

**MEDIA ADVISORY: Ottawa Chamberfest brings back its beloved summer festival
Celebrating Canadian artistry and the art of the small ensemble**

May 7, 2021

OTTAWA – String quartets. Piano trios. Brassfire big band. Opera. Guerrilla-folk party-punk. Piazzolla’s 100th birthday bash. Dance. Romani-inspired song. Music of the Royal French court. Seaside folk and bluegrass. Afro-Cuban roots and jazz. Beechwood walkabouts...

From Isabel Bayrakdarian, to the New Orford String Quartet, Echo Chamber Toronto, Gryphon Trio, collectif9, Arion Baroque Orchestra, soprano Jonelle Sills, Lemon Bucket Orchestra, I Musici de Montréal, pianist Stewart Goodyear, and more, Canada’s greatest chamber artists are at the forefront at Ottawa Chamberfest’s summer festival celebrating the art of the small ensemble.

Ottawa’s internationally acclaimed chamber music festival takes place July 22 – August 4.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced Ottawa Chamberfest to cancel its 2020 summer festival, the first time since its inception in 1994. The organization regrouped and launched its Concert Series in September 2020, with the introduction of a successful hybrid model of in-person and livestream performances. The hybrid model continues this summer. Chamberfest has also expanded its outdoor concert offerings, keeping the comfort of all patrons in mind.

Carissa Klopoushak, Chamberfest’s Artistic Director, is thrilled to share details about the Bytek Signature Series and Marina Kun Series today, alongside the launch of the 2021 Festival Livestream Pass. All concerts within these series are broadcast live from Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre with world-class audiovisual production. Additional livestream and in-person festival events will be revealed in June, including late-night Chamberfringe, Bring the Kids!, outdoor concerts downtown and at Beechwood, Chamber Chats: Festival Edition, and more.

“I’m really excited about the programming we’ve put together for this summer. Canada is fortunate to have so many great artists!” said Klopoushak. “We’re proud to present such a diverse roster of musicians and programs. We know that part of Chamberfest’s commitment to ‘changing lives through music’ means ensuring that our stage is more inclusive, and one that amplifies underrepresented voices. It also means showcasing great Canadian musicians who are truly embracing the concept of ‘artistic citizenship’ as we strive to build a vibrant, thriving community. I’m looking forward to sharing more with you very soon!”

Visit chamberfest.com to find out more about our summer festival's programs, artists, and available ticketing options.

Highlights from the 2021 Chamberfest summer festival Bytek Signature and Marina Kun Series follow.

Bytek Signature Series

Collaborative and creative, five sumptuous programs spotlighting evocative vocals, exhilarating strings, big band, and more.

Arion Baroque Orchestra

Friday, July 23 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

A true and singular time travel experience, "Once upon a time in Versailles" features music of the Royal French court, played on period instruments by Montreal's Arion Baroque Orchestra, a cornerstone in the world of early music since 1981.

Isabel Bayrakdarian with the Gryphon Trio, Mark Fewer, and Juan-Miguel Hernandez

Thursday, July 29 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

"Glorious and Free - Romani-Inspired Songs and Operetta Arias" features stunning soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian with music by Brahms, Dvorak, Liszt, Iradier, Valverde, and Gilbert.

Cellobration!

Saturday, July 31 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

The cello takes the spotlight as Rachel Mercer, Cameron Crozman, and Paul Marleyn join pianist Stéphane Lemelin in an eclectic program showcasing the emotional range of this beloved instrument.

I Musici de Montréal

Monday, August 2 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Montreal's premier chamber orchestra shares a program including works by Kelly-Marie Murphy, Pēteris Vasks, Josef Suk, and Tchaikovsky.

Jens Lindemann and Stewart Goodyear with Brassfire Big Band

Wednesday, August 4 at 7pm

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Brassfire Big Band! Standards and hot new arrangements of the music of Duke Ellington, Oscar Peterson, Tommy Dorsey, and more. This program also includes the Canadian premiere of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" for piano and jazz band.

Marina Kun Series

String ensembles, piano duo, and opera amidst folk and jazz influences.

collectif9: The Night of the Flying Horses

Thursday, July 22 at 7pm

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Centred around the music of Argentinian composer Osvaldo Golijov, "The Night of the Flying Horses" explores moments of wonder and melancholy, with frenetic, electrifying waves of sound in a program of works spanning over five centuries.

New Orford String Quartet: Homage

Saturday, July 24 at 7pm

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Dinuk Wijerante's "Letters from the Afterlife," Samy Moussa's quartet, Caroline Shaw's "Entracte," and the Mendelssohn String Quartet in A minor – works paying homage to composers of the past.

Mark Fewer's Piazzolla

Sunday, July 25 at 7pm

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Brilliant Canadian violinist Mark Fewer and friends present Piazzolla's "Four Seasons of Buenos Aires," in celebration of the composer's 100th birthday.

Ironwood Quartet with Jamie Parker

Monday, July 26 at 7pm

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Ottawa's "take no prisoners" (ARTSFILE) quartet joins forces with iconic pianist Jamie Parker.

20/88 Piano Duo: David Jalbert and Wonny Song

Tuesday, July 27 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Two virtuosic powerhouses pool their talents in a program of works for two pianos. Music by Mozart, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, and Bernstein.

Gryphon Trio

Wednesday, July 28 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Canada's beloved piano trio delivers a program centred around Beethoven's Ghost Trio, with Silvestrov's "Fugitive Visions of Mozart," and a commissioned work by Canadian composer Bruce A. Russell.

Lemon Bucket Orchestra

Friday, July 30 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Toronto's original guerrilla-folk party-punk massive shares a genre-bending set that is equal parts exhilarating precision and reckless abandon.

An Evening of Opera and Art Song

Sunday, August 1 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Celebrating opera and art song, this special concert marks dynamic, young soprano Jonelle Sills's Chamberfest debut.

Echo Chamber Toronto

Tuesday, August 3 at 7pm
Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

Discover what happens when chamber music merges with the physical beauty of dance, as Echo Chamber Toronto joins forces with members of the Rosebud and Ironwood string quartets.

Early-bird Festival Livestream Pass on sale May 10!

Festival Livestream Pass - \$199 EARLY BIRD (May 10), \$249 REGULAR (June 1)

- FULL ONLINE ACCESS, INCLUDING CHAMBER CHATS: FESTIVAL EDITION
- Experience more than 25 online events on your computer, tablet, or smartphone (some festival events may not be livestreamed)
- Access all livestream events, including the Bytek Signature Series
- Join us for five interactive Chamber Chats: Festival Edition with Eric Friesen, available only to Chamberfest 2021 14-day passholders
- Receive 50% off one in-person ticket per event, on sale July 2021, subject to COVID-19 regulations. (Additional tickets will be sold at full price)
- PLUS exclusive access to the festival's online video library: relive livestream events for 24 hours, revisit Chamber Chats: Festival Edition, and explore exclusive digital content from international Chamberfriends
- Valid for 14 days: July 22 to August 4, 2021

Starting May 10, 9am, purchase the early-bird Festival Livestream Pass:

- Online at www.chamberfest.com
- By phone at 613-234-6306

Single tickets, additional short-term passes, and information about in-person opportunities will be available in July.

Ottawa Chamberfest

Ottawa Chamberfest's vision is to change lives through music. It brings together the boldest names in ensemble and solo performance for musical celebration in the nation's capital, drawing approximately 100,000 visits per year through its concert series, community engagement and education (CEE) program, and renowned summer festival. Ottawa Chamberfest is a 2020 Festival & Events Ontario (FEO) "Top 100" event and was named Ottawa Tourism's "Event of the Year" in 2019.

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