Guest Recital: Duo Concertante

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Guest Recital:
Duo Concertante
Nancy Dahn, violin
Timothy Steeves, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Sunday, October 1st, 2017
4:00 pm
Program

Sonata in E major, BWV 1016  
J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

Adagio
Allegro
Adagio ma non tanto
Allegro

Intermission

Sonate  
Maurice Ravel  
(1875-1937)

Allegretto
Moderato: Blues
Allegro: Moto Perpetuum

Sonata in A major  
Cesar Franck  
(1822-1890)

I. Allegretto moderato
II. Allegro
III. Revetative-Fantasia: moderato
IV. Allegretto poco mosso
Duo Concertante
Nancy Dahn, violin and Timothy Steeves, piano

"Grace and fire... fury and repose... a triumphant mass of non-stop energy" – WholeNote

"Majesty, passion and excitement. Inspiring!" – Wiener Zeitung (Vienna)

"Splendid... a miracle of knowledge and poetry" – Gramophone

Canada's premiere violin and piano ensemble, Duo Concertante, are partners in music and in life. Their name, Duo Concertante, was taken from the inscription over Beethoven's "Kreutzer" sonata which reads, "in stilo molto concertante," implying that the two performers must be equal and dynamic voices. This notion defines Duo Concertante's artistic relationship. The "Kreutzer" sonata was the first piece the duo played when, in 1997, they burst into the performance world like "two packages of musical dynamite" (Halifax Chronicle-Herald). Known for the passion and brilliance of their performances, critics have praised Nancy Dahn and Timothy Steeves' "artistry, poetry, and impeccable technique" (La Scena Musicale) and "deeply integrated performances that flow naturally as if the music were being created on the spot" (Gramophone). The Duo's busy touring schedule across North America, Europe, and China, have lead to performances at Wigmore Hall, Weill Recital Hall, Roy Thomson Hall, the National Arts Centre, and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing.

Their nine acclaimed CDs include Beethoven: Complete Sonatas for Violin and Piano, which received rare reviews from the international press. Of this frequently broadcast Beethoven recording, Music Toronto's John Terauds says, "these beautiful interpretations are so good right down to the tiniest of details that they deserve to be called a reference in the contemporary performance of these 10 great pieces." Their recording of Schafer's Duo for Violin and Piano won the 2011 Juno Award for Classical Composition of the Year, and their recording J.S. Bach: Sonatas for Violin and Keyboard received the ECMA Classical Recording of the Year Award in 2017.
Duo Concertante have consistently revealed a passion for new music, commissioning a total of twenty five new works for violin and piano from many of Canada's leading composers, such as Denis Gougeon, Vincent Ho, Jocelyn Morlock, Kati Agócs, Kelly-Marie Murphy, Alice Ho, Omar Daniel, Andrew MacDonald, Linda Bouchard, and Jean Lesage. Their CDs Wild Honey and Wild Bird consist entirely of commissioned Canadian works and in May 2017 the Duo released Incarnation, an all-Canadian album featuring works by Chan, Gougeon, Ho, Morlock and Staniland.

Based at Memorial University in St. John’s, Nancy and Tim are energetic, experienced teachers who have given hundreds of master classes and workshops across Canada, in the US, and in China. Their commitment to working with young musicians gave rise to the annual Tuckamore Chamber Music Festival, which they founded in 2000 to bring together young chamber music performers with world-class artists and ensembles for an intensive two weeks of learning and performance.

They were elected as Fellows to the Royal Society of Canada in 2016.