

Red Leaf News

www.redleafpianoworks.com

Newsletter no.14 – October 2015



Red Leaf Pianoworks
a composers' collective

Martha Hill Duncan
Susan Griesdale
Beverly Porter
Rebekah Maxner
Janet Gieck
Joanne Bender
Teresa Richert
John Burge
Irene Voros

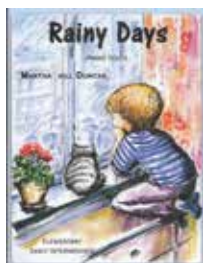
Centrediscs releases CD of John Burge's Chamber Music

In September 2015, The Canadian Music Centre released a CD devoted entirely to some of John Burge's chamber music. Performed by the Ensemble Made in Canada Piano Quartet, this Centrediscs recording features three of John Burge's chamber works. (See Centrediscs announcement p.3. For details on upcoming performances, see Upcoming Events p.2.)

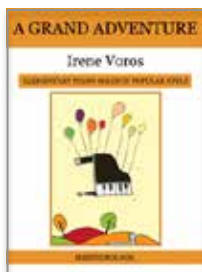


Congratulations to **Irene Voros** for winning the CFMTA Call for Compositions for her grade 5 – 6 level piano piece, *Pacific Passages*.

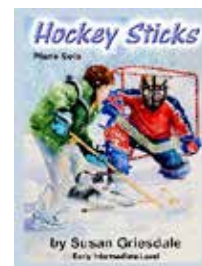
NEW from Red Leaf Pianoworks!



Rainy Days by Martha Hill Duncan - Eleven imaginative piano solos to brighten up any day. The composer's favourites are Pillow Fight, Crazy 8's and Dear Diary. Grades 1 – 5.



A Grand Adventure by Irene Voros - Ten Elementary Piano Solos with Pizzazz! Enjoy syncopated rhythms and harmonies related to the movement and energy of each character in flight. Grades 1 - 3



From the *Winter* collection by Susan Griesdale, **Hockey Sticks** is now available as a Piano Solo (Grade 2 level) – "Students will love the high energy action of this piece where the fingers get to score a goal at the end!"



John Burge's Twenty-four Preludes for solo piano (Grade 8 – diploma) follow the same key design of Chopin's Opus 28 set and somewhat like Debussy's own preludes, fourteen of the Burge's pieces have descriptive subtitles. The complete Burge set takes 55 minutes to perform but many of the works stand well on their own, in pairs or even in small groups.

John Burge's piano solo, **Everything Waits for the Lilacs**, originally written for Canadian pianist Janina Fialkowska in 1996, is an intensely neo-romantic composition. It takes about six minutes to perform and is listed in the RCM 2015 Piano Syllabus ARCT Level.



Summer/Fall 2015 with Red Leaf Pianoworks

In June, **Janet Gieck** was involved in the Strata Festival in Saskatoon, organizing their student composer masterclass, as well as having the premiere of *Homage* for trumpet, percussion, electric guitar, prepared piano, violin and cello. Also performed there was her *Dream Sequence* for flute, clarinet, and piano.

Martha Hill Duncan, Susan Griesdale, Beverly Porter, Irene Voros and **Teresa Richert** presented a **Red Leaf Pianoworks** piano ensemble workshop entitled "The More the Merrier" at the CFMTA convention in Richmond, BC. **Martha Hill Duncan** and **Teresa Richert** also presented a workshop entitled "Demystifying the Score."

John Burge, Martha Hill Duncan and **Susan Griesdale** attended **CNCM Summer Sizzle**, July 19-21 in Mount Forest, Ontario. **John Burge** delivered the key-note speech at the gala and presented a session entitled "Capturing the Impressionism in Debussy's Piano Music." **Susan Griesdale** and **Martha Hill Duncan** presented a showcase of their new works.

Susan Griesdale and **Martha Hill Duncan** presented the works of **Red Leaf Pianoworks** at the Cosmo store in Markham Ontario on Monday August 24th.

On September 25th, **Irene Voros** and **Teresa Richert** presented piano works of **Red Leaf Pianoworks** to teachers in the BCRMTA South Fraser Branch.

In September, **Janet Gieck** did a lecture recital at the U of Saskatchewan as part of their Fine Arts Lecture Series. It was on the lives and music of Contemporary Canadian composers of pedagogical music for the piano. She also did two workshops for the Swift Current branch RMTs. In October, she showcased a new duet entitled *Home Sweet Home* in Biggar, SK at the SRMTA convention.

On October 2, **Teresa Richert** presented a workshop entitled "Let's Compose!" to teachers in the BCRMTA Abbotsford Branch. Teachers were introduced to several ways in which they can get their students started composing. Several piano works of **Red Leaf Pianoworks** were performed as examples of various composition techniques.

Upcoming Events

On Friday October 16, 2015, **Susan Griesdale** is presenting a music composition workshop for teachers. Susan will introduce strategies and guidelines for teaching composition to students. 9:30 to 11:30, at MEGAN'S MUSIC STUDIO, New Tecumseth, Ontario.

Ensemble Made in Canada has scheduled the following performances of Burge's *Piano Quartet* as part of a short CD release tour scheduled later in October/November. The New York City performance marks both the American premiere of Burge's *Piano Quartet* and the group's New York City debut.

Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 7:30 pm, Canadian Music Centre, 20 St. Joseph Street, Toronto, ON <<http://www.musiccentre.ca/node/134912>>

Friday, October 30, 2015, 8:00 pm, The Isabel Performing Arts Centre, 390 King Street, Kingston ON <<http://www.theisabel.ca/content/two-piano-quartets-and-quintet>>

Saturday, November 7, 2015, 8:00 pm, The Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 East 79th Street, New York, NY <<http://ukrainianinstitute.org/event/ensemble-made-in-canada-new-york-city-debut/>>

John Burge, Martha Hill Duncan, and **Susan Griesdale** will be adjudicating Contemporary Showcase in Toronto in November. **Martha Hill Duncan** is also adjudicating in Chatham and Ottawa, and **John Burge** is also adjudicating Kingston.

Janet Gieck will be adjudicating Contemporary Showcase in Calgary in November.

Teresa Richert is doing a short presentation on her works for students and teachers at the BCRMTA Abbotsford branch's Canada Music Week Recital on November 20.





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Centrediscs is pleased to present:

CHAMBER MUSIC OF JOHN BURGE

ENSEMBLE MADE IN CANADA

JUNO Award winning composer John Burge truly revels in the sonorous variety of textures and emotions that are possible in chamber music. Driven by strong melodic profiles and rhythmic independence, the music on this CD is inspired by themes as diverse as nature, particle physics and ballet, offering a tour de force of instrumental writing. Award-winning piano quartet Ensemble Made In Canada rises to the occasion with passionate and committed performances, drawing on their vast experience, unique sound blend and mix of personalities.

Named among 80 “Women to Watch” by Chatelaine Magazine, **Ensemble Made In Canada** is praised for “astonishing energy and zeal... a true ensemble... not just unified playing, but with one soul.” The group is dedicated to commissioning new Canadian work and is Ensemble-in-Residence at Western University in London, Ontario.

JUNO Award winning composer and professor at Queen’s University, **Dr. John Burge**, recently received the Queen’s University Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship and was inducted into the Royal Society of Canada. From 1998-2006 he was President of the Canadian League of Composers, and serves on the Board of Directors of the SOCAN Foundation.

- 1 *Pas de Deux* (2010) 15:54
For violin and cello
- 2 *String Theory* (2011) 14:59
For viola and piano
- 3–5 *Piano Quartet* (2012) 34:28

TT: 65:21



JOHN BURGE

- 1 *Pas de Deux* (2010) / 15:54
for violin and cello // pour violon et violoncelle
- 2 *String Theory* (2011) / 14:59
for viola and piano // pour alto et piano
- Piano Quartet // Quatuor avec piano* (2012)
- 3 I. Con moto / 10:41
- 4 II. Adagietto—Presto misterioso—Adagietto / 14:01
- 5 III. Allegro ritmico / 9:46

ENSEMBLE MADE IN CANADA
Angela Park - piano
Elissa Lee - violin // violon
Sharon Wei - viola // alto
Rachel Mercer - cello // violoncelle
ensemblemadeincanada.com

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