**National Music Centre announces line-up for Artists in Residence program for fall/winter 2016 season**

Five artists from across Canada to access NMC’s collection and recording facilities at Studio Bell

*(Calgary, AB — October 12, 2016)* The National Music Centre (NMC) is pleased to announce the first five acts that have been selected to participate inNMC’s Artist in Residence program for the fall/winter 2016 pilot season.

**Selected artists include:**

* Ariane Mahrÿke Lemire (Roots, Edmonton)
* Jeremy Dutcher (Classical, Toronto)
* Joshua Van Tassel and James Bunton (Electronic, Halifax/Toronto)
* Quinsin Nachoff (Jazz, Brooklyn/Toronto)
* Rococode (Indie/Electro-Pop, Vancouver)

*\*\*****scroll to bottom of press release for artist bios and project descriptions.***

An open call for submissions was made in the spring of 2016, and 12 projects were short-listed from close to 100 submissions received from across Canada. Chosen artists were selected based on artistic merit, validity, and impact. Seven more artists will be announced in 2017.

Each residency may range from a few days up to two weeks, and some will occur simultaneously, offering the potential for collaboration. In addition to accessing NMC’s collection in the composition and recording of new music, all of the residencies will be complemented by an artist talk, live performance or workshop at Studio Bell. Stay tuned for upcoming details on special shows and events.

“As the first wave of artists to access the new spaces at Studio Bell, we’re so excited to see how they interact with not only the facility and the collection, but also each other,” said Adam Fox, director of programs at NMC. “We’re offering the tools to nurture musical exploration. Now it’s up to them to discover the possibilities. We are confident that these artists will have something very special to offer the music community at the end of their residencies.”

The Artist in Residence program has previously inspired and contributed to recordings from acts such as Gotye, Basia Bulat, Timber Timbre, and Shout Out Out Out Out, along with collaborative works between Montreal’s Kid Koala and noted Beastie Boys associate Money Mark. In 2015, celebrated producer, engineer, and musician Daniel Lanois also took part in this program.

The program is designed to feed and nurture artistic creativity and technical innovation by providing artists at various levels of professional development with uninterrupted time and space, and the use our unique collection and expertise, to create new and innovative works in a unique and supportive world-class facility.NMC’s vision is to become a national catalyst for discovery, innovation, and renewal through music.

*National Music Centre’s Artist in Residence program is generously supported by Bell Media*

About Studio Bell

Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre, is a new state-of-the art facility designed by Brad Cloepfil of Allied Works Architecture (Portland/New York). An international hub for music and technology, Studio Bell is the first national cultural institution of its kind dedicated to celebrating music in Canada in all of its forms. More than a museum, Studio Bell rises in nine interlocking towers, clad in glazed terra cotta in the heart of Calgary’s East Village. The 160,000 square-foot building includes five floors of exhibition space, a 2000+ piece collection of artifacts, instruments and music technology, and other features including recording facilities, workshops, classrooms, an event space, and a 300-seat performance hall. For more information, please visit studiobell.ca.  
  
About the National Music Centre  
The National Music Centre (NMC) is a national catalyst for discovery, innovation and renewal through music. NMC will preserve and celebrate Canada’s music story and inspire a new generation of music lovers through programming that includes on-site and outreach education programs, performances, artist incubation, and exhibitions. For more information, please visit [nmc.ca](https://nmc.ca/).



About Ariane Mahrÿke Lemire

Hailing from Edmonton, Ariane Mahrÿke Lemire delivers her songs with humour, candour, vulnerability, and strength. She flirts with folk, jazz, blues, and electro-acoustics, effortlessly moving from French and English, while perfectly reflecting the diversity of Canadian culture. Lemire will spend her residency using NMC’s collection and recording environments as a tool to inspire a new direction in her songwriting.

About Jeremy Dutcher

Jeremy Dutcher is an emerging Toronto-based composer and vocal artist. This classically trained operatic tenor takes every opportunity to blend his Wolastoq First Nation roots into the music he creates, blending distinct musical aesthetics that shape-shift between classical, contemporary, traditional, and jazz to form something entirely new. Dutcher’s forthcoming debut release, *Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa (Maliseet Songs),* involves the rearrangement of William Mechling's Wax cylinder recordings from Maliseet communities in the early 1900s. With his new reimagined composition complete, he’ll use NMC’s extensive collection to expand upon the project’s soundscapes.

About Joshua Van Tassel and James Bunton (“Impossible Instruments”)

“Impossible Instruments” is the project of award-winning Toronto-by-way-of-Halifax musician Joshua Van Tassel and Toronto sound designer James Bunton. The goal of their residency is to take classic instruments from NMC’s collection—which spans over 450 years of music technology–and remix them in a way that’s never been heard before.

About Quinsin Nachoff

NYC-based Canadian saxophonist and composer Quinsin Nachoff—called "one of the truly bright younger jazz minds" by the *Globe and Mail*—has been colliding genres since his 2006 debut, *Magic Numbers*. On his most recent recording, 2016’s *Flux*, Nachoff explores the elusive terrain between modern jazz and contemporary classical, between the cerebral and the organic. Nachoff will use his residency at NMC to develop new works, alongside JUNO-Award-winning producer and sound engineer David Travers-Smith.

About Rococode

Vancouver’s Rococode make dark indie/electro-pop tunes. Their music weaves a lush tapestry of synths, guitars and soundscapes around dueling boy/girl vocals and heavy bass and drums. Since the release of their critically-acclaimed 2012 debut, *Guns, Sex & Glory*, the duo has continued to craft tight, crisp alternative gems that sparkle, shuffle and shake at every turn. Currently in the early writing phase of their third album, Rococode will use NMC’s collection of rare synths and historic artifacts to form the sonic landscape of their next effort.

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