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MARCH 18, 2015

BOZZINI QUARTET awarded the Canadian League of Composers and Canadian Music Centre's 2014 Friends of Canadian Music Award

18 MARCH 2015 (Toronto) – The Canadian League of Composers (CLC) and the Canadian Music Centre (CMC) are pleased to announce Montréal-based ensemble **Bozzini Quartet** as the recipient of the 2014 Friends of Canadian Music Award. The annual Friends of Canadian Music Award is a joint venture between the CLC and the CMC honouring those who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to Canadian composers and their music. The award is accompanied by a cash prize of \$2000.

This year, for the first time, the winners were asked to split the award between themselves and an emerging composer of their choice. As true Friends of Canadian Music, the quartet has chosen to recognize not only one, but two emerging Canadian composers: **James O'Callaghan** and **Kyle Brenders**, both of whom will be participating in Bozzini Quartet's upcoming 2015 Composer's Kitchen.

The joint awards will be presented to the quartet and the two composers on **Friday, April 24, 2015** at the Chapelle historique du Bon-Pasteur in Montréal, at the quartet's concert *Salon QB 2 — Csapó + LeBlanc + Neyrinck*. Details are available at www.quatuorbozzini.ca.

A national jury comprised of Juliet Palmer, Scott Godin, and Analia Llugdar, chaired by Jim Hiscott (non-voting), assessed the nominations. CMC Ontario Regional Director, Matthew Fava, and CLC Awards committee chair, Richard Gibson, were present as observers. Juror Scott Godin notes: "I can imagine no more worthy recipient for this prestigious accolade than the Bozzini Quartet. Their relentless championing of Canadian music is unparalleled, moving seamlessly between roles as performers, educators, curators, administrators, writers, or distributors through their own CD label, influencing so many facets of our musical climate. Their impact resonates both nationally and internationally, as their commitment to performance and pedagogy ensures not only a suitable exposure of this music we all hold so dear, but a compelling evolution of Canadian music within a global context."

ABOUT THE BOZZINI QUARTET

Since 1999, the Bozzini Quartet has been an original voice in new, contemporary, experimental and classical music. Their skew is radically contemporary, propelling the hyper-creative Montréal scene, and beyond. Not content to parlay received wisdom, the quartet cultivates an ethos of risk-taking, and boldly ventures off the beaten track. With rigorous qualitative criteria, they have nurtured a vastly diverse repertoire, unbiased by the currents of fashion. This has led to over a hundred and thirty commissioned pieces, as well as close to two hundred other premiered works. A Bozzini Quartet concert is an art happening, with meticulous and sensuous attention to detail.

The Bozzini Quartet produces and presents its annual concert series in Montréal. The group also tours extensively, bringing its "intense musicality and immense sensitivity" (Musicworks, Canada), to audiences across Canada, the US, South America and Europe. Notable festivals include MärzMusik (Berlin), Ultima (Oslo),



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Huddersfield (UK), Klangspuren (Austria), Présences (France), and November Music (Netherlands). To ensure continual development in their art, the quartet's annual musical laboratory, the Composer's Kitchen, works to mentor and support new generations of composers. The Bozzini Quartet records under its own label, the collection qb, and can be heard regularly on European and Canadian radio. Finalist to the 28th Grand Prix du CAM 2012, The Bozzini Quartet has won three Opus prizes from the Conseil québécois de la musique (CQM): "International Outreach" (2007), "Contemporary Disc of the Year" (2004), and "Discovery of the Year" (2001). It is also the recipient of the Étoile-Galaxie Prize from Radio-Canada (2001), the Förderpreis Ernst von Siemens Musikstiftung (2007) and the German Record Critics Prize for Arbor Vitae (2009).

ABOUT JAMES O'CALLAGHAN

James O'Callaghan is a composer and sound artist based in Montréal praised for his "mastery of materials and musical form" (Electromania, Radio France) and "highly refined sense of colour." (Vancouver Sun). His music intersects acoustic and electroacoustic media, employing field recordings, amplified found objects, computer-assisted transcription of environmental sounds, and unique performance conditions.

His works have been performed across North America, in Europe, New Zealand and Japan, and he has received commissions from the Groupe de Recherches Musicales, the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, Ensemble Paramirabo and Quasar quatuor de saxophones. His music has been awarded prizes including the Grand Prize of the SOCAN Foundation, first prizes in the Jeu de temps - Times Play Awards and Musicworks' electronic composition competition, and a JUNO Award nomination. He received a Master of Music degree from McGill University in 2014, studying with Philippe Leroux, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Simon Fraser University in 2011, studying with Barry Truax.

ABOUT KYLE BRENDERS

Kyle Brenders is a composer-performer whose music deftly synthesizes composition and improvisation, and comprises rigorous formal complexity and visceral solo and group improvising. His interest in music that falls within generic and idiomatic cracks lead to the development of his own personal style. His work tends to be reluctantly labeled under the Avant-Jazz category by exploring a mix of freedom and structure infused with a probing energy and a touch of wit.

Brenders maintains a number of active groups that perform his work—the Kyle Brenders Quartet, Large Ensemble and Big Band were each formed to present different aesthetic sides of his artistic coin. Brenders has recently composed works for Toronto's Thin Edge New Music Collective and a short folk opera for Jumblies Theatre. Through his studies in Canada, The United States and the Netherlands with Ab Baars, Anthony Braxton, Peter Hatch, Lori Freedman, David Mott and Alvin Lucier, Brenders has created a unique compositional voice and improvisational vocabulary. Brenders also maintains extremely active administrative and organizational roles as Soundstreams' Artistic Associate and as the President of the Canadian New Music Network.



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ABOUT THE CANADIAN LEAGUE OF COMPOSERS

The Canadian League of Composers (CLC) speaks for the interests of Canada's composers. Through partnerships, advocacy and professional development, the CLC helps to strengthen the small but spread out composition community in Canada. Visit www.composition.org for more information.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN MUSIC CENTRE

The Canadian Music Centre exists to stimulate the awareness, appreciation and performance of Canadian new music by making the music of its Associate Composers available through the Centre's collection, information resources, and production and distribution services. Visit www.musiccentre.ca for more information.

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