

2011 - 2012 SEASON

THE EDMONTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

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James EHNEs, violin,
With ANDREW ARMSTRONG, piano
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 8 PM
MCDOUGALL UNITED CHURCH

Canadian-born James Ehnes has thrilled audiences world wide since his orchestral debut with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra at the age of 13. The recipient of numerous awards, including a Grammy, a Gramophone and six Juno awards, he continues to win superlatives for his artistry and impressive technique.

The concert program has links to two earlier violin virtuosos, Fritz Kreisler and Nicolò Paganini. Kreisler's arrangement of Tartini's *Devil's Trill Sonata* and Paganini's *Caprices* are much admired works of daunting technical challenge. Balancing their fireworks are Beethoven's light-hearted 'Spring' sonata and César Franck's rapturous Sonata in A Major.

The American pianist Andrew Armstrong performs frequently with James Ehnes. A prize-winning soloist, he has appeared with major orchestras in Europe and Asia and throughout North America.

Giuseppe Tartini

Sonata in G Minor, op. 1, no. 4 "The Devil's Trill"

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata no. 5 in F Major, op. 24 "Spring"

Nicolò Paganini

Caprices, op. 1

César Franck

Sonata in A Major





“James Ehnes and his new pianist, Andrew Armstrong, gave an exceptionally high quality recital...the young Manitoba violinist was greeted like a pop star by the full hall...he achieves a sonority of such beauty that words cannot describe it.”

La Presse



photo: by Maxime Leduc

**“[an] uncommonly accomplished ensemble...
Ensemble Masques is stylishly led from the
harpsichord by Olivier Fortin.”**

San Francisco Classical Voice



ensemble masques

Sophie Gent & Tuomo Suni, violins

Kathleen Kajioka, viola

Mélanie Corriveau, bass viol

Benoît Vanden Bemden, violone

Olivier Fortin, harpsichord and leader

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 8 PM

CONVOCATION HALL

The baroque ensemble *Masques* enjoys a growing reputation as a musical collective that brings together talented young musicians from Canada and Europe. Inspired by the masques of Elizabethan times, the group collaborates frequently with other artists in projects combining music, dance, poetry, and drama.

For their concert in Edmonton, *Masques* presents *Biber and his Contemporaries*, a program featuring music by the great 17th century violinist and composer. A musician in the service of the Archbishop of Salzburg, Biber composed for both the Church and the Court. His ensemble music bridged the sacred and the secular in its pairing of contrapuntal discipline with lively elements of dance.

Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber

Sonata VIII a *cinque* in G Major (from *Sonatae tam aris quam aulis servientes*)

Pars in A Minor (from *Mensa Sonora*)

Sonata III in d a *cinque* (from *Fidicinium sacro-profanum*)

Henry Purcell

Airs and dances from *The Fairy Queen*

Antonio Vivaldi

Concerto in C Major for sopranino recorder RV 443

Jean-Philippe Rameau

1st Concert from *Pièces de clavecin en concerts*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Trio Sonata no. 3 in D Minor, BWV 527





TRIO JEAN PAUL

Eckart Heiligers, piano

Ulf Schneider, violin

Martin Löhr, violoncello

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 8 PM

CONVOCATION HALL

Named for the German poet Jean Paul, a contemporary of Goethe and Schiller, the Trio Jean Paul draws inspiration for musical expression from the inflections of literary language. The Trio's admired poetic fluency serves music of any era - the group is as much at home premiering new works as it is performing works from the Classical and Romantic repertoire.

Founded in 1991, the Trio Jean Paul won early notice as the first-prize winner at international competitions in Osaka, Melbourne and Germany and remains one of today's most esteemed and sought after chamber ensembles. It performs frequently in Europe, has toured to Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South America, and in North America has appeared, most notably, in New York, Baltimore, Montreal, and at Yale University.

Joseph Haydn

Trio in D Minor, Hob. XV:23

Johannes Brahms

Piano Trio no.3 in C Minor, op. 101

Franz Schubert

Piano Trio no.1 in B-flat Major, D 898





photo: by Irene Zandel

“Here’s an ensemble that really knows how to highlight the rhetorical flourishes and the conversational cut-and-thrust that are the essence of chamber music.”

The Times





photo: by Marie-Reine Mattera

“A regular Baroque-performance standout is the sensitive artistry and burnished voice of Canadian countertenor Daniel Taylor.”

Toronto Star

“The Theatre’s orchestra played with consummate skill and understanding.”

Ottawa Citizen



theatre of early music
Daniel Taylor, Artistic Director
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 8 PM
CONVOCATION HALL

Montreal's Theatre of Early Music returns to Edmonton to perform, in concert, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. A tragic opera in three acts, *Dido and Aeneas* tells the tale of doomed love between the widowed Queen of Carthage and Aeneas, a prince of Troy. Derived from the fourth book of Virgil's *Aeneid*, with a libretto by Nahum Tate, the work was written around 1685 but performed only once in Purcell's lifetime. In the late 18th century, it was re-discovered and adapted for concert performance. It endures as a masterpiece, notable for the emotional authenticity and unaffected beauty of its music.

<i>Dido</i>	<i>Noemi Kiss, soprano</i>
<i>Belinda</i>	<i>Grace Davidson, soprano</i>
<i>2nd Woman</i>	<i>Julia Doyle, soprano</i>
<i>Aeneas</i>	<i>Alexander Dobson, baritone</i>
<i>Sorceress</i>	<i>Daniel Taylor, countertenor</i>
<i>Sailor</i>	<i>Benjamin Butterfield, tenor</i>





EBÈNE QUARTET

Pierre Colombet, violin

Gabriel Le Magadure, violin

Mathieu Herzog, viola

Raphaël Merlin, cello

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 8 PM

CONVOCATION HALL

Named, in 2009, “Newcomer of the Year” by *BBC Music Magazine*, the Ebène Quartet has very quickly joined the top ranks of string quartets. A debut tour of the U.S., participation in the recent Haydn cycle at London’s Wigmore Hall, appearances throughout Europe, and a multi-award winning CD have brought it considerable and enthusiastic notice within the span of only a few years.

The young French musicians share an interest in other genres of music – including jazz, pop, soul and rock – that has found expression in their most recent recording, *Fiction*. Its eclectic mix of jazz standards, pop songs, and themes from film scores is the model for the second half of the Ebène’s concert program. Moving from the intensity of Mozart’s Quartet in D Minor to the gentle lyricism of the famous “Notturmo” in Borodin’s second String Quartet and ending with exuberant improvisations and arrangements of popular songs, the group reveals “the other Ebène” and the impressive range of its talents.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Quartet in D Minor, K. 421

Alexander Borodin
Quartet no. 2 in D Major

Jazz and Pop Standards, reimagined by the
Ebène Quartet





“Their performance ...was a riot of nuance, sometimes raptly lyrical and sometimes swingingly rhythmic...the Ebène revealed that they don’t take themselves too seriously. They seem bound for greatness all the same.”

Alex Ross, The New Yorker

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At the door, from 45 minutes before performance

→ INFORMATION FOR SUBSCRIBERS →

Subscription prices reflect a 15% - 25% reduction of the price of individual tickets. Subscriptions include an annual membership in the Edmonton Chamber Music Society for July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012.

Please note that seating in Convocation Hall and McDougall United Church is not reserved. Advance ticket sales may limit the availability of tickets at the door.

Please note that all concerts are subject to change without notice.

Convocation Hall is located on the main floor of the Arts Building on the University of Alberta campus.

McDougall United Church is located at 10086 Macdonald Drive.



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