

Upstream Music Associations *Open Waters 2016*

Meet the Artists



Symphony Nova Scotia (Performing on January 7th) is truly Nova Scotia's orchestra. With a home base in Halifax and performances across the province, Symphony Nova Scotia reaches more than 50,000 Nova Scotians of all ages each year with some of the most innovative concerts and educational offerings in the country.



Amy Brandon (Performing on January 8th) Classical Guitar builds soundscapes using recorded and manipulated, composed and freely improvised classical guitar. She records, edit and manipulate classical guitar sounds and fragments which then become the background to composed and improvised pieces. She is motivated by a desire to evoke



The Bird Project (Performing on January 8th) is a piece Arthur Bull and Norm Adams have presented and developed since about 2011. It is inspired by a verse from Arthur's "The Lake Diary" (Emerson Street Press, 2010). Like the poetry, the music of The Bird Project examines and drifts between the layers of clear lake waters, the air above and the music of Charlie Parker.



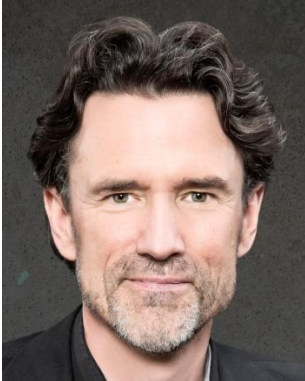
Sacré Tympan (Performing on January 8th) with Pierre Labbé, a composer, saxophonist, flutist and free-thinker, and Pierre Tanguay a percussionist, composer and optimistic inventor, spans many facets of contemporary music, including innovative approaches for introducing children to new music and improvisation. Together, they offer a sonic window into the intensely creative and consistently unique musique actually scene of Quebec.



Several of **Anteater's** (Performing on January 8th) members are made entirely of ants, thousands of them, crawling and pulsating, a tangled chitinous mass encased in some simile of human flesh. How are these entities defined? Where does the individual begin and the collective end? There are no answers, yet Anteater, ageless, must continue it's search.



Ellen Waterman (Performing on January 9th) We are all constantly improvising with our environment, playing off of tiny shifts in perception to make choices that affect the play of movement and sound around us. As a flutist/vocalist I simply try to tap into that energy.



Jeff Reilly (Performing on January 9th) conducts, composes, improvises and performs bass clarinet in the Upstream Orchestra. He surrenders to the infinite and practices really hard, and works like a dog to bring the voice inherent in these great pieces to fruition. He is inspired by the infinite complexity of human existence, the remarkable power of manipulated sound and his dreams.



The Cluttertones (Performing on January 9th) play “otherworldly chamber music.” It is jazz with an experimental ethos—open to subtlety, a sense of adventure, and diverse influences. Improvisation is an important element. We play with the intention to explore sonic worlds, and to engage with fellow humans on a deep level.



Doug Cameron, percussion and Jacinte Armstrong, dancer (Performing on January 10th) Exploring the balance between sound and motion, gesture and rhythm, intention, improvisation and inspiration, this pairing of one of Halifax's premiere creative percussionists Doug Cameron with the accomplished and ambitious dance artist Jacinte Armstrong, this pairing promises to shake foundations.



Birds of Paradox (Performing on January 10th) with Lan Tung – erhu, Ron Samworth – guitarist, and Neelamjit Dhillon – sax / tabla explores the fusion of composition and improvisation, incorporating three very distinct voices and cultural backgrounds into a creative whole. Its debut CD *Birds of Paradox* has been nominated for Western Canadian Music Award and Independent Music Awards.



Janice Isabel Jackson (Singer in Le Tombeau de Barbeau, January 10th) My ultimate goal is to be an ambassador for the soul of the music, without judgment or preconceived notions as to what is or is not relevant. I am constantly exploring new ways of using the voice, allowing the music to show me how to sing it. I wish to be as diverse and open to the voices potential and flexibility as I can and in cooperation with the audience to inspire, communicate, amuse, engage and captivate. "



Jerome Blais (Composer of Le Tombeau de Barbeau, January 10th)
"I believe what fascinates me the most as a composer is music making itself... the musicians' direct contact with sound, the intimate relationship between a musician and her/his instrument, the powerful effect that sound has on those who produce them, those who perceive them."



The Original Folk Trio (Performing on January 10th) Some people say that improvised music is the first music; all genres of music were improvised first and then qualified over time as musicians and listeners evolved with the music. This process dates back to our first ancestors who stood on two feet 7 million years ago. Some people could even go so far as to say improvisation is the original folk music. Some people could say that.



Geordie Haley (Performing on January 10th) has been improvising, composing , teaching and playing his guitar, often at the same time, for more than 3 decades . Playing from the heart of what the matter may be, Geordie has conjured a unique blend of modern sound making approaches that have been developed in the presence of musical luminaries from near and far.