

Molly MacKinnon
violinist + collaborative artist
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Education

BMus: Performance, University of British Columbia 2012

Selected Orchestral Experience

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, substitute	2013 – Current
Allegra Chamber Orchestra	2016 – Current
Vancouver New Music (various ensembles)	2015 – Current
Plastic Acid Orchestra	2014 – Current
Kamloops Symphony Orchestra	2012 – Current
Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra	2012 – Current
Vancouver Island Symphony	2014 – Current
Vancouver Film Orchestra	2016 – Current
Prince George Symphony, guest concertmaster	2015

Selected Theatre Experience

<i>Good Things To Do</i> , Rumble Theatre	2020
<i>Double Happiness: Detour This Way</i> , Music on Main	2020
<i>Never The Last</i> (co-creator and performer), Delinquent Theatre	2019
<i>Les Filles Du Roi</i> , Urban Ink	2018
<i>Elbow Room Café: The Musical</i> , Zee Zee Theatre	2017
<i>The Night's Mare</i> , Caravan Farm Theatre	2015
<i>The Tempest</i> , Bard on the Beach	2014
<i>STATIONARY: A Recession-Era Musical</i> , Delinquent Theatre	2013/2015
<i>The Idiot</i> , Newworld/VMT/UBC	2012

Professional Development

Banff Centre <i>Concert in the 21st Century</i> residency	2018
Boca Del Lupo, <i>Good Things To Do</i> residency	2017
Banff Centre <i>Playwrights Colony</i> (Never The Last)	2016
BC Arts Council Early Career Development Grant recipient	2015
National Youth Orchestra of Canada	2006, 2009

Groups

Yawn, Indie-Pop	2018 – Current
Black Dog String Quartet, Classical/Crossover	2013 – Current
The Ruffled Feathers, Indie Chamber-Rock	2013 – 2018
Las Estrellas de Vancouver, Mariachi	2016 – Current

Teaching Experience

Saint James Music Academy, violin instructor	2016 – 2018
West Vancouver Community Centre, violin instructor	2013 – 2016

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Never The Last– co-creator, music arranger, performer

Winner: Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards 2019 – Special Achievement Award granted to Molly MacKinnon and Christine Quintana for outstanding interdisciplinary collaboration

SeeMore Theatre Series April 2019

Anvil Centre workshop April 2017

rEvolver Festival May 2016 (workshop production)

Banff Playwrights Colony April 2016

This theatre/concert hybrid explores the life and work of brilliant 20th century Canadian composer Sophie-Carmen Eckhardt-Gramatte, using reworked and repurposed musical material from her 10 solo violin caprices as the framework to tell 10 years of Eckhardt-Gramatte's life and love affair with German Expressionist painter Walter Gramatte. The piece features actors Christine Quintana and Anton Lipovetsky, with me as an onstage violinist and embodiment of Eckhardt-Gramatte's music. A two-week workshop in 2017 took place at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster and gave focus to the greater incorporation of lighting design, sound design, and projection. A full production of *Never The Last* was premiered in April 2019 as part of the ANNEX's SeeMore Theatre series. This iteration of the show received 5 Jessie Richardson Theatre Award nominations for Best Production, Original Script, Direction, Lighting, and a Special Achievement Award for outstanding interdisciplinary collaboration.

Good Things To Do - co-creator, performer

Digital version (Rumble) April/May 2020

rEvolver / foldA May/June 2018

Boca del Lupo residency July 2017

Good Things To Do is a performance experience/installation for audiences of 4 to 12: participants are guided individually to a private space with their eyes closed and when they open their eyes, they are alone in a tent with a laptop. The project combines live sound, recorded sound, and audience interaction with a live web app specifically designed for the show by digital artist Sam MacKinnon. With support from Boca del Lupo's Space Residency Program, playwright Christine Quintana, sound designer Mishelle Cuttler and I held a two-week workshop at the Fishbowl on Granville Island, with a number of trial performances and allotted time for feedback from test audiences. *Good Things To Do* was next presented at Vancouver's rEvolver Festival in May 2018, and the inaugural foldA Festival for Live Digital Arts in Kingston, Ontario in June 2018.

In the wake of COVID 19, we decided to re-imagine the piece in a fully digital form that could be viewed from audience member's homes. Though the work is still in development and was not scheduled to be performed in the 2020 season, we felt galvanized by the possibility of offering participants some respite from the current surge of intensity and uncertainty, and found the work to be well-suited to digital transmission. The moment

dictated the medium—and emboldened the project with new urgency. *Good Things* ran from April 16th to May 10th, 2020, with presenting support from Rumble Theatre.

Concerts On Tap – co-founder

Resurrection Spirits February 2020

Strange Fellows Brewery November 2019

Concerts on Tap aims to demystify classical music by bringing the genre into spaces you might not otherwise expect, in other words, your local brewery or distillery. At the heart of this series is a simple concept: every *Concerts on Tap* show features four different musical pieces that have been paired with a flight of craft beer or mini cocktails. Each pairing has been specifically chosen to complement the character of the piece it's been matched with, inviting audiences to engage with classical music in a way that feels playful and unexpected.

Concerts on Tap's inaugural show kicked off November 28th, 2019 at Strange Fellows Brewing. Drawing inspiration from Strange Fellows' Old World aesthetic, the night featured four pieces from the 18th century Baroque period and along with an instrumental ensemble of Baroque flute and cello, showcased a beautiful Italian harpsichord on loan from Early Music Vancouver.

Our next show "Symphonicity" took place at Resurrection Spirits on February 28th, 2020. This was a 1980's throwback concert with a symphonic percussion ensemble plus flute and violin, paired with a flight of retro mini cocktails. The evening featured pop hits spanning the 80's decade from the likes of The Police, Duran Duran, Stevie Wonder and Seal, all arranged expertly by Vancouver percussionist Brian Nesselroad.

Sounding the Sophia – co-creator, producer, performer

November 2018, in association with *The Little Chamber Music Series That Could*

Sounding the Sophia is a theatrical concert inspired by the sinking of the SS Princess Sophia CPR steamship off the coast of Alaska in 1918. Considered one of the worst nautical disasters in the history of the Pacific Northwest, the sinking of the Sophia resulted in the deaths of all 367 people on board, who remained stuck on Vanderbilt Reef for two full days with nearby help unable to reach them. The concert uses a live 5-piece instrumental ensemble, recorded sound, movement, lighting and costuming to bring this historic tragedy into vivid realization.

With research assistance from the BC Maritime Museum, co-creator Heather Beaty and I were able to acquire transcripts of radio communications between surrounding rescue ships and the Sophia in the days and hours leading to the ship's sinking. These are threaded throughout the concert and serve as the narrative and emotional backbone of the show.

Sounding the Sophia was developed at the Banff Centre for the Arts. With support from the Canada Council for the Arts, LCM commissioned 3 local Vancouver composers Mishelle Cuttler, Nancy Tam, and Kathleen Allan to each write an 8-minute work inspired by the events of the disaster. *Sounding the Sophia* premiered on November 9th, 2018 in Vancouver's Mountain View Cemetery, where over 100 of those on board the Sophia have been laid to rest.

Uri Caine + Ensemble – collaborative artist, performer

November 2017

Presented by Vancouver New Music at the Roundhouse Community Centre, this three-day workshop and presentation was a collaborative process between acclaimed New York-based pianist Uri Caine, a string quartet and members of the Vancouver Electronic Ensemble. Using original piano and string quartets composed by Uri Caine, the group worked to deconstruct, improvise upon, and create sonic links between separate compositions.

Summer Solstice at Mountain View Cemetery – organiser, music director, performer

June 2017

This outdoor community event hosted by The Little Chamber Music Series That Could celebrated the longest day of the year with 35 community dancers and a composition for violin and viola by Jocelyn Morlock, performed live by violist Tawnya Popoff and I. With guidance from choreographer Daelik, the dancers rehearsed twice a week over the course of two months. Tawyna and I were present at each practice during these two months, with the intent of allowing the dancers to fully connect to the music they were dancing to.

The Black Dog String Quartet and Friends – organiser, music arranger, performer

February 2017

A Black Dog String Quartet self-produced show at Gold Saucer Studio that remixed songs from local Vancouver bands The Ruffled Feathers, Salt Thief, and Tambura Rasa to be performed acoustically with string quartet and voice.

Georgia Straight Fall Arts Preview – featured artist

September 2016

Received a feature article in Georgia Straight's Fall Arts Preview as a musician to watch in the upcoming season of 2016.