

DUO CONCERTANTE



SHORT BIO

www.duoconcertante.com

Nancy Dahn and Timothy Steeves, Canada's premiere violin and piano ensemble, are partners in music and in life. The Duo's busy international touring schedule takes them throughout North America, Europe, the UK and China, with performances at the Wigmore Hall, Weill Recital Hall, Roy Thomson Hall, the National Arts Centre, and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing. Duo Concertante have released 12 CDs on the ATMA, Centrediscs, and Marquis labels. The all-Canadian album *Incarnation* was named one of CBC Radio's Top 10 Classical Recordings of 2017 and was also recognized by the East Coast Music Association, which awarded Duo Concertante Classical Recording of the Year for three consecutive years. Nancy and Tim have consistently supported new music, commissioning over 65 works for violin and piano from many of Canada's leading composers, including R. Murray Schafer's *Duo for Violin and Piano*, which won a JUNO award on their 2011 CD *Wild Bird*. In 2020, Duo Concertante launched their 12th CD *Schubert: Works for Violin and Piano (Marquis)*, recognized by the CBC in their annual roundup of the TOP 20 Classical Music CD's of the year. Critics declared this "thrilling...especially beautiful...[and] heart-rending." Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada, they are also both Research Professors at Memorial University and Artistic Directors of the Tuckamore Festival.



NEWS



WINNER

Best Experimental Short/Best Original Score,
IndieX FilmFest (Los Angeles), Ecology of Being

WORLD PREMIERES

Dawn Ierihò:kwats Avery -
Onekha'shòn:a, Ya'kòn:kwe
Carmen Braden - *The Seed Knows*
Ian Cusson - *The Garden of Earthly Delights*
Melissa Hui - *Ecology of Being*
Bekah Simms - *shedding, as if sloughed*

NEW RECORDING

Schubert Works for Violin & Piano, May 2020
– “Exquisite sensitivity” -the WholeNote
– “An uncanny unity of purpose;
heart-rending, beautiful, thrilling” -CBC Music
– Named one of CBC’s “Top 20 Classical
CDs of 2020.”

GUEST HOSTS

CBC’s “This is My Music”, Oct. 2020

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-382-this-is-my-music/clip/15800082-this-is-my-music-september-26-2020->

LIVE (ATLANTIC CANADA) PERFORMANCES since May 2020

- May 22 Livestream Facebook launch performance for Schubert CD (26K views) *
- June 11 West Vancouver Community Arts Centre*
- Aug 10-22 Live & pre-recorded concerts for Tuckamore Festival, NL*
- Sept 21 Music Mondays, Trinity Church, Toronto, ON*
- October 2 Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, Mendelssohn Double Concerto*
- October 10 Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance (LAMP)
- October 14 LAMP performance
- October 29 “Bonn Appetit” Beethoven celebration concert, St John’s NL*
- December 3 Tuckamore Festival Christmas Celebration

*pre-recorded live, streamed for at-home audiences

DUO CONCERTANTE UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

@Home with Duo Concertante - an ongoing series of informal short YouTube videos where Nancy & Tim chat about music, home, learning and life right now.

“Practicing in Isolation” April 2020

“The Piano Drives the Bus” April 2020

“The Art of Accompanying” May 2020

“Navigating New Music” May 2020

“In the Heat of the Moment” June 2020



@Home with Duo Concertante: The Art of Accompaniment

WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMS

The Garden of Earthly Delights

Joyous music to enchant the soul. Schubert, Luis Bonfá, Ian Cusson and Ravel

The Nature of Things

Great music inspired by the world around us. Beethoven, Khachaturian, Smetana, Carmen Braden and Cliff Crawley

Heartstrings

The heart is our muse. Beethoven, Saint-Saëns, Dizzy Gillespie, Grieg and Franck

Song and Dance

Arias to arabesques; ballades to ballrooms. Schubert, Saint-Saëns, Luis Bonfá, Dizzy Gillespie and Ravel

The Garden of Earthly Delights

Sonata in A major	Schubert
Black Orpheus	Luis Bonfá/arr. Clifford Crawley
The Garden of Earthly Delights	Ian Cusson
Sonata	Ravel

The Nature of Things

Sonata in F major "Spring"	Beethoven
The Seed Knows	Carmen Braden
Sabre danse	Aram Khachaturian/arr. Clifford Crawley
The Lark	trad. /arr. Clifford Crawley
From My Homeland	Bedrich Smetana

Heartstrings

Romance in F major	Beethoven
Mon coeur s'ouvre à ta voix	Saint-Saëns
A Night in Tunisia	Dizzy Gillespie/arr. Clifford Crawley
Solveig's Song	Grieg
Sonata in A major	Franck

Song and Dance

Sonatina in D major	Schubert
Mon coeur s'ouvre à ta voix	Saint-Saëns
Black Orpheus	Luis Bonfá/arr. Clifford Crawley
A Night in Tunisia	Dizzy Gillespie/arr. Clifford Crawley
Sonata	Ravel

PRESS

- “Of the major classical composers, Schubert may be the trickiest to get right due, to the deep emotions that lurk just beneath (and regularly break through) his music’s genteel surface. On this, their 11th album, the husband-and-wife duo of violinist Nancy Dahn and pianist Timothy Steeves strike the right balance, playing with uncanny unity of purpose, whether they’re spinning a heart-rending melody (the Andante of the Fantasy in C Major is especially beautiful) or bringing the ruckus (the Rondo in B Minor builds to a thrilling conclusion)” – CBC MUSIC (ROBERT ROWAT)
- “There’s warmth, clarity, sensitivity and empathy to spare, with crystal-clear violin lines, faultless intonation throughout the most difficult passages and a thoughtful and always sensitive piano contribution. You tend to run out of superlatives with performances like these, and there’s simply not much you can do other than sit back, listen and be carried away by the complete artistry” - THE WHOLENOTE (TERRY ROBBINS)
- “Violinist Nancy Dahn and pianist Timothy Steeves do Atlantic Canada proud in their splendid new set of Beethoven’s complete violin sonatas....The lasting impression they make is of deeply integrated performances that flow as naturally as if they were being created on the spot. Both Dahn and Steeves speak from within; they listen to where Beethoven is going and align themselves instantaneously to his direction. Engagingly rustic or emotionally sweet....delectable...thrilling...The opening bars of the final sonata, Op 96, are a miracle of knowledge of poetry” – GRAMOPHONE
- “grace and fire... fury and repose... a triumphant mass of non-stop energy” – WHOLENOTE, TORONTO
- “One doesn’t listen to a program of violin music here, but to real chamber music, as it should be. Suspended between poetry and romance, the fluidity of the piano intertwines intimately with the poignancy of the violin. Never do [they] sacrifice beauty of sound for the sake of virtuosity, making it obvious that, for [Dahn and Steeves], impeccable technique never gets in the way of artistry.” – LA SCENA MUSICALE, MONTREAL
- “Dahn and Steeves have outstanding command technically and musically, and the tight quality of the ensemble playing speaks to years of successful collaboration. Throughout there is an intense energy to the playing, coupled with a remarkable ability to project a spacious quality in open-textured passages. Even in dark passages, the playing is never overbearing. This duo has an exceptional ability to hold every note in suspense and captivate the listener, no matter how disparate the compositional styles that are present on this disc (*Wild Bird*).” – CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSIC LIBRARIES
- “This recording (Beethoven Sonatas) is so good right down to the tiniest of details that it deserves to be called a reference in the contemporary performance of these 10 great pieces.” - MUSICAL TORONTO
- “Dahn and Steeves are placing their performances against Mutter, Kremer, Stern, Menuhin, Grumiaux, Dumay, Szeryng, Perlman, Heifetz and every other stellar violinist of this century and last. What makes these Canadians have the courage to stand with giants? I’m not sure of the answer to the last question, but stand they do, and stand confidently in and among them. This is a wonderful new set (Beethoven Sonaten) to add to the list.” – AUDIOPHELIA, TORONTO
- “So ist es ein wundervolles Geben und nehmen, das in aller stillen Größe auch Spannung und Leidenschaft findet. Begeisternd!” – WIENER ZEITUNG

CONTACT

Alison McTavish
Kanon Artists
1475 Litchfield Road
Oakville, ON Canada
L6H5P4
amctavish@kanonartists.com
Tel. 905 599-5698

