

LOOKING BACK: 20 YEARS OF ATLANTIC VOICES

Sunday, Apr 30, 2023 Centretown United Church
@ 3:00 pm 507 Bank Street, Ottawa



Doors open at 2:15 pm for **Fumblin' Fingers** pre-show

Tickets: \$25 through April 28th or \$30 at the door

Children 12 and under free

Available via Eventbrite or by emailing tickets@atlanticvoices.ca

Parking, Eventbrite and refund info: www.atlanticvoices.ca

Original artwork by Marie Kusters
Poster design by Jodie Francis

Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa

Scott Richardson, Director of Music
Collaborative Pianist: Elizabeta Cojocar

Sopranos

Marian Barton
Myrna Beattie
Lora Bruneau
Renée Carosielli
Michelle Clippingdale
Jennifer Cunningham
Kristina Curren
Catherine Dwyer
Elizabeth Fortin
Sharon Fotheringham
Jodie Francis
Sarah Gauld
Marie Kusters
Margaret Lavictoire
Nicole Lefebvre
Sara Lim
Nancy MacGregor
Anne Makhoul
Janet Martin
Margaret-Anne Park
Jacqueline Riddle
Catherine Semple
Kelda Sinclair
Lindsay Thomson-
Marmen

Altos

Denise Arsenault
Suzanne Beaudoin
Rosemary Bernath
Celeste Bradbury-
Marshall
Janice Cross
Elisabeth Dempsey
Mary Fawcett-Pearce
Joan Foster-Jones
Sandra Fraser
Marilyn Johnson
Lynn McDonald
Liz McKeen
Joan Milne
Eileen Overend
Sharon Philpott
Diane Rayner
Maureen Sheppard
June Verrett

Tenors

Shelly Donaldson
Julie Dustin
Valerie Everson
Marla Fletcher-
McAllister
Greg Gnaedinger
Dave Huddleston
Chris Hulan
Roger McCullough
Jim Rourke

Basses

Winston Babin
Michael Deeks
Callum Gauld
Victor Laurin
Don MacDonald
Brien Marshall
Doug Murphy
Patrick Shaughnessy
Doug Sinclair
Ted Welch

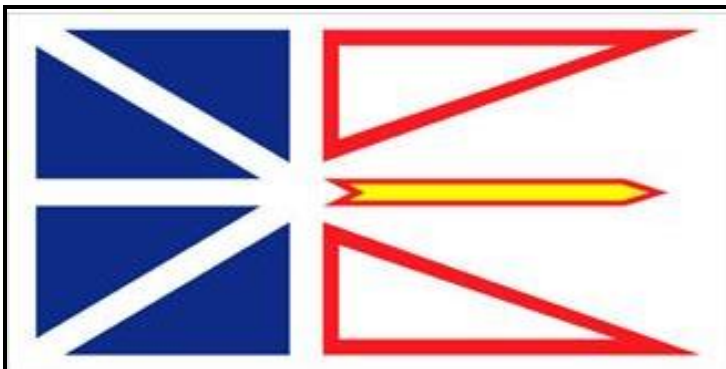
Ode to Newfoundland

When sun-rays crown thy pine-clad hills,
And summer spreads her hand,
When silvern voices tune thy rills,
We love thee, smiling land.
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, smiling land.

When spreads thy cloak of shimm'ring white,
At Winter's stern command,
Thro' shortened day and starlit night,
We love thee, frozen land,
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, frozen land,

When blinding storm gusts fret thy shore,
And wild waves lash thy strand,
Thro' spindrift swirl and tempest roar,
We love thee, wind-swept land,
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, wind-swept land.

As loved our fathers, so we love
Where once they stood we stand;
Their prayer we raise to Heaven above,
God guard thee, Newfoundland.
God guard thee, God guard thee
God guard thee Newfoundland.



Bluemoon's Margaree
(CD, DDX, TDD, WRD, RN, TKI, CGN)



Atlantic Voices' Mascot is a Newfoundland Dog named Bluemoon's Margaree CD, DDX, TDD, WRD, RN, TKI, CGN, (meaning Companion Dog, Draft Dog Excellent, Team Draft Dog, Water Rescue Dog, Rally Novice, Trick Dog Intermediate, Canine Good Neighbour). Margaree was born 24 April 2016. As is common of her breed, Margaree loves people, especially children, and is very gentle. Like many of the Atlantic Voices choir members, Margaree's genes go back to the island of Newfoundland. Her ancestors loved the sea and the people of the island. These strong waterdogs were loyal and loving companions who worked very hard on shore and at sea. They pulled in fishing nets, delivered mail, and hauled logs from the forests. They often served as 'living lifelines', rescuing people from the sea. Margaree is proud to be Atlantic Voices' mascot and hopes that you will love the music as much as she does!

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Margaret-Anne Park (Vice-President, Media)

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Winston Babin (Librarian and Membership)

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Scott Richardson

Colloborative Pianist

Elisabeta Cojocar

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Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa

Atlantic Voices: *The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa* was founded in the spring of 2002. *Atlantic Voices* is an amateur choir, with a repertoire consisting mainly of Newfoundland, Maritime, and Celtic songs and music. Its members are primarily made up of expatriate Newfoundlanders, Labradorians and Maritimers, but singers and musicians from any background are more than welcome to join. We are proud of our years of bringing East Coast music to the Ottawa area, and we look forward to many more years of performing.

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings at the Riverside Churches of Ottawa (3191 Riverside Drive) from 7-9:30 p.m. If you would like to join the choir, please contact us by email at: membership@atlanticvoices.ca. Visit our website at www.atlanticvoices.ca for more information about the choir.

Scott Richardson, Musical Director

Originally from Dartmouth N.S., Scott is active in the Ottawa music scene as a pianist and choir director. He conducts Atlantic Voices and Musica Viva Singers, and is also the longtime Music Director at Orleans United Church. Scott is the accompanist for the Ottawa Choral Society, as well as a pianist with the Ottawa Children's Choir organization, accompanying their Chamber, Concert, and Viva Choirs this season. He has also accompanied Army Voices, the Carleton University Choir, and the Canadian Centennial Choir. Since 2016, Scott has performed regularly at the Gladstone Theatre, appearing in productions as a singer and multi-instrumentalist. He co-produced and performed in this season's *Phantom Crew* as well as 2021's *No-Show: Songs From Lost Gigs*, and was a co-creator of Bear & Company's tributes to Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell, and Gordon Lightfoot, as well as the music director/pianist for *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well....*

Elisabeta Cojocaru, Accompanist

Born into music in the heart of Romania's cultural capital, Bucharest, pianist Elisabeta Cojocaru began performing from a young age and launched her career with a Bachelor of Music at Wilfrid Laurier University, followed by her Master of Music at the University of Ottawa. Along the way, she had the chance to play for renowned pianists such as Stephen Hough, Ozario Maione, Charles Richard-Hamelin, and André Laplante, and has been awarded first prizes at the 2019 Hamilton Music Festival, the 2019 Maureen Forester Performance Award and the 2017 Heidt Performance Award. Over the past few years, she has developed a newfound passion for collaborative piano. Whether that's playing with Opera Nuova in Edmonton, accompanying singers across the Maritimes as part of the Barachois Music Festival, or more recently, joining Canada's longest running dinner musical show, *Oh Canada Eh!*, there are few things that bring her greater joy than to create music that is greater than the sum of its parts. Elisabeta is currently completing her Graduate Diploma with David Jalbert at the University of Ottawa and is excited to continue to serve as a collaborative artist with *Atlantic Voices* and within the Ottawa community.

Fumblin' Fingers

Since its formation in 2005, the Fumblin' Fingers Band has given over 240 public performances at fundraisers, seniors' residences, birthday parties, kitchen parties and at twice-yearly Atlantic Voices Choir concerts. Look for our CDs following the concert.

Band members include Celeste Bradbury-Marshall (MC, vocals, guitar, percussion), Lynn Petros (fiddle, vocals), Wayne Mercer (guitar, mandolin, bass), Dave Huddlestone (bass, guitar, vocals, spoons), Tom Murray (fiddle, vocals) and Bonnie Preston (button accordion).

Website: www.fumblinfingers.ca.

Music Programme

Part I

Pre-Show Entertainment provided by Fumblin' Fingers

Ode to Newfoundland

Sir Cavendish Boyle

arr. Hannie Fitzgerald & Norman E. Brown

**Bonavist' Harbour
(Feller from Fortune)**

Newfoundland folksong

arr. D.F. Cook

Songs of Home

Allister MacGillivray

arr. Scott Macmillan

The Blackbird

Nova Scotia folksong

arr. Gary Ewer

Live in Friendship

Text: Bliss Carman

Music: Gary Ewer

Field Behind the Plow

(flute: Kelly Moorcroft)

Stan Rogers

arr. Ron Smail

Am dam dòribhi

Traditional Gaelic mouth music

arr. Stephen Smith

Acadie de nos cœurs

Johnny Comeau, Lennie Gallant,

Jac Gautreau *arr. Scott Macmillan*

The Fog

Jason Noble

Skye Boat Song

Traditional Scottish folksong

arr. Stephen Smith

The Welcome Table

Nova Scotia spiritual

arr. Alec Tilley



PART II

MacDonnell on the Heights

Stan Rogers
arr. John Butler

Bye Bye, My Island (Goodbye)

(flute: Kelly Moorcroft)

Allister MacGillivray
arr. Gary Ewer

This is My Home

(flute: Kelly Moorcroft) (piano: Theresa Clarke)

Harry Martin
arr. Leslee Heys

Spanish Fisherman

Robbie Smith
arr. Laura Hawley

Don't Be Afraid

(duet: Celeste Bradbury-Marshall, Janice Cross)

Allyson Reigh
arr. Jennifer McMillan

Wave Over Wave

Jim Payne
arr. Patrick M. O'Shea

We Rise Again

Leon Dubinsky
arr. Lydia Adams

Connect with Us

Please visit www.atlanticvoices.ca and follow Atlantic Voices on Facebook and Instagram for the latest information about the choir.

Fumblin' Fingers can be found at: www.fumblinfingers.ca

CDs

Want to hear more? We have recorded several CDs that include repertoire from previous concerts. CDs are available for sale at the reception desk before and after the concert, as well as through our website.



Programme Notes

Ode to Newfoundland

Governor Sir Cavendish Boyle composed the words to this beloved anthem in 1902, as a four-verse poem entitled “Newfoundland.” British composer Sir Hubert Parry, a personal friend of Boyle, set the poem to music. On May 20, 1904 it was chosen as Newfoundland's official anthem. This distinction was dropped when Newfoundland joined the Canadian Confederation in 1949. Three decades later, in 1980, the province re-adopted the song as its official provincial anthem, making it the first province in Canada to declare a provincial anthem.

Bonavist' Harbour

This arrangement goes all the way back to Atlantic Voices' first season!

In the fifties, the National Museum of Canada sent Kenneth Peacock to collect folksongs in Newfoundland. This song was one of his notable finds, collected not in an outport, ironically, but in St. John's. Peacock later travelled to Fortune and inquired unsuccessfully about the ‘Feller’ of the title. He did record a variant called The Feller from Burgeo from a local singer, but the words on the recording were largely inaudible. Peacock suggests that “the words that were audible indicated that the variant would probably be unprintable anyway.” The popular version of Feller from Fortune steers clear of anything explicitly obscene, using ‘fishing’ as a euphemism. Gerald S. Doyle included several selections from the Museum's collection in the 1955 edition of his songbook, and thanks to its appearance in that publication, within a decade of Peacock's visit, Feller from Fortune became one of the best-loved Newfoundland songs. Our arrangement is by Newfoundland composer Donald Cook.

Songs of Home

This piece was first sung by Atlantic Voices way back in 2005, and was the 'title song' of our 2016 concert of Allister MacGillivray's music.

Ambition or economics make the people of the seashore leave in search of opportunities far from the coast, but the music of home sustains them and brings peace in faraway cities. The song was featured in the Cape Breton Summertime Revue. This arrangement was commissioned from Nova Scotia composer Scott Macmillan by the Halifax Camerata Singers.

The Blackbird

First sung in 2008, and again in our tribute concert to Helen Creighton in 2010.

This is a Nova Scotian version of a song that was widely known in parts of Scotland and in Northern Ireland, either as *If I Were a Blackbird* or *I Am a Young Maiden*. The words consist largely of memorable individual stanzas from various nineteenth-century popular ballads that have been stitched together to make up a new narrative. Helen Creighton collected this version in Lunenburg County from twin brothers Allister and Judson Armstrong; she relates that when Judson's throat would tire from overuse, he would eat salt to clear the voice (please note: Atlantic Voices does not officially recommend this remedy). The Halifax composer Gary Ewer created this lovely choral arrangement.

Live in Friendship

First sung in our 2009 concert saluting New Brunswick.

The text comes from the final stanzas of the poem 'Revelation' by New Brunswick-born poet Bliss Carman. It first appeared in his 1925 collection *Far Horizon*. The poem contrasts the enigmatic vision of John of Patmos against the 'radiant revelation' accessible to all of us when we

contemplate the natural world. This musical setting of Carman's text was commissioned by the Nova Scotia Choral Federation from Halifax composer Gary Ewer, to mark the organization's twenty-fifth anniversary in 2001.

The Field Behind the Plow

Featured on both of our Stan Rogers tribute concerts, in 2010 and 2015.

Recorded by Stan Rogers on his *Northwest Passage* album, it is a heartfelt song about the disappearing farming life, and the hardships faced by Canadian farmers who keep holding on, through good times and bad.

Am dam dóribhi

Sung in our 2011 celebration of Cape Breton.

This is a setting of a traditional Gaelic “puirt-a-beul,” or “mouth music.” In the absence of instruments, singers would improvise nonsense syllables to the tunes of fiddle or bagpipe music. Our arrangement is by Stephen Smith, a native of Nova Scotia who now lives in BC. He has generously provided Atlantic Voices with several of his settings of Gaelic songs.

Translation:

[the chorus and first verse are nonsense syllables]

They came, and they came, they came home to us.
They came, and they came, the lads of our own village.

Did they get the Stewart man? Did they get him from the clan?
Did they get the Stewart man, the lads of our own village?

Acadie de nos coeurs

From our 2012 program of PEI music, as well as our 2015 concert 'Many Atlantic Voices'.

This stirring anthem was written in 1994 by PEI's legendary singer-songwriter Lennie Gallant, in collaboration with Johnny Comeau and Jac Gautreau. It was the theme song of the first Congrès mondial acadien, which took place in southeastern New Brunswick that year. The song speaks of the long-awaited reunion of Acadians dispersed far and wide and separated for so long by history and geography. Our arrangement is by Scott Macmillan.

The Fog

This piece was the runner-up in the 2011/12 edition of our Atlantic Voices Choral Composition Contest, and was premiered in May 2012.

Newfoundland native Jason Noble wrote both the words and music, for women's choir and piano. The piece features transparent and haunting vocal lines set against a demanding piano part that quietly drifts up and down the keyboard like the shifting Newfoundland fog.

Skye Boat Song

Featured on both of our tributes to Scottish musical traditions, in 2013 and 2017.

This melody was collected in the 1870s by Anne Campbell MacLeod. MacLeod was on a trip to the Isle of Skye and was being rowed over Loch Coruisk when the rowers broke into a Gaelic rowing song "Cuachag nan Craobh." Miss MacLeod wrote down what she could remember of the air, later publishing it in Songs of the North, which she co-authored with Sir Harold Boulton. Boulton wrote the English lyrics, which romanticize the escape by water of Prince Charlie after the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion. Boulton was a man of varied interests in business, philanthropy and the arts. As a young man, he was a prolific songwriter and later became a director of the Royal Academy of Music. While studying at Balliol College, Oxford, Boulton became devoted to music, leading the college choir. It was apparently an

Oxford reading party in Scotland that led to his interest in Highland music and thus to the creation of the Skye Boat Song by an English baronet! In another unlikely twist, Boulton and his father were the businessmen who in 1903 created the Dominion Tar and Chemical Company (Domtar) of Cape Breton.

The Welcome Table

From our 2015 'Many Atlantic Voices' celebration of Atlantic Canadian diversity.

This spiritual was widely sung throughout the American South, sometimes under the name “Down to the River Jordan”. Much later, it was taken up as a freedom song by civil rights protestors. Helen Creighton collected several versions in Nova Scotia. Alec Tilley has based his choral arrangement on a version sung by Charles Owens of Inglewood, a community near Bridgetown NS founded by descendants of Black Loyalists who came north following the American Revolution. Mr. Owens was 99 years old at the time of the recording in 1953, and was accompanied by his family, including his daughter Isabel Owens on guitar.

MacDonnell On the Heights

This piece was included on our second tribute concert to Stan Rogers, in 2015.

The song tells the story of Lieutenant Colonel John Macdonell, a lawyer and militiaman who became an aide-de-camp to General Isaac Brock during the War of 1812. When Brock was killed at the Battle of Queenston Heights, Macdonell took command of the troops and nearly led them to victory. However, in the end, the Americans won the battle, and Macdonell was also killed; he was buried along with the General beneath Brock's Monument. Stan Rogers laments that despite Macdonell's bravery at the battle, he is a forgotten figure, while Brock has been remembered and memorialized (ironically, Rogers's song title misspells his

name). Our choral arrangement is by John Butler of St. Catherines, Ontario.

Bye, Bye, My Island

Sung on both our 2011 concert of Cape Breton music and our 2016 tribute to Allister MacGillivray.

This song tells a familiar and painful story on the East Coast: the man who unwillingly must uproot himself and ‘work away.’ Gary Ewer of Halifax arranged this song for the Cape Breton Chorale. Allister MacGillivray says of his song: When the economy fails on the East Coast, as has often been the case over the last half century, reluctant young islanders from Cape Breton, Newfoundland, and PEI make that familiar trek from the sea to the cities of the west. In that process, many are the hearts that are broken—those of the travellers, those of the ones left behind. And so we, the poets, write “songs of home”, like this one. There’s even a rumour going around that Cape Bretoners take a quick look around Heaven and then say to Saint Peter, “It’s nice here—but we want to go home!”

This is My Home

From our 2019 concert focusing on Labrador.

The song was written by Harry Martin of Cartwright as a funeral tribute to Henry John Williams, who was a well-known fisherman, trapper, and dog-team driver. It has been beautifully arranged for choir by Leslee Heys of Newfoundland's Shallaway Youth Choir.

The Spanish Fisherman

Ottawa native Laura Hawley arranged this song by the late Nova Scotia singer Robbie Smith as part of the 'Robbie Songs Project'. Robbie and his musical partner Kathleen Glauser performed as the folk duo Naming the Twins; 'The Spanish Fisherman' was part of their repertoire. Robbie died of cancer in 2019. It was his wish to see his music made

available in choral arrangements, and following his death, Kathleen worked with the Nova Scotia Choral Federation to make that happen. They reached out to a number of leading Canadian composers to ask if they would be willing to create choral versions of Robbie's songs, and the response has been amazing. To date there have been nearly 30 arrangements produced through the initiative. We are pleased to present the first Ottawa performance of 'The Spanish Fisherman.'

Don't Be Afraid

Sung in 2017 on our 'Sea of Love' program.

This song was composed by Saskatchewan folk singer-songwriter Allyson Reigh in support of the Don't BE Afraid Campaign. It was arranged by Jennifer McMillan; her choral version was commissioned by the vocal ensemble Oran and their conductor Kathleen Skinner for a performance at the Podium 2014 conference in Halifax. The Don't BE Afraid Campaign began in response to a vicious homophobic attack on New Glasgow pianist and choir director Scott Jones in 2013, an attack that left Jones paralyzed from the waist down. The campaign began with a specially-designed pin to aid in raising funds for Scott's recovery, but expanded into a movement to raise awareness of homophobia and transphobia, particularly through creative expression. Although the Don't BE Afraid campaign is no longer active, Scott Jones continues to be a powerful voice for justice.

Wave Over Wave

From our 2018 Age of Sail concert.

This song of the joys and sorrows of the sailor's life was composed by Newfoundland songwriter Jim Payne in 1983. Payne and his musical partner Kelly Russell performed it often in St. John's pubs and made it a familiar tune locally. It was published in the 1985 Newfoundland folksong collection *Come and I Will Sing You*. The 1995 recording of the song

by Great Big Sea made 'Wave Over Wave' widely known far beyond the island.

We Rise Again

Sung by Atlantic Voices in 2012 and 2017.

The debut performance of We Rise Again was by Raylene Rankin and the cast of the 1995 Rise and Follies of Cape Breton Island. Its composer, Leon Dubinsky, received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from the University College of Cape Breton in 1997, and We Rise Again became the official song of UCCB in 1999. Leon Dubinsky passed away in January of 2023, and we thought it fitting to end today's concert with his most beloved composition.

Keep in touch, follow us on social media



Twitter: @atlanticvoices



Facebook: www.facebook.com/AtlanticVoices/



Instagram: Atlanticvoices



Website: www.atlanticvoices.ca



Many thanks to our generous Silent Auction Donors!

Atlantic Voices is most thankful and grateful that our audience comes out to listen to us and support us. The auctions we hold as fundraisers play an important part in allowing us to bring you music and fun. Without this support, we couldn't continue to do what we do. So, check us out online and see what we have to bid on. There are some great items to be had, and maybe even something for a special occasion – or 'just because'!

Thank you so much for supporting us in past auctions, this auction and the ones in the future!

**Please visit our website or scan this QR code to visit
our online Silent Auction page. The Silent Auction runs
from April 30th to May 7.**



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Thank you!

Atlantic Voices also acknowledges the contributions and support of the following people:

- Our silent auction donors
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- Doug Murphy Bass Studio
- Fumblin' Fingers
- Members of Atlantic Voices
- Our family members – we couldn't do it without you!

And you, our welcoming and loyal audience!

Gone, but not forgotten

It is with a heavy heart that we remember two former choristers who passed recently:

**Bridget McNeill
Elaine Moores**

We had the honour of singing "Trinity Bay" at Elaine's funeral on April 17th, at her request.

Victor Laurin, our Vice-President (Operations) penned these lovely words.

**To Trinity Bay our voices will take you
To the place you were born
The kind folk that you knew
Where the ocean weds land
There pools the white foam
With our hearts in our voices
We will sing you back home.**



SAVE THE DATE!
Our next Winter concert is on
28 January 2024



SAVE THE DATE!
Our next Spring concert is on
26 May 2024

