



CNMN Bulletin

Fall 2009

Volume 3, Issue 1

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Cuts to Canada Council Sound Recording program

Heritage Canada recently closed down the Canadian Music Diversity component of their Music Fund, removing the 1.35 million dollars in sound recording money that the Canada Council had been administering for many years, and redirected those funds to FACTOR and MUSICACTION. This had been a very successful program for all forms of creative new music, and the new plan Heritage Canada is talking about seems much less valuable in promoting musical diversity. It is much more focused purely on industrial development and the commercial music model.

Technically, this is not a cutback since the money is still there in the Heritage Canada budget. But as it has now been effectively transferred out of our sector, it is, in effect for us, a cutback. It will, potentially, radically diminish the recording and dissemination of Canadian creative new music in all forms.

The Canadian Music Diversity component had been supporting the production and distribution of recordings of specialized music, a term used and adequately defined by Heritage Canada as “music not generally part of prevailing musical trends since it emphasizes artistic considerations

– creativity, free expression and/or experimentation – that do not necessarily meet conventional criteria and formats as defined by the popular music marketplace.” At this time, the organizations FACTOR (English projects) and MUSICACTION (French projects), who will now be receiving these funds, show no sign of opening up programs that support this kind of music.

The change pulls support not only from musicians, but also from many others who work in the production and dissemination of *specialized music* sound recording projects.

● GETTING INVOLVED

The CNMN, in collaboration with many other concerned parties and organizations, is starting to mount a series of meetings and lobbying efforts designed to address this problem. Please contact a CNMN board member if you have any specific ideas or concerns that you would like CNMN to address on this issue.

So far, mobilization is known in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, but we'd like to hear more from you about initiatives in other areas of Canada, or who might be willing to help take up this role in their region. This is a federal cut; everyone across the country is affected, therefore efforts should ideally be made across the

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country to mobilize, interface and inform the music community, public, media and politicians. We want to hear from you!

An online petition is available. This is not a CNMN initiative, but please consider adding your name:
www.petitiononline.com/a6y3L9eR/petition.html

☉ NEWS THIS WEEK ON THE QUEBEC FRONT

The Conseil québécois de la musique (CQM) held a dedicated meeting this Monday (Sept. 28) in Montreal. The meeting started with a portrait on how the overall funding structure worked, before the changes versus how they are channeled now, as well as keen observations about what details are now missing under the new situation (care of Jean-François Denis, dir. electrocd). Following this presentation, a round-table discussion ensued so that everyone could share further information, brainstorm strategies, and express opinions during this initial meeting. It is clear the CQM is willing to rest at the center of the Quebec effort, to create an effective interface that will strongly inform, communicate, infiltrate and pool together Quebec's *musique spécialisée* community, public, media and political parties. ☉

CNMN Elections ~ Call For Nominations

The two-year term for the CNMN Board of Directors finishes at the end of May 2010.

Are you interested in running for a position?

This is a self-nominating process. All CNMN members are welcome to nominate themselves for this election. Current board members may nominate themselves for re-election.
Nomination deadline: February 15, 2010

Twelve positions to be filled, 2 year mandate (June 2010 – May 2012)

- 2 – Atlantic Canada
- 3 – Québec
- 3 – Ontario
- 1 – Manitoba
- 1 – Saskatchewan
- 1 – Alberta
- 1 – British Columbia

The board meets by phone 3-4 times per year. Board members should expect to contribute some time and energy to various committees and projects over the course of their mandate.

Election ballots will be sent in April, with a May 1st election deadline.

Details about the current board of directors can be found here:
www.newmusicnetwork.ca/org.e/dir.php

Contact Emily Hall at admin@newmusicnetwork.ca should you wish to connect with any of the board members.

To nominate yourself, contact Tim Brady, CNMN President, tim@timbrady.ca 514.931.9747 ☉

Membership Dues 2009

2009 Membership dues are still coming in via online and mail. Those who still haven't paid should have recently received a reminder email. Please try to send in outstanding invoices by December so we can settle dues, since the 2010 memberships invoices will be going out earlier due to the FORUM 2010 coming very soon after the New Year. It is greatly appreciated! ☉

Getting New Members

As of this bulletin, we have 335 individual and organizational members, but there is a great potential for more.

CNMN is in a unique position to show the country just how many people are involved in the field of creative new music, in all its diverse forms. CNMN is a place where everyone and anyone, musicians and non-musicians, professionals and non-professionals, can be joined not by their role, but by a shared belief: that pure musical creation, the creation of creative new music, is of value to society.

Numbers matter! With each new member we become more open, more representative and more dynamic. The more members we have, the bigger the base for members to network, support each other, and develop creative projects, ideas and solutions. More members give us a stronger voice to be heard by the greater society, including being taken

more seriously by organizations such as Heritage Canada.

Please help with membership outreach. If you sit down and think about it, you might be surprised about how many people you know that would be interested in becoming a CNMN member. Finally there is a place where all these different people can come together.

Talk about the CNMN with others, and direct them to the website where they can easily join online. Or, send them to admin@newmusicnetwork.ca where Emily can easily process their membership. Individual memberships are only \$20 per year, and non-voting memberships are FREE.

For those on the East Coast, it will especially be helpful to encourage new members in preparation for our January arrival in Halifax, FORUM 2010. We hope every new music fan from Atlantic Canada will be there!

Note: It will be cheaper to pay a membership fee + Forum registration fee (reduced for members) than it is to pay only the non-member Forum registration fee. ☺

FORUM 2009 Account

FORUM 2009 in Montreal this past spring drew greater numbers than the last one, maintaining the past trend of growing attendance at the Forums. 3 round tables, 5 portraits, 7 case studies 5 musical

demonstrations and over 30 speakers/presenters equaled 2 very energetic days. Held in collaboration with the *Montreal New Music Festival* (MNM) and the *Conservatoire de musique de Montréal*, there were even more events and concerts surrounding the conference.

Planned closely with representatives of music education organizations (CMEA/FAMEQ and QMEA), the theme was *Audience Development, Creative Music and Education: Creating The Future*. Much information was conveyed as to how to integrate new music in the education arena (be it in a standard school classroom, in a community setting, or at a concert) and why this is vitally important to the whole new music community and to the larger society.

Teachers pursuing the integration of creative new music into their programs often feel isolated in this pursuit. Finally there was a place to meet and network, to discover the existence of likeminded teachers, and to speak about their particular circumstances and goals. In two discussion-packed days, the Forum was able to provide a small taste of a large number of resources, methods, ideas and people, revealing a surprisingly large amount of activity in creative new music education. No longer do teachers need to feel alone.

Quite a number of national and international new music experts who aren't involved in the

conventional teaching profession also presented their point of view on the educational ramifications of their work. The Forum not only brought educators together, but it brought educators and the greater new music community together, resulting in a wonderful chance for both sides to voice their perspectives, needs and solutions. We all were convinced, by the Forum's end, this was something that needed to happen on a regular basis so that educators could become an important and integral part of the new music community. Educators and artists should not work alone, and we can deepen our partnership.

The Forum proved that if new music (and therefore the new music community) is to provide a more valuable contribution towards the enrichment of the greater society (a major mandate of CNMN), education must be a major player in its development. It was agreed that the CNMN could help by devoting a regular event to music education within every Forum.

“The Forums always seem to bring out an electrified atmosphere open to new ideas, new encounters and new possibilities.”

The talks and round tables were interspersed with inspiring and creative musical demonstrations by a high school orchestra, a young women's choir, a classroom teacher and his

improvising students, and two music technologist-musicians.

A big part of the success of this Forum was the person-to-person contact. It is what has given great value to the Forums so far and it is why there is such a drive to continue the Forum approach into the future. In an age where the Internet makes the world a much smaller and more interactive place, it seems we still value the good old-fashioned face-to-face connections. The Forums always seem to bring out an electrified atmosphere open to new ideas, new encounters and new possibilities. Meeting so many people in this kind of situation has been a great recipe for building lasting connections. Another good reason to come out to the next one.

☉ *Emily Hall, Administration, communications, and production coordinator, CNMN*

FORUM 2010 Preview

CNMN's fourth national new music Forum entitled *Partnering Diversity* will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 8th and 9th, 2010 in the Sir James Dunn Theatre, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Special opening concert - Thursday, Jan. 7 - 8 pm - Symphony Nova Scotia.

This truly extraordinary Forum centers on the theme of creative music diversity and how the various streams of contemporary / creative music meet and diverge. From through composed music, to electroacoustics, to free jazz, to

world music, this Forum seeks to bring together as many creative music specialists as possible (including musicians, producers, educators, composers, journalists, fans and more!) in order to begin a dialogue concerning the challenges and triumphs of performance and dissemination.

International speakers/panelists include composer/improviser George Lewis (USA), composer/conductor Joel Bons (The Netherlands) and conductor/producer Matthew Greenall (UK), each specializing in diverse musical backgrounds from Jazz / Experimental music to the Intercultural Orchestra to New Music Promotion and Production.

New this year is a discussion format called *Duos*. We are putting 2 new music specialists together to discuss a range of topics such as "Approaches and perspectives on Electro acoustic music and diversity" or "Building national and diverse support for new concert music" or "Intercultural Orchestras – how they work: history and practice". The duos are given free reign to openly discuss their experiences and challenges with each topic followed by questions and debates (hopefully heated!) through audience participation.

"...we are concerned that everyone's voice and opinion is heard."

Round tables are also part of the mix with plenty of time for

questions and fleshing out of the themes. At this Forum we are concerned that everyone's voice and opinion is heard. Plenty of time for public discourse will be allotted! You will also meet fellow creative musician enthusiasts from across Canada as well as an array of international creative music specialists. This, of course, promotes musical discourse along with plenty of opportunities to network.

The Forum also offers 2 nights of creative music performance co-produced by the CNMN and Upstream Music Association. Thursday evening, January 7th, Symphony Nova Scotia starts off the conference with a performance of contemporary creative music. On January 8th, Upstream Music Association presents the best of East Coast creative new music talent.

FORUM 2010 seeks to ensure that as many diverse forms of creative music are recognized and given a voice. We are interested in bringing together musicians, composers, producers, presenters, recording engineers and all others who seek to expand the boundaries of creative musical expression and give them a voice in our ever-changing world. Come be part of our search to better understand and promote the many musical forms our members create and perform across Canada.

☉ *Janice Jackson, Steering Committee Chair, CNMN FORUM 2010: Partnering Diversity*
