



Share Your Song

with Cantores Celestes

Issue 13c - Fall 2013

CANTORES CELESTES
CELEBRATES OVER 20 YEARS OF MAKING MUSIC

Cantores Celestes Musicians

On December 7th, Cantores is pleased to welcome back The Emperor's String Quartet, we just can't get enough of their exquisite sound. We are also excited to be performing with Matthew Coons on organ and Paul Otway on trumpet. As always, we are extremely proud to sing under the direction of our own Kelly Galbraith and a rehearsal and performance just wouldn't be the same without the incomparable Ellen Myers. We are also very proud of our own Lynette Evans on percussion.

Conductor and Founder



Kelly Galbraith <http://cantorescelestes.com/sections/people/index.html>

is the Founder and Artistic Director of Cantores Celestes. In addition to directing **Cantores Celestes**, Kelly is a Music Producer for CBC Radio producing the Choral Music Stream, The Classical Christmas Stream, and the Easter music for the Meditation Stream, as well as scheduling ten classical music channels. She has listened to over 16,000 pieces of music in the past year, from Bollywood to Ambient Jazz. Kelly is the conductor of the mixed voice Manulife Financial Choir and the first ever conductor of the CBC Complaints Choir. Kelly was the guest conductor for the Toronto

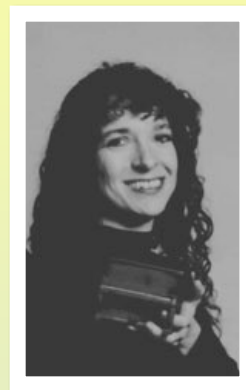
Mendelssohn Choir's 2011 Singation featuring Faure's Requiem. She has been the music director of various churches in Toronto, conducting singers from three years of age to 93. Her work life has been closely connected to CBC Radio. She began as a Music Consultant for CBC International Relations, producer of 'Choral Concert', 'Saturday Afternoon at the Opera', and Senior Producer for the classical music program 'Music & Company'. She produced a special radio day celebrating the 500th Anniversary of Thomas Tallis. When CBC (Radio) began broadcasting on Sirius Satellite Radio, Kelly was involved with its development. She is presently the music director at St. John's United Church in Agincourt, where she directs the Senior Choir and produces a monthly World Music Sunday series that features the best World Musicians in the country. Check out her blog posts at: <http://kellygalbraithblog.com> (**Themes & Variations**) <http://notthechurchlady.wordpress.com> (**Have Organ Shoes Will Travel**)

Follow Cantores Celestes on Facebook and Twitter!

cantorescelestes.com, [facebook.com/CantoresCelestes](https://www.facebook.com/CantoresCelestes), twitter.com/Cantores_Choir, twitter.com/Kelly_Galbraith

Resident Accompanist - Ellen Meyer

Ellen Meyer, raised and educated in Toronto, is one of Ontario's most in-demand collaborative pianists. Possessing a large and varied repertoire, she has performed across Canada, the U.S. including Carnegie Hall, multiple times in Germany and most recently Italy, as a soloist and chamber musician. Ellen has presented recitals with such notable musicians as Ricardo Morales, principal clarinetist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and Julian Bliss, and performed with participants in masterclasses conducted by Karl Leister and Sabine Meyer, amongst others.



She has been heard on upward of 15 CDs including *Foliage* and *Twelve By the Moon-dial* with Riverdale Ensemble, several with Cantores Celestes women's choir, *Mit Ausdruck* with Ossia on historical keyboard, and two with flutist Samantha Chang. Ellen has been broadcast on CBC, CTV, MuchMusic, Bravo, TVO and WNED. She hopes one day to perform in Antarctica, if there's time.

www.pianoslave.com

www.riverdaleensemble.com

Guest Musicians

Matthew Coons is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music where he studied organ performance with Patricia Wright. He has served as Organ Scholar at Metropolitan United Church and as Assistant Organist at Grace Church On-The-Hill, Toronto. He is currently Organist at Runnymede United Church.

The Emperor String Quartet Formed in 1983, the Emperor String Quartet has been a musical mainstay on the Toronto social scene, performing their inimitable brand of chamber music at a vast array of public, private, corporate and government functions and concerts. The Emperor String Quartet has performed in Toronto, Ottawa and Washington for the reigning monarchs of Great Britain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Norway and Jordan as well as Presidents, Prime Ministers, Governors and State leaders from over ten countries. We are thrilled that they are once again joining Cantores Celestes in concert.



Emperor String Quartet - Jef ten Kortennar, violin; Catherine Chalmers, violin; Sheila Smyth, viola; Orly Bitov, cello.

A Choristers' Guide To Keeping Conductors In Line

If your articulation differs from that of others singing the same phrase, stick to your guns. Do not ask the conductor which is correct until backstage just before the concert.



Guest Musicians, cont'd



Paul Otway is a freelance trumpet player in Southern Ontario. He works with several orchestras including the Windsor Symphony, Hamilton Philharmonic, Orchestra London, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Paul has played in numerous Mirvish productions, including *The Wizard of Oz*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Sound of Music*, *Wicked*, *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Les Miserables*, as well as in a number of Dancap Productions, such as *My Fair Lady*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *South Pacific*, and *West Side Story*. Paul has also performed in numerous productions at the Shaw Festival. Paul's playing has been recorded on CD, and broadcast on CBC Radio with a variety of different ensembles. Paul can be seen in the movie, "Fever Pitch" (look for the trumpet player!). He has performed for live audiences in 36 states, and 7 provinces.

Lynette Evans, Percussionist. Immersed in the strong cultural heritage of Jamaica, Lynette was born to a musical family, multiple-generations deep. She was raised and educated in Canada; formally trained first as a Scientist, and then a Math/Science Teacher. Lynette is happily married, living in Toronto, and now fully explores her artistic talents as well; a shift that occurred naturally along with the growth of three gifted children, one of whom is Soprano, Tamioka



'Rhythm-keeping' has become a natural extension of Lynette's ethnic roots. It's in the blood and was born out of a love of poetry, dance, art, and a discovered talent for making the drums and percussion instruments which she often uses during performances. From drums to shakers to singing bowls, Lynette brings rhythmic variation and additional tonal colour to enhance the soundscape that is uniquely Cantores Celestes.

Giving Back to the Community

The George Herman House is a 10-bed transitional house for women with mental health issues. Their mission is to help women get healthy and provide the support they need to live independently in their communities.

In 1976 Nina Herman founded the George Herman Memorial Foundation in memory of her late husband. As a Toronto social worker, she worked with many women suffering from psychiatric illnesses. All too frequently, she saw women who were caught in a cycle of hospitalizations, discharges and re-admissions. She witnessed the sub-standard housing they were forced to live in. Those living conditions, combined with the fact that most women were not ready to live independently so soon after a hospitalization discharge, were major contributing factors to the huge rate of hospital recidivism. For over 30 years, thousands of women have benefitted from the services, programs and supportive housing offered at GHH. Sharing Nina Herman's vision, the Board of Directors, staff and residents continue to work very hard at keeping this dream alive and relevant, not only for today, but for many years to come. www.georgehermanhouse.ca/

Fundraising at the Christmas Concert

Our Poinsettia fundraiser was a great success, raising over \$1,000. At our concert we will be raffling off two gift baskets, assembled by our own Jacqueline Hayden. The tickets for these lovely baskets is \$1 each or 10 for \$5.

Also for sale will be Fair Trade coffee, each bag is sold for \$10. The profit will be shared between Cantores Celestes and Cantabal Health and Education, an organization which is outlined here.

Cantabal Health and Education (CHE projects) is a grass-roots, non-profit organization that was founded by Eugenia (Sheny) Rodriguez in 2006. We are comprised solely of volunteers, and have no paid employees or retained professionals. Our immediate goal is to work in solidarity with the community of San Lucas, to build a school for village children in Grades 7, 8 and 9 (Nivel Basico).

The community of San Lucas has donated the land and labour needed for construction, formed a community council to oversee the process, and completed preliminary work and planning. As there is no financial assistance available from higher levels of government, funding is the primary barrier. There is only one way to build communities in Canada and Guatemala and that is by sharing our resources, talents and knowledge. We invite you to join us in this phenomenal journey where you have the opportunity to share and to learn, to become connected once again with brothers and sisters that have much to offer.

Sheny understands the power of education and has seen the amazing results at the heart of her own family. Today she is proud to share that her siblings are the first in hundreds of years to obtain an education, to become professionals. She has seven siblings, two are nurses, one is a social worker, another one is a mechanic and the younger ones are in the process of making their dreams come true. It is important to mention that because they are educated they have become community leaders in all aspects of life! An amazing place is in the birthing right now in Hamilton. It will be called Maya Retreat, "eternal youth and well being" a place where every single person that walks in will automatically feel better because Maya Retreat will offer them impeccable service with kindness, caring, respect, love, honesty, whether it is delivered through a hair cut, a massage, facial, live blood analysis or ancient Mayan teachings that will raise each individual's vibrational energy.

Mantiox
Sheny Rodriguez

Social Media and Cantores Celestes

If you haven't seen us on one of our various social media pages, please check us out! We have several videos up on our YouTube page and update our Twitter and Facebook pages often. Please share us with your friends and family!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CantoresCelestes, Twitter: https://twitter.com/Cantores_Choir

Choirplace: <http://www.choirplace.com/choirs/432/cantores-celestes>

YouTube : <http://www.youtube.com/user/cantorescelestes>, Website: <http://www.cantorescelestes.com>

Share Your Song is edited & published by Catherine Roe, Logo and poster by Shauna Rae, Contributions by: Debbie Gonsalves & Lynette Evans

The next edition of *Share Your Song* will be published in the New Year of 2014.

Cantores Celestes' Sponsors

We appreciate our sponsors and encourage our audience members to patronize them. Many of them support us concert after concert. The following businesses are on board for our concert Christmas concert on December 7th, 2013. We encourage you to go see them as they come very highly recommended. Please tell them that you saw their ad in the Cantores Celestes concert programme!

A Changing Nest, Art Works Art School & Gallery, Baby Point Hardware, Bloor Meat Market, Bloor West Dental (formerly Dr. Nishita Ondhia), Bloor West Orthodontist (formerly Dr. Karka), Butcher by Nature, De la Mer, Generate Fitness, Humberside Montessori, Kevin Brockie (RBC Dominion Securities), Masterworks Inc., Men at Work, Metropolitan Dental (MaRS Building), Past Life Regression Therapy, Phila Optical, Pivot Physiotherapists, Say Tea, Shakey's, Shauna Rae Graphic Design, Snappers Fish Market, Strictly Bulk, Swansea Massage Clinic, The Barber's Daughter, The Eclectic Gallery, The Sweet Potato, UPS Store (Dave De Lyzer), Windergarden and Your Sacred Place Interiors.

Gift Basket Sponsor: Gurts

Not only do our sponsors get recognized by concert patrons reading the programme and the many more people who read our newsletter, but now that Cantores Celestes has seriously embraced social media, our sponsors will be seen by anyone who visits our website, Facebook page and our Twitter sites.

Music for the heart and soul

"Where words fail, music speaks." Hans Christian Andersen

Cantores Celestes choir, along with accompanist Ellen Meyer, performed a special concert on Saturday morning, November 23, at the Toronto General Hospital (TGH). We were singing for all who came to listen, but especially for Monica Parfitt – a beloved choir member of 17 years, who is a patient at the hospital.

Monica has been in the cardiac ward since the Spring waiting for a new heart, having courageously battled ongoing heart problems for over 25 years. The Cantores Celestes concert was for her but also for anyone else who felt inspired to listen to our singing as it soared to the upper reaches of the Degasperis Conservatory, an inspiring light-filled space in the hospital.

"We sang for Monica." says Kelly. "Her fortitude and will to carry on have inspired us all, and our best gift was to surround her with singing and love. We also hope it helped others who may have dropped by or heard us. There are so many people in need and music really is food for the soul."

Many thanks go to Pirkko Shalden, Program Coordinator, Volunteer Resources at TGH for working so quickly and tirelessly to make this happen, and to the hospital administration for allowing the choir to sing.

"We know Pirkko and TGH moved mountains to make this happen and we're all very grateful" says Kelly. "Cantores Celestes members were profoundly touched to be able to share their song with Monica and her family." By Debbie Gonsalves

Please check out this link to hear one of the pieces we sang for Monica. We will be singing it on Saturday. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYwGZy9hmnE>

