

The Gallery Players

Heather Toews (pianist) has performed as soloist and chamber musician on four continents. In Canada, she has been featured on CBC national television, in numerous CBC broadcasts, and in concert at the Glenn Gould Studio. After graduating at age nineteen with an honours Bachelor of Music degree from McGill University, she won a Canada Arts Council Grant to attend Indiana University, where she obtained a Master of Music degree, studying piano with Menahem Pressler (of the Beaux Arts Trio) and with György Sebók, as well as Baroque performance practice in the Early Music Institute. She received a doctorate degree from SUNY-Stony Brook, where she studied piano with Gilbert Kalish, worked in the areas of Beethoven performance practice, gender studies, and contemporary music, and performed with the Contemporary Chamber Players in Merkin Hall in New York City. She has worked with many composers, including Jean Papineau-Couture, Elliot Carter and John Cage. She coordinated the performance program at Brock University 93-96, and is currently Assistant Professor at Sir Wilfrid Laurier University. She is the founder of the series "Sunday Afternoons at Rodman Hall" in St. Catharines.

Douglas Miller (flutist) is a well established freelance musician in Toronto. He has performed with the National Ballet Orchestra, Toronto Symphony, and Hamilton Philharmonic, as well as in Toronto and on tour throughout North America in such productions as *Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Misérables*, *Crazy For You*, and *Jane Eyre*. Currently performing in the Toronto show *Jolson*, he can be heard regularly on CBC TV series *Road to Avonlea* and the *Nature of Things*. He was principal flutist of the Shaw Festival Orchestra from 1991-95 and has been principal flutist with the Niagara Symphony since 1985. Residing in Niagara-on-the-Lake, he has taught flute and performance practice at Brock University since 1993. He performs chamber music regularly as a member of *The Gallery Players*.

Margaret Gay (cellist) studied at Boston University and the University of Toronto. Based in Toronto, she is an active freelance performer on both baroque and modern cello. A member of the Modern String Quartet, she also performs regularly with various other ensembles: the Mississauga Sinfonia, Hamilton Players, Brock University Chamber Music Concerts, and Baroque Music Beside the Grange. She has also performed at festivals in Stratford, Elora, and Lameque. Her work has included theatrical projects with Autumn Leaf Performance, the Banff Centre's Music Theatre program, and Critical Band. As a studio musician, her playing has been featured on numerous recordings. She is the current coordinator of the series "Sunday Afternoons at Rodman Hall" in St. Catharines.

Julie Baumgartel (violinist) has performed throughout Germany, France, Austria, Belgium, and the Netherlands with the Freiburg Baroque orchestra, the Orchestra des Champs-Élysées and as soloist and concertmaster of the Heidelberg Chamber Orchestra. After studying modern and baroque violin at Indiana University, she pursued further training at the Freiburg Conservatory where chamber music became the focus of her work. She has been invited to participate in numerous music festivals, including Banff, Tanglewood, Open Chamber Music in Prussia Cove, England, the Bartók Seminar in Szombathely, Hungary, and Les Académies Musicales de Saintes in France. In Toronto, she has performed with Music Montage and on the Music Umbrella, Baroque Music Beside the Grange and New Music Concerts series. She has completed a Master of Music degree at the University of Toronto with Lorand Fenyves and currently freelances in Toronto on both modern and period instruments. She is a member of *The Gallery Players*.

The Gallery Players

invite you to attend

*"Sunday Afternoons
At Rodman Hall"*

1997-1998 Season



Photo: Ransberry Photography

Highlights of Concert Series '97/98

Concert #1

Sunday September 21, 2:00 p.m.
(Almost) All in the Family

Celebrate the beginning of Grape & Wine festival with a work by Canadian composer, **Carol Ann Weaver**. Her compositions primarily explore women's experiences and love of nature. This new commission incorporates a variety of dance styles and is dedicated to our own "St. Catharine."

Dvorák wrote many beautiful chamber works. One of the most well known is his **Piano Quintet in A major, op. 81**. It is an excellent example of his mature style, which combines elements from the charming dumka dance with traces of Bohemian folk melodies. Also performed on this program is the **Quartet for Piano and Strings, Op. 1** by **Josef Suk**, a student of **Dvorák's** and eventually his son-in-law.

Concert #2

Sunday February 1, 2:00 p.m.
Romantic Impressions

February is the month of romance. For centuries, poets and musicians alike have sought to capture the elusive quality of love; some of the most enduring melodies have been inspired by the poetry of their day. In keeping with this spirit **The Gallery Players** offer two works by **Ravel**; **La Flûte Enchantée** (from *Sheherazade*) set to a poem by **Tristan Klingsor** and the well-known **Cinq Mélodies populaires Grecques** (Five Greek Folk songs).

A rare concert treat, **André Previn's Two Remembrances** for voice, alto flute, and piano is a setting of poems by **Eise Lasker-Schüler** and **Frau Ava**. Also featured, a **cantata** by **Alessandro Scarlatti** and two instrumental pieces, **'Cello Sonata, Op. 6** by **Samuel Barber**, and a Canadian work, **Interwined** by **Nancy Telfer**.

Concert #3

Sunday May 3, 2:00 p.m.
The Gallery Players Go to the Movies

Those enchanting melodies that bring life to the images of the silver screen continue to linger in our hearts and minds long after the pictures have faded from our memories. No tribute to the silver screen would be complete without works by **George Gershwin** or **Leonard Bernstein**. Enjoy them in an arrangement by **Bill Brennan**. **Silhouettes**, according to its composer **Victor Davies** is reminiscent of "movies from the 1930's which end with the hero and heroine outlined by the setting sun just like silhouettes in an art deco poster. To me, silhouettes are just memories, hazy but persistent." Each of

the movements is based on the sound of a particular instrument or personality. Also performed will be **Five Melodies** for violin and piano by **Serge Prokofiev**.

In keeping with **The Gallery Players** tradition of offering Canadian premières, they will present a specially commissioned work to be performed with film.

Concert #4

Sunday June 14, 2:00 p.m.
Music from the British Isles

For the grand finale, **The Gallery Players** invite you to enjoy a musical journey that explores music from the British Isles. The contributions offered here both feature oboe and strings, the **Phantasy Quartet** by **Benjamin Britten** and **Gustav Holst's Terzetto**.

On the Scottish side, **Judith Wells' "The Bagpiper's String Trio"** is an arrangement of three of her earlier works written for clarinet and piano. Its three movements form a short instrumental opera about the life of James Reid, a bagpiper in Bonny Prince Charles' army who was executed by the English. In contrast, the popular Scottish composer **Thea Musgrave's Impromptu #1**, is a lighthearted composition. A **Quartet for flute and strings by Mozart** (who DID visit England) adds a Viennese flavour to this program.

Message To Subscribers

It is with great delight that we offer this concert series to St. Catharines for the third successful season. Our musical community is rich in diversity and talent and we are still growing. Experience music amidst the area's finest art; this is the only series in the Niagara Region that offers chamber music performed in the intimate setting of an art gallery.

The Gallery Players dedicate themselves to performing a wide range of compositions including premières of newly commissioned Canadian works. No other local series offers such range in programming or guest artists. Your financial commitment to the series is essential to our success. By becoming a subscriber, you are supporting the growth of music within our community.

See you in September,



Carolyn Hoxie
Manager, The Gallery Players

***Please feel free to contact me to arrange ticket delivery or rides to concerts.**
1-905-358-1940