



Based in central Manitoba and incorporated in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Prairie Debut is a charitable status organization whose goal is to encourage community presenters to strive for artistic excellence in the presentation of professional classical and world music. The organization works to strengthen the interprovincial relationship of community presenters and contribute to the career development of Canadian professional classical and world artists by creating touring opportunities.

Artists who have toured with Prairie Debut since its inception in 1997 are:

St. Lawrence String Quartet
Bellows and Brass
Ricardo Peres, piano
Michael Donovan, baritone with Susan Sametz, piano
Anagnoson & Kinton, piano duo
Sylvie Proulx, guitar
Gryphon Trio, piano trio
Lee Pui Ming, piano
Jasper Wood, violin with Peter Allen, piano
Ian Parker, piano and Kaori Yamagami, cello
George Gao Trio Lucille Chung, piano
Erika Raum, violin with David Moroz, piano
Les Voix Baroques
Robert Pomakov, basso cantante with Brahm Goldhamer, piano
Daniel Bolshoy, guitar
Magnan and Parker, oboe & piano duo
Guy Few, trumpet, piano and voice and Stephanie Mara, piano
Fubuki Daiko, taiko drumming
Denise Djokic, cello and David Jalbert, piano
Gryphon Trio with Barry Shiffman, viola
Montreal Guitar Trio
Winston Choi, piano
Sophie Bouffard, soprano and David McIntyre, piano
Anne-Julie Caron, marimbist and Akiko Tominaga, piano

2008/09 Season will see these exciting touring artists on the Prairie Debut roster:

Les Boréades de Montréal
Bellows & Brass (Encore Tour Artists)
Allen Harrington, saxophone with David Moroz, piano

Prairie Debut Inc. is an organization incorporated and based in MB with adjacent incorporation in Saskatchewan and Alberta. (Charitable No. 86799 3495 RR0001)



Pianist
Winston Choi
in Recital

Generous support for this Prairie Debut tour was received from:



Conseil des Arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts



Lloyd Carr-Harris
Foundation

BIOGRAPHY

2003 Laureate of the Honens International Piano Competition and winner of France's 2002 Concours International de Piano 20e siècle d'Orléans, Canadian pianist **Winston Choi** is an inquisitive performer whose fresh approach makes him one of today's most dynamic young artists. With an active schedule, Winston is in demand as a concerto soloist, having appeared with l'Orchestre National de Lille, l'Orchestre Symphonique d'Orléans, Calgary Philharmonic, CBC Radio Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra, La Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Colombia, to name a few. Recent seasons, he has appeared in recital at the National Arts Centre of Canada, Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto, Carnegie-Weill and Merkin Recital Halls, Kennedy Center, Kravis Center, and the "Cicle Grans Solistes" in Spain. In France, Winston has appeared at the Salle Cortot, in Lille's Festival Rencontre Robert Casadesus, Messiaen Festival, and IRCAM's prestigious Agora Festival. An accomplished chamber musician, Choi regularly performs with his wife, Minghuan Xu as Duo Diorama. This season's performances include tours of British Columbia (as Duo Diorama), a Prairie Debut tour and appearances with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra and l'Orchestre Radio France.

Mr. Choi is dedicated to the premiering and commissioning of new works. He has collaborated with many composers including William Bolcom, Elliott Carter, Brian Ferneyhough, George Bright Sheng, and Christian Wolff. His debut CD was the complete piano works of Elliott Carter (l'Empreinte Digitale in France) and was given 5 stars by BBC Music Magazine. He has also recorded for the Arktos, Crystal Records, QuadroFrame labels. Winston Choi obtained his Bachelor and Master Degrees at Indiana University, studying with Menahem Pressler. He is currently a doctoral student at Northwestern University, studying with Ursula Oppens. This September, he began his faculty appointment at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

A 2005 Guggenheim Fellow and recipient of the 2003 Barlow Prize, **Brian Current** has established himself as one of North America's leading young composers. Raised in Ottawa, Brian studied music at Montreal's McGill University and later completed his Ph.D. in composition on full fellowship from the University of California, Berkeley in 2002. His music has been performed internationally by the Esprit Orchestra, the American Composers Orchestra (Carnegie Hall), the Oakland Symphony, the Indianapolis Symphony, the Winnipeg Symphony, the Warsaw National Philharmonic, CBC Radio Orchestra, the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, Monday Evening Concerts (Los Angeles) and others. Upcoming performances are scheduled by the New York City Opera's VOX festival, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, Vancouver Symphony, Victoria Symphony and a Koussevitsky commission for Symphony Nova Scotia. In 2001, Brian won the Grand Prize in the CBC National Competition for Young Composers. (www.briancurrent.com)

About his commission for Winston - from *Four Pieces for Piano (2007)*:

I. Affulgat sol omnibus animalibus dei

This is the first and most involved work from a set of four pieces commissioned by Prairie Debut with assistance from the Canada Council for the Arts. The pieces are dedicated to Winston Choi. The Latin text means "let the sun shine down upon all of God's creatures", a phrase I kept in mind throughout improvising sessions at the piano. I was interested in finding music that was very active yet also very calm.

PROGRAMME

BACH-BUSONI

Bach 1685-1750

Chorale Preludes, transcribed for piano
Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme
In dir ist Freude

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

1862-1918

Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun
transcribed for piano (LEONARD BORWICK)

DANIEL WEYMOUTH

b. 1953

Etudes for (2007) for piano and metronome
commissioned for Winston Choi

YVAR MIKHASHOFF

1941-1993

Portrait of Madame Butterfly
an operatic sonata-fantasy on themes
of Puccini in 4 parts
Prelude
Scherzo: Flower Duet
Nocturne
Finale

INTERMISSION

MAURICE RAVEL

1875-1937

Gaspard de la nuit
Ondine
Le Gibet
Scarbo

BRIAN CURRENT

b. 1972

I. Affulgat sol omnibus animalibus dei
from *Four Pieces for Piano*
New work (2007), commissioned by
Prairie Debut for Winston Choi

IGOR STRAVINSKY

1882-1971

Three movements from *Petrushka*
I. Danse russe
II. Chez Petrouchka
III. Le semaine grasse

Winston Choi is represented by Marilyn Gilbert Artists Management, Toronto.

(Artist reserves the right to alter the programme.)