

Con Brio

December 2024



LES *Amis* OF
THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
DE L' **ORCHESTR**
DU CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

Honorary Patron - Président honoraire
Alexander Shelley

Thank You, FNACO!



From OrKidstra

Dear Members,

Many, many thanks for your donation, it means so much coming from FNACO.

Again, many thanks and hope to see you in the foyer of the NAC or especially at our concert on the 17th of December.

Warmly,

Tina Fedeski

Tina Fedeski
Co-Founder & Artistic Managing Director of OrKidstra

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December 17th: OrKidstra Centre Hub FREE Concert

Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre

On Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 6:30 PM, bring a friend and celebrate the sounds of the season at our OrKidstra Centre Hub Holiday Concert. Featuring over 150 young musicians onstage, this show is an Ottawa holiday favourite!

From Carleton University

Dear FNACO Members,

This is simply wonderful news, and I cannot wait to share this update with my colleagues who are involved in administering your award.

On behalf of the future recipient of your generous support, I send heartiest thanks from Carleton University.

Thank you so very much for your continued support and wishing you all a wonderful Christmas,

Diane Chea

Diane Chea, Director of Philanthropy, Office of the President
Carleton University



From Kiwanis Ottawa

Dear Friends,

The contribution from the FNACO to the scholarship program of the National Capital Region Music Festival is so very much appreciated - by the Festival and by the talented young people who are awarded the funds each year. These funds go a long way in supporting the important musical portion of each young musician's life journey.

Kim Chadsey

Kim Chadsey, Kiwanis, Ottawa

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From the Young String Performers Foundation

Dear FNACO,

On behalf of the YSPF, I would like to express how grateful we are to you and the Friends of NACO for the very generous donation you have sent us for season 2024-2025.

Wishing you and the Friends a wonderful musical season!

Yours truly,

Joan Milkson

Joan Milkson, President
Young String Performers Foundation



Upcoming YSPF Concerts

Please note their YSPF 2025 concerts will be on February 1st, March 29th, May 3rd and June 7th all at the First Unitarian Church 30 Cleary Ave at 7:30pm

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From the National Arts Centre

Dear FNACO members,

Thank you so much for this message, and for the generosity of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra. We are so pleased to know that you continue to support the NACO Bursary competition in this way.

I look forward to seeing you at the April 2025 competition and will give you more details as we get closer to the date!

All the best,
Kelly Symons
Emerging Artist Programs Manager
National Arts Centre



From the National Arts Centre Orchestra

On behalf of the entire orchestra, I would like to acknowledge and share my gratitude for the Friends' continued ongoing generosity and support. Your contribution allows us to continue making an impact through these programs.

Warm regards,

Rich Coburn
Senior Manager, Community Partnerships and Repertoire Diversity
NACO

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FNACO Free Rehearsal Dates

Please note these are the dates for rehearsals for FNACO members or Donors only :

- **Feb 19th** - | [Bancroft, Dvořák & Clara-Jumi Kang | National Arts Centre \(nac-cna.ca\)](#) (no pre-chat)
- **March 19th** - | [Mozart, Hewitt & Beethoven's Fifth | National Arts Centre \(nac-cna.ca\)](#) (no pre-chat)
- **May 14th** - | [Shelley & Yeol Eum Son | National Arts Centre \(nac-cna.ca\)](#) (pre-chat currently scheduled at 9am in the Canal Lobby)
- **June 18th** - | [Shelley conducts The Rite of Spring | National Arts Centre \(nac-cna.ca\)](#) (pre-chat currently scheduled at 9am in the Canal Lobby)

IMPORTANT: You will be invited to register nearer each date. Once again, please remember that this is a privilege for members only.



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From left: Yahya Geylan, Melina Vacca-Pugsley, Canan Sezgin Geylan, Carol Lutes Racine, H.E. Can Dizdar, Mrs. Demet Dizdar, Desiree Abbey, Emily Westell, Sean Clarke, Christine McLaughlin. Photo © Ülle Baum

An Evening on a Musical Magic Carpet

Embassy of Türkiye | November 29th, 2024

By Carol Lutes Racine, Director, Diplomatic Liaison, FNACO

Music took a magic carpet ride as it crossed paths at the geographic intersection of West and East!

The occasion: a memorable late November chamber concert evening at the Embassy of Türkiye. As our host, H.E. Ambassador Can Dizdar and his wife Demet Dizdar warmly welcomed fifty-five Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, and Turkish colleagues to their elegant Rockcliffe Park residence.

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In the masterful hands of the internationally acclaimed Turkish music duo, Yahya Geylan and Canan Sezgin Geylan, and three stellar Canadian musicians: NACO violinist Emily Westell; cellist Desiree Abbey and flutist Sean Clarke, who combined their formidable talents in trio mode, the cross-cultural compass set a west to east course for an hour of music magic.



From left: Canan Sezgin Geylan, Yahya Geylan, Sean Clarke, Emily Westell, Desiree Abbey. Photo © Ülle Baum

Focussing on selections in the European tradition, the Westell/Abbey/Clarke threesome, opened with Beethoven's Minuet in G Major followed by Telemann's Trio Sonata in C minor and Bach's concerto in D minor.

Changing pace, the trio delivered the happy sounds of Haydn's London Trio and the Gavotte movement from Grieg's Holberg Suite before rounding out their segment of the program with the Allegro movement from Jean Baptiste Breval's Trio Opus 8; Rimsky-Korsakov's haunting Scheherazade theme and Dvorak's Humoresque.

The soundscape then shifted dramatically as the Duo Canan Sezgin Geylan and Yahya Geylan took the audience of music devotees through time and space to the Europe-Asia crossroads for an encounter with the hypnotic soundscapes of classical Turkish 'Makam', the ancient melodic framework in which tetrachords and pentachords join to create complete scales and many different melodic modes.

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Interestingly, several of the ancient melodic modes have time-travelled well through the centuries to become favourites in contemporary Turkish music. The Duo Geylan treated the audience to an engaging sampling of the Makam tradition, playing their traditional instruments while singing the sometimes wistful, other times soulful lyrics of classical Turkish 'Makam'.



From left: Canan Sezgin Geylan, Yahya Geylan, H.E. Can Dizdar, Mrs. Demet Dizdar, Sean Clarke, Emily Westell, Desiree Abbey.

For a program finale, all five musicians combined their formidable talents for a pitch perfect mingling of European and traditional Turkish instruments playing a medley of selections in the Turkish classical 'Makam' framework; following which, Ambassador Dizdar cordially invited everyone to join him in the embassy's spacious reception room to sample kebabs and other Turkish culinary specialties. A truly special evening of cultural diplomacy at its best!

Thank you to Ambassador Dizdar and the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye.
Tesekkür ederim! ■

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Christmas Greetings to You All!

On behalf of the Directors of the Board of the Friends, I send you all very best wishes for a happy musical holiday.

Thank you for your support in every way from membership, donations and attendance at fund raisers for the Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra.

Cheers,

Christine McLaughlin

Christine McLaughlin
President, Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra



Con Brio

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