

## KLOPOUSHAK & CHIU

**Carissa Klopoushak** has made a name for herself as a curious, creative, and versatile musician. Based in Ottawa, she is a proud member of Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra and the Ironwood Quartet. A laureate of the 2018 Canada Council for the Arts Instrument Bank Competition, Carissa performs on the beautiful Maggini model 1851 Jean Baptiste Vuillaume violin. She has recently been named Interim Artistic Director of Ottawa Chamberfest, starting in that position in mid-August, 2020.

Carissa has toured the country extensively, performing recitals for Debut Atlantic and as the winner of the 2009 Eckhardt-Grammatté National Music Competition. A passionate collaborator, Carissa has been featured at Ottawa Chamberfest, Montreal Chamber Music Festival, Toronto Summer Music, Music & Beyond, Bravo! Niagara, and Music by the Sea. She spent a season performing with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, whom she joined for a series of tours and recordings, including a residency at The Banff Centre. She has shared the stage with acclaimed artists such as Jon Kimura Parker, the Gryphon Trio, Lara St. John, Giovanni Sollima, Mark Fewer, John Storgårds, Brandford Marsalis, Miloš Karadaglić, and Richard Reed Parry.

Founder and Artistic Director of the Ritornello Chamber Music Festival in her hometown, Saskatoon, the festival, now in its 12th year, strives to bring the chamber music concert experience into the 21st century through fresh and innovative programming and presentation. Carissa, with her friends in the Ironwood Quartet, serves as co-director of the Classical Unbound Festival in oenophilic Prince Edward County. Carissa enjoys performing in many different styles, especially Ukrainian folk music. She is the lead singer, violinist, and arranger in the Ukrainian turbo-folk band Тир і Там (pronounced Toot-ee-tahm). The band has recorded four full-length albums and performed at major Ukrainian festivals across Canada, Sydney, Australia, and in Ukraine.

As a dynamic and fluid musician never limited by genre, Carissa thrives in the richness of various musical experiences. In her multifaceted world, she has co-composed and recorded a ballet score for Edmonton's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers' production *Ancestors & Elders*, performed the Canadian premiere of Vivian Fung's *Concerto no. 1* with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, and toured Canada, China, and Europe with the National Arts Centre Orchestra. She is a strong advocate for more inclusion in classical music, programming and performing new music, female composers, and giving a platform to underrepresented voices. Carissa's evolution as an artist is guided by music's universality—its power to connect people, its ability to build communities.

As both a musician and presenter, she aims to bring people closer together. The pursuit of meaningful and honest connection, combined with a healthy dose of curiosity, serves as the driving force shaping her artistic voice. She brings a versatile skill set, a unique voice, warm energy, and vigorous dedication to any project. Carissa holds a doctorate in violin performance

from McGill University, where she focused on the little-known classical violin repertoire of Ukrainian composers. Her debut recording, *SOUNDWORLDS*, was released in 2016 with Canadian pianist Philip Chiu.

Represented by Latitude 45 Arts

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More than a summation of technical and musical abilities, pianist **Philip Chiu** has become one of Canada's leading musicians through his infectious love of music and his passion for communication and collaboration. Lauded for the brilliance, colour and sensitivity of his playing, he is particularly noted for his ability to connect with audiences on and off-stage.

"... a pianist-painter who turns every musical idea into a beautiful array of colors."

La Presse

"Pianist Philip Chiu played with striking precision and subtle poetry."

The Gazette (Montréal)

An exceedingly sociable pianist, Philip concertizes extensively as one of Canada's most sought-after chamber musicians. He has appeared in recitals with leading musicians of the world stage, including James Ehnes, Raphael Wallfisch, Patrice Fontanarosa, Regis Pasquier, Matt Haimovitz, Radovan Vlatkovic, Stefan Dohr, Philippe Bernold, Alex Klein, and Eugene Isotov. He performs regularly with principal members of Canada's leading orchestras and ensembles, including Toronto Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Jonathan Crow, l'Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal concertmaster Andrew Wan, and Pascale Giguere of Les Violons du Roy. Along with pianist Janelle Fung, he forms one of Canada's most exciting piano duos, the Fung-Chiu Duo. He has toured numerous times with premier touring organizations, Jeunesses Musicales Canada, Prairie Debut, and Debut Atlantic, and will be touring again soon with Jeunesses Musicales (2014/2015, 2015/2016) and Prairie Debut (2014/15).

Dedicated to elevating the standard and art of collaborative piano, Philip is the creator and director of the new Collaborative Piano Program at the Domaine Forget International Festival and Academy. He is an acclaimed accompanist-/coach based at McGill University, has been an invited professor--accompanist for the Conservatoire de musique de Montreal, and regularly accompanies at l'Université de Montreal. He travels regularly across Canada and the U.S. to accompany for national and international competitions.

Philip is extremely grateful for the support of the Sylva Gelber Music Foundation, Canada Council for the Arts and Jeunesses Musicales in his various pursuits. He can be heard/seen on Classical 96.3 FM, Australia's ABC Radio, CBC Radio, and Radio--Canada.