



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2021

Early Music Vancouver Hosts Panel Discussion on Indigeneity in the Arts

With Jonathon Adams, Marion Newman, Reneltha Arluk, and Dylan Robinson

Vancouver, BC – On **Monday, June 14 at 11AM PDT**, Early Music Vancouver will host **Continuum: A conversation on historical musics and Indigenous resurgence**. This four-person panel will address the issues of Canadian historical erasure of Indigenous peoples, white supremacy, Indigenous cultural resurgence, and the contemporary performance of historical musics and theatre in an Indigenous mode. The discussion was conceived of by EMV's summer artist-in-residence, Cree-Métis Two-Spirit baritone Jonathon Adams.

"In bringing together this brilliant, generous group of Indigenous scholars and artists, I sincerely hope to inspire and encourage Indigenous attendees with the knowledge that important and exciting work is being done by and for our communities across Turtle Island," said Adams. "I hope non-Indigenous attendees will take away a sense of urgency when it comes to the ongoing need for greater Indigenous representation in conversations around equity, history, art, culture and community."

The panelists hail from across the country and from a variety of disciplines, offering a wide spectrum of perspectives. They include Adams and three other Indigenous arts leaders: mezzo-soprano Marion Newman, writer and academic Dylan Robinson, and multi-talented theatre artist Reneltha Arluk.

Kwagiulth and Stó:lō First Nations, English, Irish and Scottish mezzo-soprano **Marion Newman** is one of Canada's most accomplished singers in works ranging from Vivaldi to Vivier. Newman has been a member of the Indigenous Advisory Council of the Regina Symphony since its inception and sits on the advisory board of the Canadian Music Centre of BC, the Association for Opera in Canada and is part of the Circle of Indigenous Artists for the Canadian Opera Company.

Reneltha Arluk is an Inuvialuit, Dene and Cree multi-disciplinary artist from the Northwest Territories. She is the founder of Akpik Theatre, a northern-focused professional Indigenous Theatre company and is also the Director of Indigenous Arts at BANFF Centre for Arts and Creativity. She is the first Inuk and first Indigenous woman to graduate from the University of Alberta's BFA Acting program, and the first Inuk and first Indigenous woman to direct at The Stratford Festival.

Dylan Robinson is a xwélmexw (Stó:lō/Skwah) artist and writer. He is also an Associate Professor at Queen's University, where he holds the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Arts. His recent book, *Hungry Listening* examines Indigenous and settler colonial forms of listening. His current research focuses on the material and sonic life of Indigenous ancestors held by museums, and reparative artistic practices that address these ancestors' incarceration in museums. Robinson is a recipient of both the American Musicological Society's Ruth Solie Award for best collection and the Society for Ethnomusicology's Ellen Koskoff Prize for edited collections.

The panel will be held online and is free to attend. The event will last for 90 minutes in total and includes 15 minutes reserved for questions from the audience. Attendees must RSVP online and are asked to consider donating to an Indigenous organization such as the Indian Residential School Survivors Society or the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Society in lieu of purchasing a ticket.

EVENT LISTING:

Continuum: A conversation on historical musics and Indigenous resurgence

Monday, June 14 at 11AM

Online | Free event

Website: <https://www.earlymusic.bc.ca/events/continuum-a-conversation-on-historical-musics-and-indigenous-resurgence/>

Attendees must RSVP by Friday, June 11 at 3PM. In lieu of purchasing a ticket, attendees are asked to consider donating to an Indigenous organization such as the Indian Residential School Society or the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Society.

ABOUT JONATHON ADAMS

Cree-Métis Two-Spirit baritone Jonathon Adams is EMV's first ever summer artist-in-residence. Adams was born in amiskwaciwâskahikan (Edmonton, Alberta) and is currently based in Montreal. In concert, they have appeared as a soloist with Philippe Herreweghe, Sigiswald Kuijken, and Vox Luminis, among others. They were a fellow of the Netherland Bach Society in 2020 and perform regularly with Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir. Adams is a Britten-Pears Young Artist, a prestigious programme for a select group of young individuals who show outstanding promise. Recent career highlights include a solo début at the Bruges Concertgebouw and at Snape Maltings Concert Hall, and concerts with Amsterdam Baroque in China, Japan, and at the Château de Versailles.

ABOUT EARLY MUSIC VANCOUVER (earlymusic.bc.ca)

Founded in 1970, Early Music Vancouver (EMV) has a long-standing international reputation for the presentation, production and study of classical and traditional repertoires using "historically informed performance practices". Historically informed performance is based on two key aspects: the application of the stylistic and technical aspects of performance, known as performance practice; and the use of period instruments which may be reproductions of historical instruments that were in use at the time of the original composition. EMV now offers the second largest program of its type in North America, presenting and producing an average of 40- 50 concerts per year featuring internationally-renowned local, regional and guest artists. Since January 2021, EMV is led by Artistic & Executive Director Suzie LeBlanc.

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