

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2020

MEDIA RELEASE



Kingston ON ... What happens when you gather some of Kingston's musical luminaries on Zoom? The creation of a wonderful online music festival where Kingston musicians perform live at the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts ("the Isabel") at Queen's University for online music lovers.

The inaugural **Ballytobin LIVE FROM THE ISABEL Online Summer Music Festival** showcases live performances at the Isabel by fabulous musicians of many different genres, streamed by the Isabel team on its new **Isabel Digital Concert Hall** at www.isabeldigitalconcerthall.queensu.ca from May to August, 2020. The Isabel Digital Concert Hall will be accessible starting May 16, 2020.

All online concerts are **free** for audiences in Kingston and beyond to enjoy.

"There is no doubt that Kingston loves music, and musicians want to make music during this difficult period of isolation. This Festival is a musical initiative of tremendous passion and enthusiasm," says **Tricia Baldwin**, Director of the Isabel. "The community collaborators have created a wonderful and varied summer program for Kingston's music lovers and beyond. The irony of social isolation is the increased collaboration and goodwill in the arts. I am grateful to all our partners, the **Ballytobin Foundation** for making this festival possible, and Technical Director **Aaron Holmberg** and Arts Stage Technicians **Jesse MacMillan** and **Noah Sullivan** for working tirelessly to bring about a high fidelity live online festival."

“In these interesting times, we are so pleased to support this innovative arts initiative that ensures that a vast array of live music continues in Kingston and is shared with the community through its new Isabel Digital Concert Hall,” says **Joan Tobin, Ballytobin Foundation**. “There is such determination in Kingston to ensure that the music does not stop, but rather, continues to flourish in this music-loving city. I congratulate the entire community programming team and all the artists and collaborators who, together, have created a wonderful festival for all to enjoy.”

THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

The festival programming has been collaboratively created with Kingston community members: **Adrienne Shannon** and **Joy Innis** (Palenai Duo), **Gisèle Dalbec Szczesniak** and **Wolf Tormann** (DAN School of Drama and Music, Queen’s University), **Andrea Haughton** and **Evan Mitchell** (Kingston Symphony), **Jon Stewart** (jazz musician), **Greg Tilson** (Skeleton Park Arts Festival), **Roman Borys** (Ottawa Chamberfest), **Steve Wogaman** (Chamber Music Society of Detroit), and **Aaron Holmberg** and **Tricia Baldwin** (the Isabel at Queen’s University). Organization collaborators include the **DAN School of Drama and Music**, **Skeleton Park Arts Festival**, **Ottawa Chamberfest**, **Chamber Music Society of Detroit**, **Kingston Symphony**, media supporter **Kingston Whig Standard**, and the festival’s major donor **Ballytobin Foundation**.

THE ARTISTS

(Please see the event listing below for program details, times, and dates.)

- Sadaf Amini (Iranian santur) in collaboration with the **Skeleton Park Arts Festival**
- Leanne Betasamosake Simpson (Indigenous multi-arts) and her band in collaboration with the **Skeleton Park Arts Festival**
- Frase (hip-hop/ funk / house / soul) in collaboration with the **Skeleton Park Arts Festival**

Classical:

- Gryphon Trio (in collaboration with the **Ottawa Chamberfest** and the **Chamber Music Society of Detroit**)
- Palenai Duo (Adrienne Shannon, Joy Innis, piano)
- Triola (Gisèle Dalbec Szczesniak, Melinda Collins, Eileen Beaudette)
- Limestone Trio (KSA members: Lisa Draper, Danielle Lennon, Jeff Hamacher) in collaboration with the **Kingston Symphony**
- Valery Lloyd-Watts, piano
- Isabel String Quartet (Laura Andriani and Julia MacFarlane - violins, Caitlin Boyle - viola, and Wolf Tormann - cello) in collaboration with Queen’s **DAN School of Drama and Music**
- Faculty Artist Trio (Kornel Wolak – clarinet, Wolf Tormann – cello, Cynthia Tormann – piano) in collaboration with Queen’s **DAN School of Drama and Music**
- Carina Canonico (KSA principal clarinet) and David Gazaille (clarinet) in collaboration with the **Kingston Symphony**

Jazz:

- Jive Ass Slippers (Jon Stewart, Benji Perosin, Paul Morrison, Paul Clifford, Rich Bannard)
- Benny Goodman Tribute Band (Chris Alfano, Greg Runions, Paul Clifford, Rich Bannard)
- Kingston Cabaret (Musiikki Monday Night Band, Selina Chiarelli and the Firebirds)

Rock/Pop:

- Emilie Steele & The Deal
- Oakridge Ave.



ISABEL DIGITAL CONCERT HALL

www.isabeldigitalconcerthall.queensu.ca

(Site open on May 16)

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For further information, please contact:

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FESTIVAL EVENT LISTING

ARTISTS	DATE	DESCRIPTION	GENRE	PARTNERS
GRYPHON TRIO	Saturday, May 16, 2020 at 8:00 PM	For over 25 years, the Gryphon Trio has firmly established itself as one of the world's preeminent piano trios, garnering acclaim and impressing international audiences with its highly refined, dynamic and memorable performances. Roman Borys (cello and Artistic Director of Ottawa Chamberfest), Annalee Patipatanakoon (violin), and Jamie Parker (piano) will be performing the Beethoven Archduke Trio and the Dvorak Dumky Trio at the Isabel. www.gryphontrio.com/	Classical Music	Ottawa Chamberfest Chamber Music Society of Detroit
FRASE	Friday, June 19, 2020 at 7:30 PM	FRASE is a singer, producer, and multi-instrumentalist from Montreal. With authenticity and lyrical finesse, his buttery, soulful voice sits atop an array of groove-heavy productions that push the boundaries of contemporary electronic music. Joined by his partner, dancer, and rapper Embody, MVMT, the duo is setting dance floor's ablaze all over the world. www.frasemusic.ca	Hip-hop Funk House Soul	Skeleton Park Arts Festival

<p>SADAF AMINI</p>	<p>Saturday, June 20, 2020 at 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Indulge yourself in the unique sound of the santur, a traditional Iranian instrument, performed by virtuoso Sadaf Amini, a winner of the YGK Emerging Musician Competition in 2019. Sadaf is a recognized virtuoso and a mesmerizing performer, she expresses her feelings, through her own compositions. www.sadafamini.ca</p>	<p>Iranian Music</p>	<p>Skeleton Park Arts Festival</p>
<p>LEANNE BETASAMOSAKE SIMPSON and her band</p>	<p>Sunday, June 21, 2020 at 7:30 PM</p>	<p>Leanne Betasamosake Simpson is a renowned Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg scholar, Writer, and artist, who has been widely recognized as one of the most compelling Indigenous voices of her generation. Her work breaks open the intersections between politics, story and song—bringing audiences into a rich and layered world of sound, light, and sovereign creativity. A moving performer, Leanne is joined by her talented band of musicians. www.leannesimpson.ca</p>	<p>Indigenous Multi-Arts</p>	<p>Skeleton Park Arts Festival</p>
<p>PALENAI DUO Adrienne Shannon and Joy Innis, Piano</p>	<p>Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM & 8:00 PM</p>	<p>PALENAI ~ an ancient symbol of unified diversity ~ describes the artistic collaboration of pianists Joy Innis and Adrienne Shannon. They have performed on international stages in the United States, Europe, Korea, Israel and the Ukraine, toured to major centers and remote regions throughout Canada, and appeared with major Canadian orchestras. www.palenai.org/</p> <p>7:00 PM - Celebrate the new Hamburg Steinway</p> <p>Palenai will perform masterpieces of music for piano duet on the new Ballytobin Hamburg Steinway including Schubert's <i>Fantasia in f minor</i> and <i>Marches caractéristiques</i>, as well as selections of Brahms Waltzes.</p> <p>8:00 PM - Family Program</p> <p>Young and old alike will delight in the images to be shown on screen. Funny digital animations, and imaginary wonderland gardens will accompany the music of Poulenc's Two Piano Sonata and Faure's <i>Dolly Suite</i>. Giant dinosaurs and images of the Tyrell Museum will astound young viewers in the music of Canadian composer, Gary Kulesha. The final treat will be Saint Saens <i>Carnaval des Animaux</i> with lively real life and cartoon characters for each movement.</p>	<p>Classical Music</p>	<p>DAN School of Drama and Music</p>

TRIOLA	Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM & 8:00 PM	Join TRIOLA - Gisèle Dalbec-Szczesniak, Melinda Collins, and Eileen Beaudette - as they take us on a musical journey playing familiar light classics - Handel's <i>Arrival of the Queen of Sheba</i> , <i>O Mio Babbino Caro</i> , sizzling Piazzolla tangos, Ungar's <i>Ashokan Farewell</i> , film music and much more...a delightful program for a lovely summer's eve! http://triolatrio.blogspot.com/	Classical Traditional Tango	
BENNY GOODMAN TRIBUTE BAND	Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM	The Benny Goodman Tribute Band features local Kingston musicians Chris Alfano (clarinet), Greg Runions (vibraphone), Paul Clifford (bass), and Rich Bannard (drums). Together they bring alive the music of Benny Goodman. Their line-up includes: <i>Let's Dance</i> , <i>Lady Be Good</i> , <i>Moonglow</i> , <i>Avalon</i> , <i>Memories of You</i> , <i>The Chaser</i> , <i>Don't Be That Way</i> , <i>Stompin' At the Savoy</i> (Eddie Daniels Version), <i>In A Mist</i> , <i>The Man Love</i> , <i>Bei Mir Bist du Shoen</i> , <i>If I Only Had A Brain</i> , <i>Sing</i> , and <i>Goodbye</i> .	Jazz	
JIVE ASS SLIPPERS	Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 8:30 PM	The Jive Ass Slippers is a quintet of Kingston-based musicians that have been performing tribute concerts at the Musiikki Café for the past four years. Once or twice a year, they take up a weekly residency at Musiikki for a month, each time celebrating the music of a different significant figure in jazz history. For this concert, they will play the music of Canadian composer and jazz musician, Kenny Wheeler, with a mix of old favourites thrown in as well. Join Jon Stewart (tenor/soprano saxophone), Benji Perosin (trumpet/flugelhorn), Paul Morrison (piano), Paul Clifford (bass), and Rich Bannard (drums) for a fabulous evening of jazz.	Jazz	
DAN SCHOOL FACULTY ARTISTS Wolf Tormann, cello Cynthia Tormann, piano Kornel Wolak, clarinet	Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 7:30 PM	CELEBRATING BRAHMS Join the DAN School faculty trio for the beautiful Brahms Clarinet Trio. A composer who represented a culmination of the Romantic era, Johannes Brahms remains unmatched in his emotional range and innovative spirit. This Brahms trio is music of profound depth and beauty.	Classical Music	DAN School of Drama and Music and The Margaret Farr Chamber Music Trust

VALERY LLOYD-WATTS	Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 7:00 PM	Valery Lloyd-Watts has captivated audiences worldwide with her insightful and emotional performances. Audiences are drawn into an exhilarating and inspiring experience revealing the passion and soul of both the composer and the artist. With an exceptional career as a recitalist, orchestral soloist, and educator, Valery Lloyd-Watts imparts into her life's work the intelligence and passion that has made her a beloved and sought after artist. Valery performs Scarlatti and Beethoven Pastoral sonatas, Grieg <i>Butterfly</i> from Lyric Pieces, Chopin Preludes, and a Grieg Nocturne. https://valerylloydwatts.com/	Classical Music	
CARINA CANONICO & DAVID GAZAILLE, Clarinet	Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 8:00 PM	Join Kingston Symphony Principal Clarinetist Carina Canonico and her husband David Gazaille as they take you on a wonderful journey throughout the centuries. The concert features Volante <i>Onda Lunga</i> , a Telemann Sonata, Shalom Secunda's <i>Bei Mir Bist du Schoen</i> , Beethoven Duet for Clarinet and Bassoon (arranged for 2 clarinets), Guillaume Connesson <i>Scenes de la Vie Contemporaine</i> , and D'Rivera <i>Contradanza</i> .	Classical Music	Kingston Symphony
EMILIE STEELE & THE DEAL	Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 7:00 PM	WHAT'S THE DEAL? Emilie Steele & The Deal are a grab bag of catchy hooks and lush tones delivered with buoyant energy and original style. Since this sonic trio formed in 2017 they have been dishing out unabashed indie rock tunes and winning the hearts of their listeners. Steele's animated delivery, vocal melodies, and clever turns of phrase soar alongside the weaving riffs and driving rhythms of powerhouse band mates Jack Lockridge and Jon Irwin. www.emiliesteelethedeal.com/	Indie Rock	
OAKRIDGE AVE.	Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 8:30 PM	Proudly hailing from the Live Music Capital of Canada – the members of Oakridge Ave. have been cutting their teeth in dynamic musical ventures for over ten years. Their individual musical pedigrees range from being influenced by operatic choral music, Celtic punk, the most genuine hard working and endlessly touring Canadian Indie bands, as well as the theory and technique from the prestigious Berkeley School of Music. Oakridge Ave. is like a good Canadian ale – rich, complex, but accessible and smooth, best enjoyed with good friends having a great time! https://oakridgeave.com/	Indie Rock	

KINGSTON CABARET NIGHT Musikki Monday Band with Selina Chiarelli and Firebirds	Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 7 & 8 PM	It's Kingston cabaret night with top Kingston musicians. Join Alex Tikhnenko (bass), Bryan Howell (percussion), Paul Medina (drums), Helena Hannibal (saxophone), Eric Liu (trombone/keyboard), and Firebirds Selina Chiarelli and Chantal Thompson (voice), Caroline Kwok (flute) in a hugely entertaining evening of jazz, pop, and beyond!	Jazz Pop & More	
ISABEL STRING QUARTET	Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 7:00 PM	The Isabel String Quartet was created to foster excellence in the area of chamber music at Queen's University. Join Laura Andriani and Julia MacFarlane (violins), Caitlin Boyle (viola), and Wolf Tormann (cello) as they perform Haydn quartet in f minor, Opus 20, No.5 and the Dvorak American Quartet.	Classical Music	DAN School of Music and the Isabel Quartet Trust Fund
THE LIMESTONE TRIO	Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM	Lisa Draper, Danielle Lennon, and Jeff Hamacher are all members of the Kingston Symphony, are principal players of the Melos Baroque Orchestra, and all have bustling private studios. The Limestone Trio will perform a combination of classical, traditional, and popular selections from Bach to the Beatles. Enjoy Bach's <i>Sheep May Safely Graze</i> to Maclsaac's <i>MacDougall's Pride</i> , Handel's <i>Arrival of the Queen of Sheba</i> to the Beatles' <i>Here Comes the Sun</i> . www.thelimestonetrio.ca/	Classical Traditional Pop	Kingston Symphony

With the greatest appreciation, we thank the Ballytobin Foundation who made this festival possible. You inspire us!



We thank the donors to the Queen's [Isabel Quartet Trust Fund](#) and [The Margaret Farr Chamber Music Trust](#), and the supporters of the [Skeleton Park Arts Festival](#), [Ottawa Chamberfest](#), and [Chamber Music Society of Detroit](#).

Bravi to the following collaborating organizations:

