

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Moon Bells/Symbiotic offers up delicate sounds for handmade ceramic instruments**

**Vancouver New Music presents an installation-performance with Roxanne Nesbitt, Parmela Attariwala and Ben Brown**



*Photo: Roxanne Nesbitt/Moon Bells by Andi McLeish.*

**Vancouver, BC** – *Moon Bells / Symbiotic* extends **Roxanne Nesbitt's** ongoing explorations of sonic timbre and texture through handmade ceramic percussion and altered instruments. Taking place at The ANNEX (823 Seymour Street) on Sunday, June 12 at 8pm, *Moon Bells/Symbiotic* is part installation, part performance; audience members will enter into a space that is shaped by the suspended ceramic sculptural pieces. The visual suggestion of weightlessness and levity blends with sound layers coaxed from the sculptural instruments creating a subtly shifting sonic and material translucency.

The performance-installation features two new distinct bodies of ceramic instruments made by Nesbitt. The moon bells are hanging spinning translucent resonant panels designed using ratios from just intonation (musical intervals tuned as whole number ratios of frequencies) and warped through the ceramic process in the kiln. Symbiotic Instruments is an on-going project exploring interactions between traditional and experimental instruments.

The performance features **Roxanne Nesbitt** performing ceramics and piano, **Ben Brown** on ceramics and **Parmela Attariwala** on viola. There will be an in-theatre artist chat at 7:15pm, before the performance.

### **Moon Bells/Symbiotic**

**Sunday, June 12, 2022; 8pm**

**Artist chat at 7:15pm**

**ANNEX (823 Seymour Street, 2nd Floor)**

**Tickets \$15, available through Eventbrite: <https://moon-bells-symbiotic.eventbrite.ca>**

### **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

**Roxanne Nesbitt** is a designer and sound artist of Indo-Caribbean and European ancestry. Her research explores radical instrument design, the hinge between composition and improvisation, and participatory sound installation. Her latest work, “Death and the Rest,” features the nine-piece chamber ensemble Modelo 62 playing Nesbitt’s original ceramic instruments recently premiered at Gaudeamus Music Week (NL). Roxanne celebrates process making work that is intimate, inquisitive, and exploratory.

[roxannenesbitt.com](http://roxannenesbitt.com)

Calgary-born violinist **Parmela Attariwala** has been mesmerized by sound for as long as she can remember; most especially by how un-worded sounds and music carry meaning. She pursued this passion through an undergraduate degree in performance, and postgraduate degrees in ethnomusicology (specializing in Sikh devotional music and Canadian cultural policy, respectively). Over a twenty-five year sojourn in Toronto meant to last only one year, Parmela cultivated an eclectic and interdisciplinary practice alongside the performance of traditional Western classical music and a teaching practice devoted to vulnerable youth. Parmela moved to Vancouver in 2019. Since then, she has continued to engage music-making that pushes the boundaries of tradition and to advocate for equity in Canadian musicking. In 2021, Parmela co-founded *Understory*, a network and creation platform for Canadian improvising artists.

<https://parmela.com>

[understorysound.ca](http://understorysound.ca)

**Ben Brown** is a mover and shaker. As a drummer, he has received a Juno Award with his group, Pugs and Crows. He is the founder of Music And Movement Mondays (MAMM) and the Conundrum percussion series.

[benbrownsounds.com](http://benbrownsounds.com)

### **ABOUT VANCOUVER NEW MUSIC**

Supporting creativity, innovation, curiosity and a multiplicity of voices and ideas, Vancouver New Music is committed to curating practices, not only works, and embracing the rhizomatic expansion of current modes of sound and music creation. Founded in 1973, Vancouver New Music regularly commissions and premieres new works by Canadian and international composers, 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, such as Soundwalks.

An annual/biannual series, Parallels, brings internationally renowned artists together with local musicians to create new works that are specific to the time, places, and people involved in their creation. <https://newmusic.org>

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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