

# TSMAF *news*

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TORONTO SUMMER MUSIC ACADEMY AND FESTIVAL · AGNES GROSSMANN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



PHOTO: PETER ALBERTI

Mayumi Seiler & Ian Swensen

## THE 2009 FESTIVAL IS A SUCCESS!

*A message from Artistic Director Agnes Grossmann*



Dear Friends of Toronto Summer Music,

I wanted to thank you again for coming to the 2009 Toronto Summer Music Festival. This year's Festival was our most successful yet and I'm grateful you were able to attend.

We have received so many positive comments by e-mail and in our surveys and I've decided to include some of them in this newsletter to show you just how enthusiastic people like you have become about the Toronto Summer Music Festival.

I am extremely proud of the results of this year's Festival. Our audience has increased in size by 20% and our sales have also increased by 20%. Since our inaugural year in 2006, we've grown our audience substantially and our ticket sales have increased by 108%. We've really come a long way since 2006!

I wish you all the best this year and be sure to join us for our 5th anniversary from July 20 – August 15 next year!

See you soon!

With warmth,



*A few words with violinist*

**HEESUN SHIN**

**Where do you study the violin?**

I'm currently pursuing my DMA at the City University of New York, which has a wonderful program. As part of my fellowship I teach for six hours a week at Queen's College, which I love to do because I feel it keeps my playing fresh. And, luckily, I have lots of time left over to practice!

**Has this been a busy summer for you?**

Yes, it has! I've been very busy getting ready for the International Enescu Violin Competition, which takes place in Bucharest at the end of the month. I leave on the 30th, and it lasts for a week – depending on how far you make it, of course.

**That sounds exciting. How have you been preparing for the competition?**

Next week, I am playing my program for the second round at a friend's apartment. It's a lot of repertoire – one has to play three programs, each about an hour long, plus prepare a concerto for the final round. After the run-through, I'll focus exclusively on my first round repertoire until the moment my flight leaves!

**Best of luck to you, Heesun – we are sure you'll do well.**

Thanks very much!

*Heesun Shin studied master classes with Mauricio Fuks in Week 4 of the Academy.*

*“A virtual oasis in the musical desert of the Toronto summer”  
—The Globe and Mail*

TORONTO  
SUMMER MUSIC  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AGNES GROSSMANN

## a few words from our volunteer

# SHEILA MACDONALD



### How did you hear about Toronto Summer Music?

I have a friend from the RyersonLIFE network who has a newsletter that is sent out once a week. She had sent me a note and told me about Toronto Summer Music. It seemed interesting and up until that point, I had never volunteered for a classical music organization.

### What other type of volunteering do you do?

I volunteer for our Scottish dance group by organizing their events. I also volunteer for the St-Andrew's Society and once a year I put on the commemorative event in honour of Robert Burns in Allan Gardens. We through a birthday party on January 25 in front of his statue and the men in their kilts always complain about how cold it is. We usually compensate for this by warming up at the pub afterwards!

I also volunteer at the RyersonLIFE Institute – I've done events and memberships there. I've recently been asked to join the Womens' Art Association and expect to volunteer with them. I've volunteered at Luminato and other events around town as well.

### What is the most rewarding thing about volunteering?

I think just being part of it all as opposed to just being an audience member is very rewarding. I was astounded this year at how much work goes into this Festival. Last year, my husband and I were only there in the evenings but this year we were involved a little earlier. When I receive a concert program now with all the inserts I look at it in a totally different way after all the stuffing I've done! The feeling of being part of the Festival – that you've done something to help make it happen is very rewarding.

## what people had to say...

Wonderful chamber music experience with good acoustics and brilliant performers.  
—2009 Festival patron

Great to hear such outstanding musicians, ensembles — especially in the summer!  
—2009 Festival patron

*[of the Gryphon Trio performance]*

A wonderful and inspired performance from all the musicians. It's a rare treat to hear a string trio and one as such as this clearly shows the musicians at the top tier of their careers.  
—2009 Festival patron

*[of the Pressler & Friends performance]*

The best concert of the year.  
—2009 Festival patron

Breath-taking! Kuerti never fails to dazzle the audience. Impeccable Beethoven –interpretation.  
—2009 Festival patron

*[of the Pressler & Friends performance]*

“immensely refined, stylish and vital”  
“They made its kaleidoscopes of colour and design, its singularities of rhythm, momentum and dynamics, cohere in a rare kinds of vivid refreshment.”  
“Not surprisingly, the audience was transported, and Pressler announced an encore ‘to quiet you all down’”  
“an uncommonly persuasive evening of music”  
—The Globe and Mail

*[of the Cecilia and Tokai quartets performance]*

“a sweet smackdown with strings”  
“sent chills down my spine”  
—The Globe and Mail

*[of the James Ehnes/Jon Kimura Parker performance]*

“giving us one of the finest concerts of the year”  
“it was hard to imagine hearing a finer violin and piano duo than Ehnes and Parker”  
—The Toronto Star

*[of the James Ehnes/Jon Kimura Parker performance]*

“I found it hard to imagine this music more fully understood or more thrillingly played.”  
“Ehnes and Parker met those demands with energy and élan, and had an enraptured audience applauding for more”  
—The Globe and Mail

*[of the Gryphon Trio & Monica Whicher performance]*

“our city's own can stand up to anyone's highest musical standards”  
“carrying us off in wave after wave of Romantic emotion”  
“It was musicmaking at its most communicative”  
—The Globe and Mail

## Thank you to our volunteers!

Roberta Albert\*  
Elizabeth Alberti  
Gillian Autton  
Lori Barnes\*  
Earl Barnsley\*\*  
Marcia Beach\*\*  
Jason Bian  
Mebbie Black\*\*  
Dorota Boryczka  
Jason Burke\*  
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Ruhi Tuzlak\*  
Douglas Valentine  
Alicia White\*\*  
Leah Wichmann  
Jeff Wood  
Maria Wu\*\*  
Kay Yoo  
Vivian Young

\* indicates two years of support;  
\*\* indicates three years or more of support



## GOODBYE MYRON!

After two years, Myron Kozak, our wonderful Marketing and Festival Coordinator, has decided to move on to a new stage of his career.

Myron was instrumental in developing our marketing and promotions efforts as well as coordinating our volunteers and many other things.

We wish you all the best Myron and know you'll always be a *Friend of Toronto Summer Music!*



canadian **OPERA** company  
ALEXANDER NEEF, GENERAL DIRECTOR

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## Did you know?

### 2009 TORONTO SUMMER MUSIC FAST FACTS

#### THE FESTIVAL

Just about **10,000** people attended the Festival concerts, Opera Extravaganza, Academy and free events.

Festival ticket sales increased by **20%** over 2008.

The Festival presented over **50** artists, including soloists, chamber musicians, lecturers and opera singers.

**34** events took place: **11** chamber music concerts, **1** Opera Extravaganza, **1** Rising Stars Concert, **8** Emerging Artists concerts, **12** pre-concert lectures.

There were **20** free events attended by over **2,000** people.

#### THE ACADEMY

Over **4** weeks, Academy programs were offered in Chamber Music – piano and strings, flute, clarinet and composition.

**25** Faculty coached over **250** students (from Austria, Canada, China, Croatia, France, Israel, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan) including: **5** quartets, **2** duos, **56** string players, **40** pianists, **7** clarinetists, **6** flutists and **4** composers.

Over **\$80,000** was awarded in scholarships.

More than **100** emerging artists participated in **8** Emerging Artists concerts and **1** Rising Stars concert.

#### OUR PEOPLE

Over **100** people make the Festival happen: **13** Board Directors, **6** Administrative staff, **55** Volunteers, **10** Professional/Technical Staff and **20** Front of House and backstage crew.

# A Standing Ovation for our Supporters!

The Toronto Summer Music Festival sincerely thanks the following organizations for their support of our 2009 Festival

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## Founding Patrons

Jerry and Joan Lozinski

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## contact us

Artistic Director  
Administrative Director  
Fundraising Associate  
Research and Data Analyst

Agnes Grossmann  
Cecelia Paolucci  
Patricia Sinclair  
Bradley Powell

agnesgrossmann@torontosummermusic.com  
cpaolucci@torontosummermusic.com  
psinclair@torontosummermusic.com  
bpowell@torontosummermusic.com

**Toronto Summer Music office**  
720 Bathurst Street, Suite 501  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2R4  
647-430-5699  
www.torontosummermusic.com