



Schulich School of Music of McGill University **Concerts and Publicity**

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PRESS RELEASE

The Schulich School of Music and Les Journées de la culture



For immediate release

Montreal, September 21, 2012 – On September 28th and 29th, 2012, Schulich School of Music faculty and students will share their passion for music making as part of the festivities of the 16th annual Journées de la culture. The school will present three, free, bilingual activities: a preconcert discussion and two interactive concerts.



Pre-concert Discussion: JOHN CAGE AND HIS WORKS

Friday, September 28th at 6:30 pm in the East Lounge of Pollack Hall



Join Professor **Peter Schubert and friends** for a conversation on the life and works of composer John Cage. Peter Schubert worked on a project with John Cage in the 80s and shares his reminiscences. This event is in collaboration with **IPLAI** (Institute for the Public Life of Arts and Ideas).



Friday, September 28th at 7:30 pm in Pollack Hall



John Cage (1912-1992) was one of the great thinkers, teachers, composers of the twentieth century. Through works such as 4'33", Cage altered many listeners' views and perceptions of silence and the role of performance space. This year we celebrate the centennial of Cage's birth on September 28-Confucius Day--in a concert featuring performances by faculty members from the Schulich School of Music. Program highlights include: Matt Haimovitz, cello (Etudes Borealis); Sara Laimon, piano (Sonatas and Interludes); Kyoko Hashimoto, piano (Credo in Us, Suite for Toy Piano); Eliot Britton and Chris

Paul Harman, electronics (Imaginary Landscape No. 5); and Aiyun Huang, Fabrice Marandola, percussion and Shawn Mativetsky, percussion and tabla (Inlets).

"I believe that the use of noise...Wherever we are, what we hear is mostly noise. When we ignore it, it disturbs us. When we listen to it, we find it fascinating. The sound of a truck at fifty miles per hour. Static between the stations. Rain. We want to capture and control these sounds, to use them not as sound effects but as musical instruments."

"New Music: new listening. Not an attempt to understand something that is being said, for, if something were being said, the sounds would be given the shapes of words. Just an attention to the activity of sounds." John Cage (Silence: Lectures and Writings)



Concert: DEATH BY ARIA

Saturday, September 29th at 8:00 pm in Tanna Schulich Hall

An epic evening of vocal music, one aria per singer, as sung by the complete cast of **Opera McGill**, and accompanied by Director of Opera McGill **Patrick Hansen**. Each of the singers is numbered and has prepared three contrasting arias for the evening, but none knows when or what they will sing. By spinning the on-stage wheel of fortune, the audience will choose both the

singer and then the aria he or she will perform. One singer, one aria, but which singer, which aria, what order? A chance to hear the exceptionally talented complete cast of Opera McGill, (including bass-baryton **Gordon Bintner** who won top prize at last year's OSM competition) in what, for many, is their debut performance in Montreal.

Pollack Hall is located at 555 Sherbrooke Street West; Tanna Schulich Hall is located at 527 Sherbrooke Street West.

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