90
- I wish to make a donation

The information gathered on this form is collected for the purpose of processing donations, issuing charitable tax receipts and keeping donors informed of our activities with newsletter mailings and season brochures. Donors are listed in our concert programs. Please indicate how you wish to be acknowledged:

.....
 I wish my donation to remain anonymous.

Name

Address

.....
E-mail address

Please make cheques payable to “Aventa”.

Please mail to: Aventa New Music Society • 2161 Florence St. •
Victoria BC • V8R 5E7 / Charitable tax number: 86964 3502 RR0001

“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:



Conseil des arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL
An agency of the Province of British Columbia



CRD
Making a difference...together



BRITISH
COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

vancouver
foundation

FONDATION
SOCAN
FOUNDATION

VICTORIA FOUNDATION
COMMUNITY PARTNER
FOR THE ARTS COUNCIL OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Aventa • 2161 Florence St. • Victoria BC • V8R 5E7

info@aventa.ca / www.aventa.ca