

Montreal, October 27, 2014

Press release | For immediate circulation

Launch of the book *Generation, 20 years (1994-2014)*

ECM+ is pleased to announce the publication of *Generation, 20 years (1994-2014)*. This book presents the composers and key collaborators whose contributions have allowed this composition competition, the only one of its kind in Canada, to flourish. Over 144 colour pages, the book traces a portrait of young Canadian composers of the last 20 years, with two pages dedicated to each composer who participated in *Generation*. As well as archival photos and statistics, the book gathers tributes from collaborators who took part in the project from its very beginnings to the most recent editions, including Tim Brady (President of Codes d'accès from 1992 to 1994), Manon Lafrance (Director of the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal), Hélène Prévost (Radio-Canada), David Jaeger (CBC), Robert Aitken (New Music Concerts Toronto), Christopher Butterfield (University of Victoria), and Mark Wold (The Banff Centre). ECM+ will distribute 1,200 copies of the book during the *Generation2014* tour in November, and it will also be available for consultation in various locations throughout the country (Canadian Music Centre offices, libraries, universities, etc.)

Founded in Quebec in 1994, under the name *Ateliers et Concert*, the *Generation* project has since contributed to launching the careers of 53 composers from Quebec and Canada. This unique event in Canada has led to the creation of as many new works, played during 8 cross-Canada tours, for a total of 55 concerts in 14 different Canadian cities. During the 20 years of *Generation*, Véronique Lacroix and the ECM+ musicians have also conducted 75 composition workshops and 117 reading workshops of pieces by composition students in various universities.

Over the years, *Generation* has brought dozens of up-and-coming composers from among the most talented of their generations into the spotlight. A number of the participants have gone on to win such prestigious awards as the Jules Léger Prize for New Chamber Music (CCA), the SOCAN Foundation's John Weinzwieg Grand Prize, and even the Opus Award for Composer of the Year (CQM). Many of these composers today enjoy successful, creative careers (commissions by the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, the Esprit Orchestra, the Vancouver Symphony, the Kronos Quartet, Soundstreams, Ensemble Recherche, the Neue Vocalisten Stuttgart, and even soloists Ernesto Molinari or Louise Bessette) and hold prestigious teaching positions in London (Ontario), Montreal, Edmonton, and Seattle, to name a few places.

The book will be officially launched during the *Generation2014* concert in Montreal on Thursday, November 13, at the Conservatoire's concert hall, and it will also be offered to audiences attending the tour concerts, starting with the first performance in Banff on Thursday, November 6¹.

A few excerpts...

"When it was suggested to me, 20 years ago, to bring the musicians of ECM together to let the composers "explore" musically, my heart did somersaults: here was an initiative that would not only help them in their musical research but also answer my questions and those of an interested public, no doubt. Maybe I could at last share the rich secrets of these scores that had always fascinated me."

Véronique Lacroix, ECM+ Artistic Director

"But, above all, I remember the many discussions with Véronique Lacroix, whose consuming interest in the smallest details of my score gradually convinced me of the value of my music and gave me greater confidence in my creative instinct. Having the freedom to lay the groundwork and develop our personality is an inestimable gift for a composer."

Ana Sokolović, composer

"With unwavering devotion to an idea, in 20 years ECM+ and its director, Véronique Lacroix, have created a national discourse around contemporary art music in Canada through the biannual Generation workshop and national tour. It is a success because of the tendency of its juries to select diverse musics. There is no aesthetic axe to grind, no supporting one style at the expense of the other. In this way, the Generation concerts are a concrete representation of art music across Canada by emerging composers."

Christopher Butterfield, Compositeur et professeur associé de composition et de théorie, University of Victoria

New this year

Generation Jury Prize : This prize, consisting of a \$3,500 grant and a commission by ECM+, will be awarded by a jury of *Generation* alumni, divided among the concerts. This new prize will be in addition to the existing Audience Choice Award²

¹ See the tour itinerary on the following page.

² This year, once again, audiences in each of the 9 Canadian cities visited will be asked to vote for their favourite composition to determine the composer who will win the Audience Choice Award (\$1,500) at the end of the tour.

CONCERT IN MONTRÉAL

Thursday November 13, 2014, 7:30 pm

Conservatoire's concert hall

4750, Henri-Julien | Mont-Royal Metro station

Tickets: \$26,50 / \$16,50 / \$13,50 / \$11,50

Infos : 514 524-0173 | info@ecm.qc.ca | www.ecm.qc.ca

Véronique Lacroix, conductor | ECM +, 10 musicians

Andréa Tyniec, solo violin | Gabriel Dharmoo, host

PROGRAMME (new works)

Marie-Pierre Brasset (Qc), *cou_coupé* (for ensemble)

Alec Hall (Ont.), *Object Permanence* (for ensemble and solo violin)

Evelin Ramon (Qc), *Labyrinth of light* (for ensemble)

Anthony Tan (Alb.), *Ksana II* (for ensemble)

CANADIAN TOUR 2014

BANFF

November 6, 7:30 pm
Rolston Recital Hall
The Banff Centre
(Nov. 2 to 6: Residence)

VANCOUVER

November 10, 8 pm
Djavad Mowafaghian World
Art Centre

TORONTO

November 16, 8 pm
The Music Gallery, Church of
Saint George the Martyr

OTTAWA

November 18, 8 pm
National Arts Centre
Fourth Stage

EDMONTON

November 8, 8 pm
Convocation Hall
University of Alberta

QUÉBEC

November 14, 8 pm
Salle D'Youville
Palais Montcalm

LONDON

November 17, 8 pm
Von Kuster Hall
Western University

WOLFVILLE

November 20, 11:30 am
University Hall Auditorium
Acadia University



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