

News Release: Ottawa Chamberfest reveals full summer festival lineup

June 1, 2022

OTTAWA—Ottawa’s internationally-acclaimed chamber music festival returns this summer with a diversity of performers showcasing an eclectic repertoire that spans genres and generations. Enjoy new music and familiar musicians in unfamiliar mashups, as Chamberfest™ brings the world’s brightest stars to our city’s best spots. The highly anticipated summer festival runs from **July 21 - August 4, 2022**, and features powerful performances and world-class collaborations. Audience passes and tickets are on sale now at chamberfest.com

“Chamberfest is back in full force! A theme of light overcoming darkness runs through our 2022 festival, with the best and brightest artists gracing our stages. We’ve put together a festival of the magnitude you’ve come to expect from Chamberfest—a great thing for both the artists who create art and the audiences who crave it,” says Carissa Klopoushak, Artistic Director of Ottawa Chamberfest. “We’re proud to present a summer festival that is relevant, responsive, and respectful of the times we live in; one that answers the call for a broader, more inclusive definition of chamber music. Because there’s no better place than Canada’s capital and there’s no better time than now.”

Highlights from the 2022 summer festival include:

Chamberfest 2022: First Light

Thursday, July 21 at 7 p.m., Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre (CDCC)

Chamberfest 2022—opening in a blaze of light! Join nine of Canada’s finest chamber musicians in a program that evokes a bold and bright sunrise through two wondrous works for strings: Finnish pianist/composer Olli Mustonen’s *Nonet no. 2*, which begins like the crispness of a Finnish winter and ends like a warm spring day, and Mendelssohn’s famous *Octet*, which opens like the sun bursting over the horizon.

Follow this theme of sunrises, sunsets, light after darkness, and the beauty of the night, hinted programmatically throughout many concerts of the festival including our two Sunrise Concerts with Johnny Gandelsman and Julia MacLaine, and the evening with Rihab Chaieb.

Johnny Gandelsman: This is America

Friday, July 22 at 9 p.m., La Nouvelle Scène Gilles Desjardins

GRAMMY Award-winning violinist Johnny Gandelsman brings his latest solo project, “This is America,” to Chamberfest. Gandelsman’s work is a celebration of the United States’ rich cultural tapestry played as a series of musical diaries, offering different points of view on the universal experiences of separation, hope, loneliness, and love.

Imani Winds

Sunday, July 24 at 7 p.m., CDCC

Constantly expanding the boundaries of chamber music for wind quintets, GRAMMY-nominated Imani Winds bring their technical ease and compelling playing to the Chamberfest stage. Their vast repertoire, built over the 25 seasons they've played together, spans the classics, countless new commissions, and their own arrangements infused with diverse influences reflecting the times we live in.

Quatuor Danel

Tuesday, July 26 at 2 p.m., MacKay United Church

Quatuor Danel celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2022. Known for their deeply personal interpretations and fresh vision of traditional quartet repertoire, the long-time Chamberfest fan favourites return to Ottawa for an intimate afternoon appearance including quartets by Haydn, Beethoven, and Shostakovich.

BLISK

Tuesday, July 26 at 9 p.m., La Nouvelle Scène Gilles Desjardins

A synthesis of polyphonic Eastern European song, dance, and hypnotic percussion, BLISK's performances can be described as a musical journey through Ukraine, Poland, Russia, the Balkans, and beyond. The Toronto-based all-female trio was brought together by a deep love and respect for the ancient songs and dances of these regions, bringing the tunes to life in the modern world through unique original compositions, storytelling, dance, and distinctive arrangements of traditional folk music.

Tafelmusik: La Stravagante

Thursday, July 28 at 7 p.m., CDCC

A quintet of musicians from the renowned Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra take centre stage at Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre to share a program that celebrates the *stylus fantasticus*, an experimental and audacious method of composing all the rage in 17th-century Italy. Join them on a journey through fascinating and extravagant pieces that display genius and unbridled virtuosity.

Cris Derksen Quartet

Friday, July 29 at 9 p.m., La Nouvelle Scène Gilles Desjardins

A talent with an undeniably modern sound, Cris Derksen effortlessly weaves her background in classical music, her Indigenous ancestry, and a modern electronic twist into a result that defies genres. Derksen's quartet comprises cello, dancer, drummer, and singer for an experience that walks the line between traditional and contemporary.

Rachel Fenlon: Winterreise

Saturday, July 30 at 11 a.m., CDCC

A musician that defies convention, Rachel Fenlon is a soprano and pianist who performs song recitals accompanying herself on the piano, drawing from a singer-songwriter approach. Experience a performance of Schubert's *Winterreise* like you have never heard before—and won't hear anywhere else again!

The Rest is History: Celebrating 50 Years of Kun

Saturday, July 30 at 7 p.m., CDCC

Presented in partnership with The Kun Shoulder Rest in celebration of their 50th Anniversary, this magnificent event celebrates the global success of this Ottawa-based company and the accomplishments and generosity of Marina and Joseph Kun.

The evening will showcase electrifying performances by Kun "Featured Artist" Lara St. John alongside [members of] the Gryphon Trio, Chamberfest Artistic Director Carissa Klopoushak, and Afro-Cuban woman-led ensemble OKAN, performing music inspired by the 50 years of Kun history and the family behind the business.

Hinrich Alpers: Beethoven I and Beethoven II

Monday, August 1 at 11 a.m. and Wednesday, August 3 at 7 p.m., CDCC

Making his long-anticipated return after his landmark performances at 2019's Chamberfest, German pianist Hinrich Alpers continues his cycle of Beethoven's solo piano sonatas. These programs feature the epic *Waldstein* and *Tempest* sonatas and the explosive *Appassionata* and lovely *À Thérèse* sonatas respectively, performed by a musician who has quickly become a Chamberfest favourite.

Montreal Horn Stars

Tuesday, August 2 at 9 p.m., Club SAW

The Montreal Horn Stars take the brass quintet (with drums!) to new heights with inventive arrangements and loads of improvisation in a groovy, eclectic concert that blends pop, jazz, and classical.

Cheng² Duo

Wednesday, August 3 at 11 a.m., CDCC

Chamberfest is thrilled to once again host Ottawa's own Cheng² Duo. Siblings Bryan and Silvie Cheng present a program featuring Pärt's mesmerizing *Fratres*, Piazzolla's inspired *Le Grand Tango*, and Brahms' powerful *Cello Sonata No. 1*.

After-party with the Danish String Quartet

Thursday, August 4 at 9 p.m., Club SAW

Playing a selection of Scandinavian folk music they arranged for string quartet, the Danish String Quartet return to Chamberfest for their second concert of the day. Tickets promise to sell out quickly, so don't delay! Close out the summer with an after-party that only a group as explosive as the Danish String Quartet can deliver.

These performers join the prestigious list of [Signature Series artists announced on April 8, 2022](#), including **Canadian Brass; Gryphon Trio, Nordic Voices, and Marion Newman; Sounding Thunder: The Songs of Francis Pegahmagabow; Rihab Chaieb;** and, the **Danish String Quartet**.

Special events during the summer festival include Chamber Chats: Festival Edition, Bring the Kids!, Adapted Concerts, Midday Matinées, New Music Now, and more. View the full lineup at chamberfest.com

Visit chamberfest.com to find out more about our summer festival programs, performing artists, and ticket package options.

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About 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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