



Ottawa Chamber Orchestra

www.ottawachamberorchestra.ca

March 14, 2011

The Ottawa Chamber Orchestra announces the next concert in season taking place at 8:00 pm on March 25th, featuring the talented Ottawa pianist Frédéric Lacroix in a performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto #24 in C minor, K. 491. David Thies-Thompson also leads the orchestra in a new work by Ottawa composer Christine Donkin, and in Incidental Music from A Midsummer Night's Dream by Felix Mendelssohn.

Pianist Frédéric Lacroix is much in demand as collaborative artist, teacher, adjudicator and composer. A graduate of l'Université de Montréal and the University of Ottawa, he currently teaches at the University of Ottawa while working on his Doctorate degree at Cornell University. He has performed in the United States, Canada and Taiwan, including performances with the Albany and Ottawa Symphony Orchestras, Cornell Chamber Orchestra, Ensemble Fusions, and the Society of New Music. He has made regular radio appearances on the Canadian CBC and SRC or the American NPR. He is studying keyboard performance practice with Malcolm Bilson, and for his work in the field of early music, Frederic has been named the Westfield Center Performing Scholar for the present year.



Lacroix is the soloist in a performance of *Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 in c minor, K. 491*, which he will perform on a period Fortepiano.

This is an exciting opportunity to hear this work as it would have been performed in Mozart's day.

The Ottawa Chamber Orchestra continues its initiative to present works by Ottawa composers, with a new work created by composer Christine Donkin. Born in Grande Prairie, Alberta, and now living in Ottawa, Donkin holds degrees from the University of Alberta and the University of British Columbia. A composer of pedagogical, choral and instrumental music, she has received awards for her works in National and International competitions, and her music has been performed internationally.



The OCO will present the premiere performance of her *Three Studies in Solitude*. Each piece was inspired by a poem that deals in some way with solitude: the first is "A widow bird sate mourning for her Love" by Percy Shelly; the second is "Three with the moon and his shadow", an English translation of a poem by Li Po; and the third is "Mondnacht" by Eichendorff. It's a set of beautiful evocative works by a composer with a wonderful sense of orchestral colour.

The orchestra will be heard in Felix Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream Incidental Music, Op. 61. Mendelssohn wrote the Overture to this work when he was a 17-year-old

prodigy, creating a brilliant and scintillating depiction of Shakespeare's fairy-world play. Some sixteen years later, he was commissioned by King Friedrich Wilhelm IV to compose incidental music for a theatrical production of the play in Potsdam, and re-created the character of his youthful work. The OCO will perform the Overture, Scherzo, Intermezzo, Notturmo and Wedding March.

This concert takes place on Friday, March 25th at 8:00 pm in Blessed Sacrament Church, 194 Fourth Avenue.

Tickets are available at Leading Note (370 Elgin) in advance and available at the door 1 hour before concert time. Prices are \$20.00 for adults, \$15.00 for seniors, \$10.00 for students, and \$50.00 for families (parents or grandparents and children under 18 qualify).

Ticket inquiries: tickets@ottawachamberorchestra.ca

For more information contact Gabi Csoti: gcsoti@magma.ca