



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Canadian League of Composers celebrates its 60th, and looks to the future

20 April 2011—The Canadian League of Composers (CLC) celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2011. Founded in 1951 by a group of 8 composers, the organization has grown to include nearly 350 members from all regions of Canada. In recent years, the CLC has undergone an extraordinary renewal, forging new partnerships, offering new opportunities to our members, and expanding our activities. This year, we're launching a new logo, a new website, and a monthly newsletter. We honour 60 years of achievement by Canadian composers, and look forward to the next 60!

Our celebrations take place from May 13 to 15 in Toronto, beginning with a **free concert at 8pm on Friday May 13th**, as part of the Esprit Orchestra's New Wave Festival, and featuring the music of two prize winners. John Rea's ***Accident – Tombeau de Grisey*** (2004) was awarded top prize in the CLC's 60th Anniversary Composition Competition. Farshid Samandari's ***coming home*** won the Student Composition Prize, co-hosted with the Canadian University Music Society (CUMS). Both works will be performed at the Paul Fleck Theatre, Harbourfront Centre. The CLC will host a reception following the concert to honour the composers, and also to present the **2011 Friends of Canadian Music Awards**, including a special one-time prize for lifetime academic achievement in Canadian music scholarship.

Keeping our focus on the future, the CLC will host a **keynote address and panel from 330pm to 545pm on Saturday May 14th** in room 330 of the Edward Johnson Building (University of Toronto, Faculty of Music, 80 Queen's Park Crescent) to discuss current and future directions for Canadian composers. To begin, the distinguished composer, performer, and professor **Glenn Buhr** will discuss his upcoming book, including topics such as the rebirth of the composer-performer, the death of the masterpiece, and concert music as folk music. Afterwards, a panel of composers who also work as performers will discuss their practices. The moderator will be **Alan Stanbridge**, Professor of Visual and Performing Arts at the University of Toronto, and a specialist in Cultural Policy and Theory. This is a public event, and all are invited to attend.

The CLC will host its **Annual General Meeting on Sunday May 15th** from **12 noon to 230pm** at Chalmers House, 20 St. Joseph Street. All members are welcome.

To close the weekend, the Canadian Music Centre will host "**A 60th Toast to the CLC**" reception at Chalmers House on **Sunday May 15th** from **5 to 7PM**. Drinks and food will be provided. All are



invited to this celebratory gathering. The reception will conclude prior to the final concert of the Esprit Orchestra's New Wave Festival (at 8pm, Koerner Hall, Royal Conservatory of Music, 273 Bloor Street West).

Additional events associated with the CLC's 60th include two concerts as part of Esprit Orchestra's New Wave Festival—one at the Drake Hotel on May 12, the other at Koerner Hall on May 15—as well as a Contact Contemporary Music concert May 14 at The Music Gallery. All concerts start at 8PM.

During our 60th year, the CLC will continue to offer professional development programs for composers. We will co-present our new Mentorship Project in BC and Ontario, connecting participants with experienced composers, performers, and presenters, helping to strengthen and renew our community. We will co-present new "Woodshedding" workshops in Vancouver, a developing series which focuses on writing for specific instruments. We will continue to nurture partnerships with organizations such as Musicworks, the Canadian Music Centre, Esprit Orchestra, and CUMS. And we will continue to advocate on behalf of composers in Canada, and to maintain our schedule of suggested commissioning fees. While we celebrate our past accomplishments, the CLC is using this special anniversary to look towards the future. We hope you will join us for the journey!

About the Canadian League of Composers

The Canadian League of Composers (CLC) has supported, served and advocated on behalf of composers since 1951. It offers professional development opportunities and resources to its members, including a schedule of suggested commissioning fees, and uses advocacy and partnerships to foster an environment in which Canadian art music is highly valued. The CLC is governed by a National Council of 12 members representing all regions and both official languages. We are grateful for the support of our members, the SOCAN Foundation and the Government of Canada through the Canada Music Fund, and the Canada Council for the Arts.



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