



2015-2016  
OUR 59<sup>TH</sup> SEASON

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## WINTER WINDS

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THE JOHN AVISON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA  
CONDUCTED BY LES DALA

ROGER COLE, OBOE  
FRANÇOIS HOULE, CLARINET  
JULIA LOCKHART, BASSOON  
DAVID HASKINS, FRENCH HORN

FRIDAY JANUARY 15, 2016

## The John Avison Chamber Orchestra

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Anyone who listened to CBC Radio in its heyday of the 50s 60s and 70s will know the name of the indefatigable and ubiquitous John Avison.

For more than five decades he conducted the weekly CBC Radio Orchestra. His audience consisted of hundreds of thousands of regular and loyal Canadian music listeners. He introduced them to much of the great classical chamber orchestra repertoire, as well as to a myriad of new Canadian composers whose works he so readily championed.

Those weekly broadcasts were a staple of the classical music world, and long after Avison's death in 1983, his band stayed on as the last remaining Radio Orchestra in North America.

John Avison toured with the Orchestra to many distant and remote corners of Canada including [in the days before Nunavut] to Frobisher Bay and the Beaufort Sea where they played in Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk in the early 70's. But strangely enough, the CBC Orchestra seldom performed public concerts in the very city where its founder and musicians were resident.

With that in mind, it seemed appropriate that as White Rock Concerts begins to utilize a Vancouver-based chamber orchestra more frequently, we name our group after that distinguished pioneer to whom we all owe such a debt of musical mentorship.

When somebody comes up with a budget of 5 or 6 million dollars annually, the Lower Mainland will be ready to enjoy the work of a permanent professional chamber orchestra. And when that happens, there is no better way to pay tribute to one of British Columbia's most significant early music pioneers than to name the orchestra after John Avison.

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**John Avison [1915-1983]**

Founder and Conductor of the CBC Vancouver Chamber Orchestra, John Patrick Avison was a rare pioneer of early Vancouver music-making - pianist, composer, conductor, accompanist, he was a musical Jack-of-all-trades in Vancouver at a time when everything that occurred in the music world was being tried for the first time!

He conducted his own CBC orchestra until his retirement in 1980, and also guest conducted in Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, and Seattle. On tour he conducted the first orchestral concerts given in the Canadian Arctic. Especially proficient in 18th-century music, Avison also conducted a vast quantity of 20th-century music, including premieres of many important Canadian works.

A black and white portrait of André Laplante, an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark turtleneck sweater. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a slight smile. His hands are clasped in front of him.

The logo for White Rock Concerts, featuring a stylized 'WR' monogram inside a hexagonal frame with the words 'WHITE ROCK CONCERTS' below it.

**Sneak Preview #1**  
2016/17 Season  
**André Laplante, piano**  
Coming in November, 2016

Canadian pianist André Laplante, one of the great romantic virtuosos garnered international attention after winning prizes at the Geneva and Sydney International Piano Competitions, then capturing the silver medal at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. He will be performing masterpieces of the solo piano literature and will be joined by our John Avison Chamber Orchestra to perform a Mozart concerto.

## About the Artists

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LES DALA, CONDUCTOR

Conductor Leslie Dala enjoys a multifaceted career in opera, symphonic music, choral and contemporary works. As well as serving as Music Director of the Bach Choir and Associate Conductor of Vancouver Opera, he has appeared with Pacific Opera Victoria, Edmonton Opera, Saskatoon Opera, Thirteen Strings of Ottawa, the Goh Ballet, University of Toronto Opera Department and the COSI Festival in Sulmona, Italy, and will be guest conductor with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in the coming season. On the podium, he is known for his passionate, dynamic and charismatic approach to music-making, and has been named one of the top ten artistic leaders of the Metropolitan area by the Vancouver Sun.



ROGER COLE, OBOE

When Roger Cole was appointed Principal Oboist of the Vancouver Symphony in 1976 at age 22, he was the youngest principal player in the orchestra. Today he is the oldest principal player. From 1976-2008 he was also the Principal Oboist of the CBC Radio Orchestra, and from 1998-2012 he was the Principal Oboist of the Carmel Bach Festival in California. He has participated regularly at summer music festivals in Aspen, Tanglewood, and Marlboro; and is currently Music Director of the celebrated Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Cole teaches at the UBC School of Music, the Vancouver Academy and the VSO School of Music. He studied at Yale and the Juilliard School under the renowned American oboist, Robert Bloom.



FRANÇOIS HOULE, CLARINET

As soloist and chamber musician, clarinetist François Houle has appeared at major festivals across Canada, the United States, Europe and Australia. A prolific recording artist, he has released over twenty recordings earning multiple Juno Awards. A founding member of such critically acclaimed ensembles as Turning Point and Standing Wave, he has single-handedly expanded the clarinet's repertoire by commissioning and premiering over 100 new works by many of today's leading Canadian and International composers. Downbeat magazine referred to him as a "rising star" and "talent deserving wider recognition" and the LA Times wrote he is "a spectacularly versatile clarinetist who appears to have no limitations stylistically or sonically".

## About the Artists *(continued)*



**JULIA LOCKHART, BASSOON**

Julia Lockhart has been Principal Bassoonist of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra since 2005. A dedicated chamber musician, she is a founding member of the Harlequin Bassoon Quartet. In her spare time, she works as an apprentice woodwind repair technician, specializing in band instruments for countless Vancouver area students. Ms. Lockhart is on the faculty of UBC School of Music and the VSO School of Music, and has given master classes at the University of Toronto, Wilfred Laurier University, and Mount Royal University in Calgary. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, Ms. Lockhart completed studies at Yale School of Music and UBC, studying with Bernard Garfield, Nadina Mackie Jackson, Jesse Read, Frank Morelli and Michael Hope.



**DAVID HASKINS, FRENCH HORN**

David Haskins has held the post of Associate Principal Horn of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra since 2008. Prior to moving to Vancouver he played in the Hiroshima Symphony Orchestra in Japan. He then became Principal Horn of the Windsor Symphony Orchestra and while living in the Toronto area, he appeared regularly with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra. Mr. Haskins is active as a chamber musician, soloist and teacher, and is currently on the faculty of the VSO School of Music and the newly-created VSO Orchestral Institute at Whistler. An alumnus of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, he graduated from the University of Toronto, McGill University and the Royal Conservatory of Music.



*The Youth of White Rock Baptist Church  
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Programme

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**THE JOHN AVISON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

MARK FERRIS, LEADER

CONDUCTED BY LES DALA

SOLOISTS:

ROGER COLE, OBOE

FRANÇOIS HOULE, CLARINET

JULIA LOCKHART, BASSOON

DAVID HASKINS, FRENCH HORN

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Pastorale d'été

Arthur Honegger [1892-1955]

Oboe Concerto in C Major

Domenico Cimarosa [1749-1801]

(Arranged by Sir Arthur Benjamin)

Introduction

Allegro

Siciliano

Allegro Giusto

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Roger Cole, oboe

Concertina Op 26 for clarinet

Carl Maria von Weber [1786-1826]

François Houle, clarinet

INTERMISSION

Sinfonia Concertante  
(K Annex 9)

for oboe, clarinet, bassoon and horn

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart [1756-1791]

Allegro

Adagio

Theme & Variations (Andantino)

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Roger Cole, oboe

François Houle, clarinet

Julia Lockhart, bassoon

David Haskins, French horn

Perpetual Motion Op. 257

Johann Strauss II [1825-1899]



More Sneak Previews and Announcements  
at our February concert

## Programme Notes

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### **Domenico Cimarosa - Oboe Concerto in C Major**

Cimarosa is best known for his comic opera “The Secret Marriage” (Il Matrimonio Segreto) but he also wrote extensive instrumental music. The oboe concerto was apparently written while he languished in prison during one of several Bourbon occupations of Naples, in the last decade of the 18th century.

There is a Vancouver connection to this work. The present version was arranged by the Australian conductor-composer, Sir Arthur Benjamin, while he was resident in Vancouver and conductor of the embryonic Vancouver Symphony Orchestra during the war-years (1941 to 1946). It was premiered here in 1946 by oboist Fernie Quinn who was still in the orchestra in 1953 when I arrived in this city.

### **Carl Maria von Weber - Concertino Op 26**

It took the combined genius of great composers and the burgeoning virtuosity of outstanding players to establish a legitimate solo platform for the emerging wind instruments of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Mozart wrote sublimely for the developing clarinet, inspired by the brilliant playing of Anton Staedler. Half a generation later Weber picked up where Mozart left off, and in 1811 wrote this Concertino for the virtuoso Heinrich Barmann. It was yet another revelation! The clarinet, in Weber’s hands, became an operatic diva....

I have heard this work performed by several generations of great clarinetists - Reginald Kell, Gervaise de Payer, Sabine Meyer, James Campbell, and now in the hands of Vancouver’s François Houle.

### **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Sinfonia Concertante**

Mozart wrote exquisitely for each of the wind instruments of his day. Among his prolific output are concerti for flute, flute and harp, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and four for French horn. Even though the instruments of his day were relatively primitive, he always knew how to assure the most glorious (and characteristic) sounds from each of them. Not only was he instinctively aware of what sort of lines each wind instrument could handle, he also knew

## Programme Notes *(continued)*

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the capabilities of various friends and colleagues who played the emerging wind instruments of the day - and he usually wrote for these specific players.

In Mozart's time the Sinfonia Concertante or "group concerto" was still in vogue, and Mozart's great work in that form is for violin and viola. But he also wrote a solitary, glorious work for four wind instruments and orchestra, presumably created for his colleagues and friends, Ramm the oboist, Ritter the bassoonist, Staedler the clarinetist and Leutgeb the horn player.

Alas, the work is clouded in mystery. In the early 19th century, a different version of the same work emerged - scored for flute, oboe, horn and bassoon. Flute players naturally claimed this was the "true" Mozart. Clarinetists battled nobly to retain their place in the Mozart lexicon, and given this choice, musicologists began to doubt the very provenance of the piece.

In the end, audiences are the ultimate judges. The version played tonight seems thoroughly Mozartian, especially when one considers the fluent clarinet writing. There - I have taken sides. Yes, I think this is the original version and yes, I am convinced it is true Mozart.

In any case, if not Mozart, it is certainly Mozartian. Join with me in enjoying a rarely heard gem for these four solo wind instruments.

### **Johann Strauss II - Perpetual Motion Op 257**

Ahah! The encore is actually listed as part of the programme. I didn't want you to miss this - another of John Avison's favourites. There's a wonderful bassoon part in the middle during which I shall remain eternally (and proudly) envious of Julia as she plays it tonight! Still, watch out for some fun and games as this musical perpetual motion machine of early 19th century Vienna gets under way!

George Zukerman. O.C., O.B.C.  
Artistic Director

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Renowned impresario and raconteur **George Zukerman**, OC, OBC is stepping down as Artistic Director of White Rock Concerts, but you have a unique opportunity to travel the Rhone River with him next year. It will be a journey to enchant lovers of music, travel, history & fine cuisine.

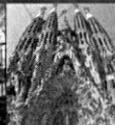
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Albéniz



photo: Jiuguang Wang



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# The John Avison Chamber Orchestra

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## Conducted by Les Dala

### Violin 1

Mark Ferris, Concertmaster  
Lawrie Hill  
Ellen Farrugia  
Carolyn Cole

### Violin 2

Domagoj Ivanovic\*  
Ken Lin  
Rick Dorfer

### Viola

Tawnya Popoff\*  
Marcus Takizawa

### Cello

Rebecca Wenham\*  
Harold Birston

### Bass

Les Kasprzak\*

### Flute & Piccolo

Paolo Bartolussi\*

### Oboe

David Owen\*  
Emma Ringrose

### Clarinet

François Houle\*

### Bassoon

Julia Lockhart\*

### French Horn

Laurel Spencer\*  
Micajah Sturgess  
David Haskins

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\*Principal



THE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE QUARTETS  
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