

Émergences (f. pl.)

Contemporary music concert, Montreal, August 2019

Émergences (f. pl.) is a **feminist concert of contemporary music** whose main goals are to **respond to the under-exposure of artistic works by women composers in classical music**, to open a constructive space for dialogue and reflection within the new music community and thus actively participate in the transformation of mentalities towards parity ideals in artistic creation. To support **Émergences (f. pl.)** is to be part of an initiative that will put these ideals to practice and serves to publicly confirm an engagement towards innovative artistic practices.

Émergences (f. pl.) concert will be presented in **August 2019** in **Montreal** and aims to promote the talents of emerging performers and composers. The concert will present **six new commissioned works** for a flute-guitar duet (Sara Constant flutist, An-Laurence Higgins guitarist) to six women composers in Montreal (4) and Toronto (2). **Émergences (f. pl.)** will subsequently be presented in other cities in Canada. **Your support could be recognized outside of Montreal!**

In commissioning exclusively women composers, **Émergences (f. pl.)** aims to promote, encourage and make visible the artistic works of women within the contemporary classical music community. Even though the number of classical concerts presenting works written by women is growing, gender parity is imperfect and cannot be taken for granted. The multiplication of feminist initiatives in the music world, such as the Association of Canadian Women Composers, the Canadian League of Composers' Gender Parity Pledge, F*EM, MTL Women in Music, Women in Music or International Alliance for Women in Music, to name only those, reflects the extent of feminist concerns that reside in the musical community. **Émergences (f. pl.)** is a project of **contemporary relevance** that aims to **respond to current issues through the powers of creation and collaboration**.

Émergences (f. pl.) also wants to explore the theme of interpersonal relationships in all its richness and complexity. The composers will be invited to explore this subject from the angle of their choice (performer-composer, artist-public, with each other through technology, in the public space, through time, through space, between artists, individual-society, familial, individual-community intercommunal, intergenerational, intercultural, family, diaspora, issues of loneliness and social isolation, etc.). The performer-composer collaborative nature of the creative process will also allow both performers to actively engage in the common reflection and to find a personal resonance with the concert's identity.

The title **Émergences (f. pl.)** refers to the characteristics that bind all participants as emerging and experimental artists, women and feminists, while *pl.* refers to the plurality of their artistic backgrounds and their personal stories and origins. The diversity of the artistic approaches of all the artists involved will make it possible to offer the public a rich and diversified experience, nevertheless guided by an unifying idea to which they can relate.

An-Laurence Higgins (guitar) and Sara Constant (flutist) are active on contemporary music scenes in Quebec and Ontario as soloists, chamber musicians and arts administrators. They have performed contemporary chamber music works together since 2016.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

An-Laurence Higgins // *Producer and guitarist, Montreal*

Guitarist specialized in contemporary music. Solo performances, chamber music, guest artist (Ontario and Quebec).

Sara Constant // *Flutist, Toronto*

Flutist specialized in contemporary music. Alumni of new music festivals and workshops in Austria (Impuls), United-States (Oh my ears) and Canada.

Véronique Girard // *Composer and visual artist, Montreal*

Interdisciplinary artist specialized in animation and graphic notation, creating from the relation between music and visual arts.

Gabrielle Harnois-Blouin // *Composer and singer, Montreal*

Composer of experimental electroacoustic and improvisation, creates works based on the performers' relationships.

Shelley Marwood // *Composer, Toronto*

Composer of orchestral and chamber music, winner of several prizes. Works commissioned by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the Windsor Symphony Orchestra and others.

Thais Montanari // *Composer and multimedia artist, Montreal*

Composer of music and multimedia (electronics, video, performance) interested in political and social issues, performed in Canada, Latin America and other places.

Lieke van der Voort // *Composer and vocalist, Toronto*

Composer using improvisation and mixing jazz and classical music. Founder and director of Kontraband Collectiff that launched its EP *Atropos* in 2018.

