

## 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 Wilfred Laurier University. She is the founder of the series "Sunday Afternoons at Rodman Hall" in St. Catharines.

**Douglas Miller... (flutist)** is a well established free lance 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**, **Jane Eyre** and **Jolson**. He can be heard regularly on the CBC TV series **Road to Avonlea** and the **Nature of Things**. Mr. Miller's extensive educational background includes a Master of Music in flute performance from the University of Toronto, a Bachelor of Music and a Licentiate with Distinction in Saxophone from McGill University where he also completed a year of graduate studies in recording engineering. A graduate of the Orchestral Training Program at the Royal Conservatory, he spent a year of Advance Studies in Music at the Banff Centre and four months of private studies in Vienna. Mr. Miller is on the faculty of Brock University where he has taught flute and performance practice since 1993. 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 performs chamber music regularly as a member of The Gallery Players and is the current artistic-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, and Orchestra des Champs-Élysées and as soloist and concertmaster or the Heidelberg Chamber Orchestra. After studying modern and baroque violin at Indiana University, she pursued further training at the Freiburg Conservatory and holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Toronto. She has since been invited to participate in numerous festivals including Banff, Tanglewood, Open Chamber Music in Prussia cove, England the Bartok Seminar in Szombathely, Hungary, and Les Academies Musicales de Saintes in France. In Canada she has been featured in numerous CBC radio broadcasts and in recital at the Glenn Gould Studio. She is the founder and artistic advisor of the "Festival Within a Festival" chamber music series at the Elora Festival and performs regularly with the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra. She is a performing 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 a performing member of The Gallery Players.

# The Gallery Players

invite you to attend

*"Sunday Afternoons  
At Rodman Hall"*

1998-1999 Season



Photo: Ransberry Photography



# Highlights of Concert Series '98/99

## Concert #1

Sunday November 15, 2:00 p.m.

### Winds of Change

**Chôros** by **Hector Villa-Lobos** expresses the spontaneous improvisatory feel of Brazilian folk music. Based on a Brazilian dance, the **chôros** (serenade) **no. 2** is written for the expressive qualities of the flute and clarinet. **Villa-Lobo's** use of African rhythm is an influence shared with **Carmille Saint-Saëns' Tarentelle** for flute, clarinet and piano by **Saint-Saëns** reflects the French lyrical style within traditional forms. **Poulenc's** popular flute sonata also suggests improvisation. A member of the **Les Six**, **Poulenc's** emphasis was on combining everyday elements from jazz, the music-hall, and the circus with classical genres. All three composers share a Parisian influence, having spent time in Paris which was an artist's haven at the turn of the century.

## Concert #2

Sunday January 31, 2:00 p.m.

### Canadian Soundscapes

The diversity in Canadian chamber music is as evident as its distinct geographical regions and cultural identities. **Mary Gardiner's** interest in folklore and aboriginal people is reflected in her **Spirit Essence** which contains paraphrases of an ancient Hebrew folk dance. According to **Gardiner**, this piece was written to express the belief that the spirit of humankind, despite its current state of anguish could still find beauty in this world. The **Cold Mountain Song**, for soprano and cello by **Rudolph Komorowski** is reminiscent of the rugged beauty of the Rockies. Also featuring soprano is **Tocata** by **Harry Freedman** one of Canada's most popular composers. For a little local colour the concert includes the jazz-influenced classically rooted **Ballade for Adrian** by Niagara composer **Neva Tesolin**.

## Concert #3

Sunday March 28, 2:00 p.m.

### Music from the British Isles

Join **The Gallery Players** on a musical journey that explores a wealth of compositions influenced by the British Isles. **Malcolm Arnold's Quartet for Oboe and Strings** and the **Phantasy Quartet** by **Benjamin Britten** both feature oboe with strings. **Stewart Grant's** composition **Duo for Oboe and Cello** reflects his own roots in England. On the Scottish side, **Judith Weirs' The Bagpiper's String Trio** is an arrangement 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.

## Concert #4

Sunday May 2, 2:00 p.m.

### Serenade for Flute and Strings

These celestial sounds have inspired a diverse range of composers across the centuries. The final concert features a variety of twentieth-century compositions whose only true connecting fibre is the instrumentation. **Jacques Hétu's Serenade op. 45** and **Alberto Ginastera's Impresiones de la Puna** are among those selections being presented. **Hétu**, a well-known Canadian who loves cyclic form and chromaticism was influenced by Hindemith and Bartok. Although **Ginastera** is Argentinean he also shares a passion for similar forms and composers. The style in which these composers incorporate their national elements disguises the common structure. **Aron Copland's Threnodies I & II** features both the flute and alto flute. As a finale, a Canadian commissioned work will add an ethereal touch to the season.

## Message To Subscribers

Rodman Hall Arts Centre provides **The Gallery Players** with an ideal venue in which to realize their artistic vision while enhancing the listener's experience. Concert scheduling coincides with outstanding Canadian exhibitions at the gallery giving the audience a unique experience both aurally and visually. Although the core players remain the heart of the group, the introduction of guest artists allows a greater wealth of repertoire. This diversity in programming and commitment to mono-dramaticism allows our audience to experience a wide range of instrumentation and talent. The Gallery Players have also been featured in the Arkell School House Series and the Elora Festival.

As the Manager of **The Gallery Players**, I am impressed with the group's dedication and strong commitment to high artistic quality, exceptionally demanding repertoire and innovation in programming. Their consistent presentation of Canadian premiers is vital to unifying the Niagara Region's musical community to the broader Canadian cultural and musical identity. Funding from the Ontario Arts Council, Rodman Hall, local businesses and your financial commitment to the series is essential to our success. By becoming a subscriber, you are ensuring the development of excellence within your musical community.

See you in the fall,



Carolyn Hoxie  
Manager, *The Gallery Players*

\* For box office information please call  
1-905-358-1940