

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Calgary Philharmonic's new City Spaces concerts feature virtual solo and duet performances at local landmarks

Calgary Alta. (March 9, 2021) – While the Jack Singer Concert Hall has been closed in recent weeks, Calgary Philharmonic musicians have been recording solos and duets at some of the city's iconic downtown buildings for three special *City Spaces* concerts starting Saturday, March 20. Bringing people music from the top of a modern skyscraper, the stunning interior of a brutalist-era art gallery, and the grand ballroom of a historic hotel, these free virtual events include new performances followed by short conversations about the music, paired with curated selections from the Calgary Phil Live-stream Library.

"We've really missed being able to make music in our concert hall, but it gave us a chance to explore some other beautiful spaces in this city," says Paul Dornian, President and CEO of the Calgary Philharmonic. "We're excited to shine a spotlight on our musicians and give audiences a view from inside such familiar Calgary landmarks. We're also sharing some excellent selections from past live-streamed performances that showcase the full Orchestra."

With the province lifting some restrictions this week, Dornian hopes the Orchestra will be able to return to the concert hall and start rehearsing with larger ensembles. "One way or another, we will find ways to deliver music to our community — people have told us how much it means to them and how much they need it right now. Music has helped bring us all comfort and joy during this difficult year."

City Spaces: The BOW® premieres online Saturday, March 20 at 7:30PM and features a solo violin performance by Assistant Concertmaster Donovan Seidle. People are invited to take in the view from one of the city's tallest buildings while listening to works by Sophie Carmen Eckhardt-Gramatté, Eugène Ysaÿe, Johann Sebastian Bach, and Heinrich Biber, followed by a brief discussion between Seidle and Associate Conductor Karl Hirzer. The second half of the event is an encore presentation of the first movement from Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 1*, which was performed by the Orchestra during the 2020/2021 Season.

Upcoming virtual concerts include City Spaces: Contemporary Calgary on Saturday, April 3, and City Spaces: Fairmont Palliser on Saturday, April 17, both premiering online at 7:30PM. The performances are available for viewing for 30 days following the premiere — online access is free with registration.

For more information visit calgaryphil.com.

City Spaces Schedule

Saturday, March 20 at 7:30PM

City Spaces: The BOW®

Musician: Donovan Seidle, Assistant Concertmaster

Program: *Lento* from *Suite No. 2*, by Sophie Carmen Eckhardt-Gramatté; *Obsession* from *Sonata No. 2*, by Eugène Ysaÿe; *Chaconne* from *Partita No. 2 in D Minor*, by Johann Sebastian Bach; *Mystery Sonata No. 16 in G Minor (Passacaglia)*, by Heinrich Biber

Live-stream feature: *Adagio molto - Allegro con brio* from *Symphony No. 1 in C Major*, by Ludwig van Beethoven (performed by the Calgary Philharmonic in 2020)

Saturday, April 3 at 7:30PM

City Spaces: Contemporary Calgary

Musician: Maxwell Stein, Horn

Program: *Fantasy for Solo Horn*, by Malcolm Arnold

Musician: Michael Hope, Assistant Principal Bassoon

Program: *Fantasy for Solo Bassoon*, by Malcolm Arnold

Musician: Robert McCosh, Principal Horn

Program: *Laudatio*, by Bernhard Krol:

Musician: Adam Zinatelli, Principal Trumpet

Program: *Intrada*, by Otto Ketting

Musician: Slavko Popovic, Principal Clarinet

Program: *Three Pieces for Solo Clarinet*, by Igor Stravinsky

Live-stream feature: *Fantasy on a Theme by Beethoven*, by Larysa Kuzmenko (performed by the Calgary Philharmonic in 2020)

Saturday, April 17 at 7:30PM

City Spaces: Fairmont Palliser

Musicians: Kathleen de Caen, Cello, and Antoine St-Onge, Principal Bassoon (note: musicians are from the same household)

Program: *Sonata for Bassoon and Cello in B-flat Major*, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Musician: Alisa Klebanov, Viola

Program: *Cello Suite No. 2 in D Minor* (I. Prelude, IV. Sarabande, VI. Gigue), by Johann Sebastian Bach

Live-stream feature: *Arioso* from *Cantata BWV 156* (arr. Leopold Stokowski), by Johann Sebastian Bach (performed by the Calgary Philharmonic in 2018); and *Innenohr* by Barbara Croall (performed by the Calgary Philharmonic in 2020)

-30-

Media Opportunities

Maureen McNamee
Communications Manager
403.923.7357
mmcnamee@calgaryphil.com

About the Calgary Philharmonic

The Calgary Philharmonic celebrated 65 years as a pillar of Calgary's vibrant arts community in 2020 and has grown to be one of Canada's most celebrated live music ensembles. Led by Music Director Rune Bergmann, the Calgary Phil presents classical masterworks, pop favourites, bold collaborations, and cutting-edge new works, and attracts world-renowned guest artists and dynamic conductors. While the concert hall has been closed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Calgary Phil hasn't missed a beat — engaging with the community through free and accessible concert recordings, launching an All Access online hub giving visitors an in-depth musical experience, and continuing to produce high-quality videos. In a typical Season, the Orchestra welcomes over 100,000 visitors and, in 2017, launched its live-stream initiative — an immersive, digital concert experience for audiences around the world.