

English Edition
Fall 2010

Take Note

national youth
orchestra of canada



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Celebrating
50
Years
1960 - 2010

A Message from the Executive Director

The National Youth Orchestra's 2010 season is now officially over, and this anniversary year was a big one for the NYOC.

Led by Maestro Jacques Lacombe, who returned to the NYOC for the fourth time, the orchestra prepared three concert programs over the course of three weeks. We expanded the chamber music program, extended the tour, reconnected with alumni across the country, and provided an unprecedented number of scholarships and awards to our students. We also introduced student video blogs on our website so that parents and friends at home could follow us through the summer.

In this newsletter, you will find an account of the 2010 NYOC Session and Tour, information about our

2010 recording, as well as a glimpse into our 2011 planning.

As I look back on our 50th anniversary with pride, I can scarcely believe that, after years of planning and anticipation, it is all wrapped up. I turn my attention now to the 2011 season, which will continue to build on the successes of our 50th anniversary. May this mark the first of another outstanding 50 years!

Barbara Smith
Executive Director



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Summer Recap

Summer Session and Tour Highlights

Chamber Music

Following the success of our pilot chamber music program in 2009, the training was expanded this year to include all sections of the orchestra. For ten days prior to the start of the orchestral program, 10 string quartets, a double bass ensemble, 4 wind quintets, 2 brass quintets, a

percussion ensemble, harps, and piano

worked closely with faculty in rehearsals, lessons, masterclasses, and readings, culminating in a series of 4 student concerts that were offered free to the public.

Faculty Concerts

Throughout the chamber music and orchestral sessions, NYOC students

were treated to a dozen concerts performed by faculty members. Free to the public, this

concert series presented a rare opportunity to hear some of the best musicians in the country play together in an intimate setting. Of special note was the concert presented by our resident chamber music faculty, the Super Nova Quartet, as well as a performance of Ernest Bloch's *Four Episodes* that involved all but one of our orchestral faculty members.

The Tour - Part I - Ontario and Québec

The 2010 concert tour started off in high gear with five concerts in six days. From July 24 to 29, the orchestra was welcomed back by enthusiastic audiences in London, Stratford, Kingston, Ottawa, and Montreal. The eastern portion of the tour was concluded with concerts in Mont-Tremblant and in Toronto's brand new Koerner Hall at the Royal Conservatory of Music. The orchestra stepped up to the challenge posed by this hectic concert schedule, and delivered top notch performances in every city.

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2010 CD - Carte d'anniversaire

Travel was paused in Montreal for a few days, as the NYOC returned to McGill's Schulich School of Music and its state-of-the-art MMR to record the 2010 CD, entitled *Carte d'anniversaire*. This was no break for NYOers, though. The orchestra spent two grueling 12-hour days recording the double CD featuring highlights from the 2010 repertoire. You can pre-order your copy of the CD, scheduled to be released in November 2010, by visiting www.nyoc.org/store.



Ji-Sun Kim, flute, Ian Barillas-McEntee, oboe, 2010

The Tour - Part II - British Columbia and Alberta

In light of our 50th anniversary, the NYOC expanded its tour this year to include BC and Alberta for the first time since 2005, and Western Canadians were keen to welcome us. In Nanaimo and Kelowna, orchestra members got a break from hotels thanks to hosting billets. NYOers got to unwind, eat home cooked meals, and make a personal connections in the places they were visiting. We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to all those who opened up their homes to us and made us feel so welcome.

With ferry rides to and from Vancouver Island and long bus rides through the mountains, the western portion of the tour was definitely more relaxed. The 2010 concert tour will truly be memorable thanks to Nanaimo's appreciative audience, the beautiful Chan Centre for the Arts in Vancouver, the casual outdoor concert of Kelowna's Arts Picnic, and Alberta's grand concert halls: Calgary's Jack Singer Hall and Edmonton's beautiful Winspear Centre where the CBC recorded our final concert.



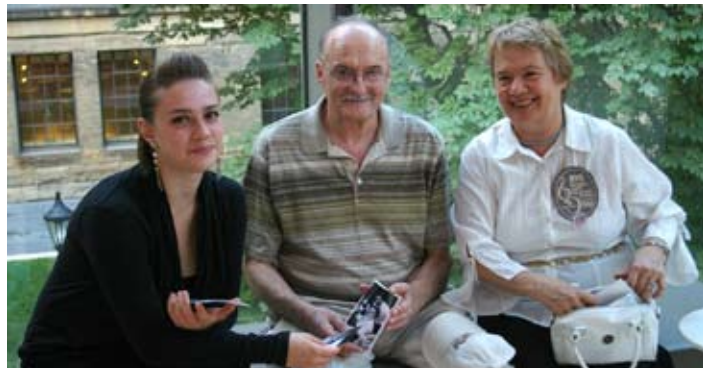
Kelowna Arts Picnic

Students, Alumni and Supporters

Recollections - A Student's Take

In my two summers with the NYOC I have travelled across the country performing great music with some of the country's best young musicians. This past summer involved a trip out west that I will never forget. On this leg of the tour we travelled by ferry to Nanaimo and then a few days later were bussing through the Rocky Mountains. While in Vancouver, we played a brass and percussion show outside on a very rainy afternoon to an audience of about a dozen people. During the concert we were interrupted by a passing train and then a salsa band wailing away just down the beach. A few days later in Kelowna we played another outdoor concert surrounded by mountains. However, just as the concert started the sun began to set right in our eyes. We ended up playing the Prelude to Die Meistersinger with sunglasses and hats on. We were by far the coolest orchestra in Kelowna that night.

James Tizzard
NYOC alumnus, French Horn 2009 - 2010



Ruza McIntyre, violin 2008-2010, Gilles Poirier,
Louise Bellehumeur-Poirier, horn 1960

Alumni

In celebration of our 50th anniversary, we sent a call out to our alumni to perform a special piece at each of our concerts this summer. Nearly 80 alumni from as far back as our inaugural 1960 orchestra answered our call and joined the 2010 orchestra to play a special version of Happy Birthday entitled *Carte d'anniversaire musicale*, arranged by our very own Maestro Jacques Lacombe. This endeavour was a huge success. In addition to providing alumni with the opportunity to reconnect, it gave them the chance to briefly re-live their NYOC experience. A huge hit with our audiences, *Carte d'Anniversaire Musicale* will be included on our 2010 recording.

Student Blogs

Want more insight on what it's like to be in the NYOC? Check out the student blogs, picture blogs and v-logs at www.nyoc.org/student_blog.

Sunset Sail

On July 7, friends and supporters of the NYOC sailed aboard the Captain Matthew Flinders for the Second Annual NYOC Music on the High Seas. Sponsored by Classical 96.3FM, this fundraiser featured a cruise on Toronto Harbour, buffet dinner, and performances by NYOC chamber music groups. The event was highly successful: \$27,000 (gross) were raised, primarily through ticket sales, silent and live auctions. All proceeds went to support student awards.



Awards

We would like to thank our patrons for their generous contributions. Thanks to their ongoing support, we were able to provide awards to each member of the orchestra for the first time in NYOC history!



2011 Preview

Jonathan Darlington, principal conductor

Jonathan Darlington is music director of the Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra and the Vancouver Opera. Darlington is renowned for vast symphonic and operatic repertoire which ranges from the baroque to the contemporary, with an emphasis on lesser known (contemporary) works outside the European mainstream. Darlington gives regular guest appearances with major orchestras and opera houses the world over, and holds the distinctions of a Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres as well as an Honorary LRAM and a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, London.



Repertoire

	Programme 1	Programme 2
Strauss	Der Rosenkavalier	Tchaikovsky Francesca di Rimini
Current*	Commissioned Work	Goddard* I Send Only Angels
Mahler	Symphony No. 5	Shostakovich Symphony No. 15

*Canadian Composer

Special Announcement!



Marianne Martel-Turcot, Marina Krickler, Marie-Sonja Cotineau, horn 2010

We are pleased to announce, in partnership with the Canada Council for the Arts, the creation of the **Michael Measures Prize**. The award is being established thanks to a \$1 million bequest to the Canada Council from the late Michael Measures, who wanted to create an award that would help “young Canadian citizens of emerging ability and of future promise.” The first prize will be awarded in 2011 and will provide a musician between the ages of 16 and 22 with \$15,000 to help build his or her career.

For further details, go to www.nyoc.org.

NYOC 2011

How to Apply!

Applications

Applications will be online in mid-October

Deadlines & Fees

- \$75 on or before Nov. 14
- \$100 from Nov. 15 to Dec. 1

2011 Session Dates

June 18th, 2011 to mid-August 2011

2011 National Tour

Ontario, Québec and the Atlantic Provinces

Open House! Save the Date : December 2nd, 2010 - 5:00 p.m.

Join us in celebrating the start of the holiday season and the launch of our 2010 CD: *Carte d'anniversaire*. All are welcome to drop in for a little food, drink, and good company! RSVP to tlitvack@nyoc.org.

To help support the NYOC or learn more about our organization please check out

<http://www.nyoc.org>

or call

1.888.532.4470