

# TRIO ÉMERILLON

## Press kit



Photo credit : Jonathan Goulet

During the concert « De l'Intérieur », produced by Codes d'Accès  
February 20th, 2019, at the Chapelle Historique du Bon Pasteur, in Montréal.

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## **Biography**

A unique ensemble in Montreal's cultural landscape, Trio Émerillon sets itself apart through its unusual and versatile combination of instruments. Made richer by the broad and varied experiences of its founding members (Charlotte Layec, clarinetist, Elizabeth Skinner, violinist and Olivier Hébert-Bouchard, pianist), this trio is gradually becoming an integral element of the burgeoning Canadian music scene. Inspired by the meeting of its musicians, born respectively in France, British Columbia and Quebec, the trio is named after one of Jacques Cartier's ships, which in its explorations reached the shores of the New World in the 16th century.

Looking to democratize the chamber music recital, Trio Émerillon travels with ease in between the classics and contemporary repertoire. Offering both a showcase for new music and emerging and lesser-known composers - and through many of their original arrangements - the trio stands out with their bold audacious projects. The soundscape of the ensemble is widened further with the prominent presence of the bass clarinet, an instrument prized by the trio for its distinct musical timbre and deeply expressive and emotive versatility.

Trio Émerillon's mission is to surprise and delight you as you accompany them on an exploratory journey through a new land of musical and cultural aesthetics – a collective product of their artistic hearts, minds and souls.



Photo credit : Annie Éthier

## Passed events

### « Carte Blanche »

February 25th, 2020 at Mise-En-Place in New York.

Collaborative concert between Trio Émerillon, Ensemble Mise-En and the Manhattan School of Music in New York.

### « Visions Fugitives »

August 24th, 2019 at the Cathédrale Christ Church in Montréal.

As part of the concert series « Oasis Musicale ».

### « Concert pour MASC »

May 10th, 2019 at McGill University in Montréal.

As part of the residency offered by the *McGill Association of Student Composers* (MASC), to help develop compositions by student composers.

### « De l'Intérieur »

February 20th, 2019 at the Chapelle Historique du Bon Pasteur, in Montréal.

Concert produced by Codes d'Accès.

### « Origines »

May 31st. 2018 at the Salle Rolland-Brunelle in Joliette.

As part of the competition « Opus 130 », organized by the Société Musicale Fernand-Lindsay.



Photo credit: Christian Rouleau

## **Upcoming events**

### « Le silence du temps »

Collaborative concert between the cellist Stéphane Tétreault and the composer Quentin Lauvray. Creation of the piece « *Les oiseaux cessèrent de crier pur écouter la pluie battre le sol* ».

### « Visions Fugitives »

Concert in collaboration with the Cobalt Quartet.

### « Espaces Unis »

Collaborative concert with the composers: Maggie Ayotte, Francis Battah, Xavier Michaud Beaulieu and Geoffroy Michaud Beaulieu.

### « Balkans »

Concert in collaboration with the composer Airat Ichmouratov.

## **Youtube channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr4OqHnBNrntgHyAgZ6l7Ew>



Photo credit: Annie Éthier

## Members

### **Elizabeth Skinner – Violinist**



Intrigued by the violin, Elizabeth Skinner began studying music at the age of nine in her hometown of Victoria, Canada. Since then, she has become an engaging and versatile performer and educator, sharing music across America, Europe and Asia.

An active chamber musician, she is a founding member of Trio Émerillon and a member of Montreal's cutting-edge classical string band, collectif9. She has performed at notable festivals including the Lucerne Festival Academy in Switzerland, Music Masters Course in Japan, the Banff Centre Music Festival, the Toronto Summer

Music Academy, Domaine Forget Music Academy as well as Chamber Academy, Music By The Sea, and the Rosebud Chamber Music Festival in Canada. Elizabeth has also performed at the Brevard Music Festival and Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival in the USA, New Music for Strings Festival in Denmark, the Rome Chamber Music Festival in Italy, and Moritzburg Music Festival in Germany. She has been privileged to perform with musicians Amy Schwartz Moretti, David Halen, Robert McDuffie, Daniel Phillips, Axel Strauss, Eric Nowlin, Marc Coppey, Kurt Muroki, Huw Watkins, Pedja Muzijevic, Steven Dann, Ernst Kovacic, Anssi Karttunen, Yury Revich, Stéphane Tétreault, and Johannes Moser.

In 2006 at the age of 15 she was the youngest member of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada and since then she has had the opportunity to perform under the baton of notable conductors including Alan Gilbert, Robert Spano, Hannu Lintu, Ward Stare, Naoto Otomo, Andrés Cárdenes, Eric Jacobson, Edward Gardner, Janos Sandor, Matthias Pintscher, Alexis Hauser, Pablo Heras-Casado, Kent Nagano and Valery Gergiev. A recognized leader, Elizabeth has enjoyed the role of concertmaster with the McDuffie Center String Ensemble, the McGill Symphony Orchestra, and the McGill Contemporary Music Ensemble. She currently performs regularly with the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra and is a substitute violinist with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

In 2015, Elizabeth was the winner of the Canadian Music Competition (19-30 years strings category) and the Jeunesses Musicales du Canada's Peter Mendell Award. She won first prize in the Prix d'Europe competition strings category in 2016, as well as third prize in the overall competition, and the Guy Soucie prize for her interpretation of a Québécois work. The same year, Elizabeth won the McGill Chamber Music Competition with Trio Armonioso and they performed at the Salzburg Mozarteum. In 2017 she was a recipient of the Sylva Gelber Music Foundation award, and in 2018 she was a finalist in the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition.

Elizabeth graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance from the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University in Georgia, USA. She also holds a Master of Music in Violin Performance and recently completed her Doctor of Music in Performance Studies at McGill University's Schulich School of Music where she studied with Axel Strauss. Her doctoral dissertation "An Authenticity Puzzle: The versatility of arrangements and their role in today's musical landscape" explored the evolution of the arrangement from the 18th to 21st century, including issues of authenticity and stigma, and their relevance and importance today. Through analyzing arrangements created for collectif9 and Trio Émerillon she examines the arranging process and the potential for finding solutions that balance what have historically been two mutually exclusive concepts: creative freedom in altering a work, and perfect authenticity.

A dedicated educator, Elizabeth has been a sectional coach for the McGill Symphony Orchestra, as well as a chamber coach and private instructor at the Schulich School of Music. She has also taught in the Suzuki program and been a tutor at F.A.C.E. (Formation Artistique au Cœur de l'Éducation) School. She currently teaches privately from her studio in the Mile-End of Montreal. Elizabeth is passionate about inspiring her students to be creative, confident and curious and is able to use her experience from studying Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais to foster an approach which prioritizes injury prevention, setting the foundation for healthy, sustainable relationships with the violin.



### **Olivier Hébert-Bouchard – Pianist**

A laureate of numerous international competitions, pianist Olivier Hébert-Bouchard is rapidly making a name for himself on the Canadian music scene as one of the most active collaborative pianists of his generation.

A founding member of Trio Émerillon, Ensemble Phoenix, and Champ29, he also collaborates with several significant Québec musicians, most notably flutist Ariane Brisson, clarinetist David Dias da Silva, oboist Vincent Boilard, and cellist Stéphane Tétreault. Olivier has made appearances in countless concert series and festivals: Tanglewood on Parade, Domaine Forget's International Festival, the Festival Montréal/Nouvelles Musiques, the Montréal Bach Festival, the Pro Musica Society, MEMO-Histoires de musique, concert series at the Chapelle Historique du Bon-Pasteur and Bourgie Hall, the Canadian Opera Company Chamber Music Series, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the New York Flute Fair, the Mise-en-Music Festival, Le Poisson Rouge, The Firehouse Space, the Orford Music Festival, the Festival d'opéra de Québec, Erreur de type 27, Code d'accès, and the Nuits magiques de Nice, to name but a few. His projects have been selected and supported for touring throughout North America by important arts foundations including Jeunesses Musicales Canada, Debut Atlantic, Astral Artists, the New York Concert Artist Guild, and Bargemusic.

Olivier is originally from Trois-Rivières where he completed his bachelor's degree with great distinction at the Conservatoire de musique. Thanks to a scholarship from the Manhattan School of Music, he was able to pursue his studies in New York where he obtained a master's degree in 2011, again with great distinction. He then went on to study under several world-renowned pianists and pedagogues at the Universität Mozarteum Salzburg in Austria, the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, the Académie internationale d'été de Nice in France, and the Juilliard School.

Olivier has made his mark internationally by appearing in several prestigious competitions including the Julia Crane International Piano Competition, the Gian Battista Viotti International Piano Competition, the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition, the OSM / Standard Life Competition, the Toronto Symphony National Piano Competition, and the Wigmore Hall International Song and Lied Competition. He can often be heard on ICI Musique, Radio-Canada International, CBC, and the European Broadcasting Union. He appeared on La fabrique culturelle's documentary "Classes de maîtres", about the network of music conservatories in Québec. He was also cast in the film *L'enfant prodige* (directed by Luc Dionne) in which he "played" the hands of composer André Mathieu.

A love of multidisciplinary art has led Olivier to collaborate on projects that include dance, theatre, improvisation, visual art, and music. These projects were often in association with organisations and broadcasters such as Corpus Rhésus Danse, the Juilliard School, Québec's Mois Multi, the Festival International de la poésie de Trois-Rivières, and the Conservatoires d'art dramatique du Québec. A passionate

defender of contemporary music, he is dedicated to shining a light on up-and-coming composers and has, since the beginning of his career, premiered several of their works. His excitement about obscure, rarely-played repertoire has kept him pushing the boundaries of instrumentation in his arrangements for various chamber music ensembles.

From 2011 to 2015, Olivier taught collaborative piano at the Conservatoire de musique de Rimouski, the Conservatoire de musique de Québec, and the Université Laval. Since his arrival in Montréal in 2015, he is very in-demand as a collaborator and coach for many professors' studios at the Université de Montréal and McGill University. In this role, he has been invited to some of the most recognized festivals and competitions such as the Académie internationale d'été de Nice, the New York Summer Music Festival, Domaine Forget's International Music and Dance Academy, the Canadian Vocal Arts Institute, the Canadian Music Competition and Stepping Stone, the Prix d'Europe, and the OSM Competition. In 2020, he was appointed collaborative pianist at the Université du Québec à Montréal.

Olivier's captivating stage presence, as well as the thoughtfulness, depth and sincerity of his work have enabled him to share the stage alongside some of the biggest names in contemporary classical music. Most recently he has played with Les Vents Français, Emmanuel Pahud, Susan Hoepfner, Mario Caroli, Leone Buyse, Vicens Prats, Robert Langevin, Gustavo Nuñez, Gilbert Audin, Jesper Busk Sørensen, Chris Gekker, Éric Aubier, Tom Hooten, Stefan Dohr, Jeff Nielsen, Louis-Philippe Marsolais, Oystein Baadsvik, Sergio Carolina and Julian Rachlin. Olivier was a nominee at Québec's music awards, the Prix Opus, and he is grateful for the support of the Conseil des arts de Montréal, the Conseil de la culture et des communications de la Mauricie, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the Canada Council for the Arts in the creation of his numerous projects.

### **Charlotte Layec – Clarinetist**

Charlotte Layec is a French clarinetist who holds a Bachelor in Musicology, a Bachelor in Interpretation and the Diplôme d'État as a clarinet teacher in France. In 2015, she settled in Montreal and obtained a Master Degree in Interpretation with André Moisan at Université de Montréal.

She is a multi-faceted musician, excelling in different aesthetics, combining classical and contemporary music, including electroacoustic music and free improvisation. Her outstanding musical qualities led her to perform with the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne





(NEM) directed by Lorraine Vaillancourt. Charlotte Layec has committed herself to the development of new music, showing an early passion for musical creation and mixed music. She is particularly inspired by the co-creation process inherent in the collaboration between a composer and a performer in electroacoustic music. Many composers have commissioned works for Charlotte, including Quinn Jacob, Thais Montanari, Kévin Gironnay, Félix-Antoine Coutu, Francis Battah, Evelin Ramón and Gabriel Peraza.

She is fascinated by the interaction between humans and machines, and is particularly involved in live electronics and live video processing, which she has explored in works such as "Verklärter Rohr" by Jullian Hoff for bass clarinet, real-time algorithms, tape and generative video (created at the ULTRASON festival 2017 in Montreal and played more than ten other times in North America), or "Imaginary Landscape" by Pierre-Luc Lecours for bass clarinet, gramophone and synthesizer with the visual art of Myriam Boucher (premiered at the MUTEK Festival 2017 in Montreal).

As a teacher, Charlotte Layec has distinguished herself by teaching the clarinet in several schools in Montreal. She is also the author of a series of educational compositions entitled "La cuisine des sons; de savoureuses recettes de textures sonores", in which the goal is to introduce beginner clarinetists to contemporary musical language and extended techniques.

Charlotte is also a very active member in new music circles. She is a founding member of several ensembles including Trio Émerillon, the Ensemble ILÉA and the Collectif Bakarleri. Since 2019, she has been part of the Artistic Committee of Codes d'Accès. She has performed in several international events and festivals including NYCEMF (USA), ClarinetFest (USA), Nuit Blanche Montreal (CA), Re-Flux (CA), Mise-En-Place (USA), FIMU (FR) , Sonic Circuits Festival (USA), TIES (CA) and Mutek (CA).