

Vancouver New Music presents acclaimed next-gen string ensemble the JACK Quartet

IN BRIEF: Vancouver New Music presents **JACK Quartet**

Saturday, March 14, 2015 | Pre-show Talk: 7:15 PM (FREE) | Concert: 8 PM
Orpheum Annex (823 Seymour Street, Vancouver) | Tickets: \$35 regular / \$15 students
Advance tickets available at www.jackquartet-vancouver.brownpapertickets.com or 1.800.838.3006.

JACK Quartet has redefined the string quartet for the next generation of new music followers, the New York-based group will perform Canadian premieres of works by Taylor Brook, Georg Friedrich Haas and Horațiu Rădulescu.

More Information: www.newmusic.org

Much lauded New York string ensemble, the **JACK Quartet** will perform three Canadian premieres by innovative new music composers as part of **Vancouver New Music's** 2014-15 concert series on **Saturday, March 14; 8 PM**, at the **Orpheum Annex**. In short order, the JACK Quartet has built a solid reputation for exemplary playing of eclectic repertoire, and will perform new works by Taylor Brook and Georg Friedrich Haas as well as a tribute to Horațiu Rădulescu.

Intense, edgy and energetic—the JACK Quartet has redefined what a string quartet should be for the next generation of new music followers, featuring the collective talents of Kevin McFarland (cello), Christopher Otto (violin), John Pickford Richards (viola), and Ari Streisfeld (violin). This concert will mark a return to Vancouver for the quartet—a highlight of VNM's 2011 festival, the ensemble delivered stunning performances of Iannis Xenakis' works for string quartet.

JACK QUARTET REVIEWS:

"Mind-blowingly good..." - Los Angeles Times

"...remarkably concentrated performances assuring that future JACK events will be drop-everything-and-go occasions." - Philadelphia Inquirer

"The JACK Quartet, in terrific performances, proved that the quaint old string quartet, stretched to its limits, remains vital and entertaining." - The Washington Post

CONCERT PROGRAM:

- *El jardín de senderos que se bifurcan* (2013), by Taylor Brook
- *String Quartet no. 8* (2014), by Georg Friedrich Haas
- *String Quartet no. 5 "before the universe was born"* (1990/1995), by Horațiu Rădulescu

Based on a story by Jorge Luis Borges, the JACK Quartet premiered *El jardín de senderos que se bifurcan* in 2013 while Montreal composer Taylor Brook was pursuing a doctorate in music composition at Columbia University in New York with Georg Friedrich Haas.

Columbia University music professor, Georg Friedrich Haas key experimentation in sound is playing with micro-tonality to break sound down beyond the conventional Western scale, and his works are highly demanding to master. The JACK Quartet has been a major champion of his work and will premiere *String Quartet no. 8* in the US this month, prior to its concert in Vancouver.

Romanian-French composer Horațiu Rădulescu was known for taking an unconventional approach to composition. He adopted the spectral technique when it was first developed in the '70s, and continued to refine it throughout his career.

VANCOUVER NEW MUSIC 2015 CONCERT SERIES - JACK Quartet, March 14, 2015 @ 8PM

The **JACK Quartet** is focused on the commissioning and performance of new works, leading the group to work closely with composers such as John Luther Adams, Derek Bermel, Chaya Czernowin, James Dillon, Brian Ferneyhough, Beat Furrer, Georg Friedrich Haas, Vijay Iyer, György Kurtág, Helmut Lachenmann, Steve Mackey, Matthias Pintscher, Steve Reich, Roger Reynolds, Wolfgang Rihm, Salvatore Sciarrino, and John Zorn. Upcoming and recent premieres include works by Wolfgang von Schweinitz, Toby Twining, Georg Friedrich Haas, Simon Holt, Kevin Ernste, and Simon Bainbridge. The group is the recipient of Lincoln Center's Martin E. Segal Award, New Music USA's Trailblazer Award, and the CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. JACK has performed to critical acclaim at Carnegie Hall (USA), Lincoln Center (USA), Wigmore Hall (United Kingdom), Suntory Hall (Japan), Salle Pleyel (France), Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ (Netherlands), La Biennale di Venezia (Italy), the Lucerne Festival (Switzerland), Bali Arts Festival (Indonesia), Reykjavik Arts Festival (Iceland), Festival Internacional Cervantino (Mexico), Kölner Philharmonie (Germany), Donaueschinger Musiktage (Germany), and the Wittener Tage für neue Kammermusik (Germany). The members of the quartet met while attending the Eastman School of Music and studied closely with the Arditti Quartet, Kronos Quartet, Muir String Quartet, and members of the Ensemble Intercontemporain.

www.jackquartet.com

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ABOUT VANCOUVER NEW MUSIC

Vancouver New Music is dedicated to exploring and contextualizing new music and sonic art, through concert presentations, festival, community, and workshop events. VNM regularly commissions and premieres new works by Canadian composers, presents leading and emerging electroacoustic and electronic music artists, international composers and performers, sound installations and music theatre. VNM presents an annual festival that focuses each year on a theme within the new music landscape, and explores the interaction of contemporary music with other disciplines such as theatre, installation and media arts. Other activities include lectures and workshops with visiting artists, ensemble workshops and presentations open to the community, and other sound art and new music related community events.

www.newmusic.org

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