



M u s i c b y t h e S e a

at Bamfield, Vancouver Island, BC

Music by the Sea (MBTS) began in 2005 in cooperation with the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (BMSC). It is a vision for the creation in Western Canada of a permanent mentoring and performance centre for the arts which will have the capacity to grow into a world-class institution—drawing on the unique and inspiring setting of the West Coast of Vancouver Island.

2009 report from the Executive Artistic Director.

Dear All:

Music by the Sea, in cooperation with the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, made a tremendous step forward in 2009, both artistically and organizationally. Thank-you to all of our new donors and sponsors — and especially to our long-time supporters! I am grateful to you all for your support of this vision.

I wish also to thank the all-out effort by the community of Bamfield — it was truly unbelievable. During the MBTS Summer Performance Residency they provided more group meals (7 in total!) and provided accommodations for almost the entire company of 27. This sort of community support tells me that this vision resonates with the community— which is so vital to our long-term sustainability.

Our box office revenues were better than in 2008 and Opening Night was completely sold out. Given that this was the worst recession year in recent economic history, I think we can congratulate ourselves on holding our own while advancing the size and quality of the roster of artists!

- In 2008-09 MBTS took on an even more ambitious season with the inclusion of two 'off-season' concerts in October and in February. These concerts brought to the community a welcome infusion of cultural life in the darker winter months.
- During July 9th to 19th, 2009, MBTS undertook its second 'performance residency', with an even more impressive array of artists than ever before.
- An additional surge in fund-raising launched by MBTS Honorary Director, the Honourable Iona V. Campagnolo was entitled *Iona's Challenge* and was extremely successful. This enabled us to claim a successful year in financial terms.

- 2009 also saw the christening of MBTS's first ocean vessel *MBTSS Soundwaves*. The ceremonial rowboat, newly restored by Pamela Day, was donated by her and her husband MBTS Director David Whitworth. She was christened on the Dock of the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre by the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, following a performance of *Ceremonial Fanfare* by *True North Brass* of Toronto, Ontario.

- The yachting world started to take notice! This year saw quite a few yachts come to us specifically for MBTS. Our goal is to achieve a yearly "rendezvous" in Bamfield. It is conceivable that within a few years there will be 50 or more yachts that visit Bamfield for MBTS.

There were many other exciting 'firsts' this year — too many to list.

Most importantly of all, the music was at a new level of inspiration and accomplishment. It is not possible to describe in words such an embarrassment of riches and over-abundance of talent — combined with such an astounding view of the Pacific Ocean beyond the glass right behind the performers in the Rix Centre for Ocean Discoveries.

Music by Bach, Biber, Beethoven, Grieg, Brahms, Mozart, Schnittke, Schubert, Berio, Bartók, Britten, Falla, Enescu, Fauré, Janacek, Debussy, Gershwin, Venables, Poulenc, Leclair, Schumann, Händel-Halvorsen, Gardel, MacLeod, Dwyer, Derksen, Stetch, Donison, Sir Earnest MacMillan, Scott Irvine, as well as dozens of Jazz standards — overwhelmed 9 days of audiences.... And it was performed by the likes of :

Adrian Anantawan, violin (Toronto, ON)
Aidan Pendleton, viola (Canadian living in Netherlands)
True North Brass Quintet (Ontario, ON):
Joan Watson, horn
Al Kay, trombone
Brendan Cassin, trumpet
Richard Sandals, trumpet
Scott Irvine, tuba
Borealis String Quartet (Vancouver, BC):
Patricia Shih, violin
Yuel Yawney, violin
Nikita Pogrebnoy, viola
Shih-Lin Chen, cello
John Stetch, jazz pianist (Canadian living in Ithaca NY)
Sarah Hagen, piano (Courtney BC)
Marc Destrubé violin (Vancouver, BC)
Marcus Thompson, viola (Boston)
Hannah Addario-Berry, cello (Canadian in San Francisco,)
Cris Derksen cellist/singer-songwriter (Vancouver, BC)
Keith MacLeod, clarinet (Victoria, BC)
Nan Hughes, soprano (Banff, AB)
Marc Ryser, piano (Boston)
Joe Poole , jazz drums (Vancouver, BC)
Adam Thomas, jazz bass (Vancouver, BC)
Phil Dwyer, saxophones (Qualicum, BC)
Christopher Donison, piano (Victoria, BC)
Nicholas Jacques, percussion / stage manager', (Vancouver)

Many thanks to all of our volunteers, sponsors, donors, audiences, the MBTS Board of Directors, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Mayor Ken McRae of Port Alberni, Regional Representative Stefan Ochman, Huu-ahy-aht First Nation Chief Robert Dennis, ACRD Regional Director Hira Chopra, Community Futures— Alberni-Clayoquot, the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, the Community of Bamfield, — and most of all....

....to the incredible artists that have lavished their talents upon this festival in such a tiny and beautiful remote historic fishing village on the west side of Vancouver Island. All of these artists were deeply grateful and expressed a desire to come back. This is so important for us at this stage of our development. We are artist and community driven. If we can keep attracting great artists and they spread the word that Bamfield is the place to be, this will fuel our growth and cement our reputation as the place to hear the best performances by the best artists in the most awe-inspiring setting imaginable.

Sincerely,
Christopher Donison
Executive Artistic Director

Music by the Sea

at Bamfield British Columbia

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Music by the Sea is a non-profit society (# S-51471) registered under the *Society Act* of British Columbia and is a Registered Charity (# 83328 5166 RR0001) under the *Income Tax Act* of Canada.