

ABOUT THE GRYPHON TRIO

Annalee Patipatanakoon, violin
Roman Borys, cello
Jamie Parker, piano



Having impressed international audiences and the press with their highly refined, dynamic performances, the Gryphon Trio has firmly established itself as one of the world's preeminent piano trios. With a repertoire that ranges from the traditional to the contemporary and from European classicism to modern-day multimedia, the Gryphons are committed to redefining chamber music for the 21st century.

Pushing the boundaries of chamber music, the Trio has commissioned and premiered over fifty new works from established and emerging composers around the world, and has collaborated on special projects with clarinetist James Campbell, actor Colin Fox, choreographer David Earle, and a host of jazz luminaries at Lula Lounge, Toronto's leading venue for jazz and world music. Their most ambitious undertaking to date is a groundbreaking multimedia production of composer Christos Hatzis's epic work *Constantinople*, scored for mezzo-soprano, Middle Eastern singer, violin, cello, piano, and electronic audiovisual media, which they have brought to audiences across North America and at the Royal Opera House in London.

Gryphon cellist Roman Borys is in his fourth season as Artistic Director of the Ottawa's Chamberfest, the largest festival of chamber music in North America, where the Trio has been a mainstay since the festival's inception in 1994. Annalee Patipatanakoon and Jamie Parker serve as the OICMS's Artistic Advisors.

The ensemble-in-residence at Music Toronto for ten years, the Gryphon Trio tours extensively throughout North America and Europe. The group's flagship educational project *Listen Up!* launched in the 2010-11 season in Almonte, Ontario. Created by the Trio in collaboration with composer Andrew Staniland and music educator Rob Kapilow, *Listen Up!* involves an entire school in the creation of a new work for choir and piano trio. The project continues in the communities of Hamilton and Midland, Ontario, in 2011-12 and will travel to Kingston, Ontario, in 2012-13.

The Trio's fifteen celebrated recordings are an encyclopedia of works by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Dvorak, Lalo, Shostakovich, and Piazzolla. Their most recent recording of piano trios by Ludwig van Beethoven was acknowledged with a 2011 Juno Award from Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences in the Best Classical Album: Solo and Chamber Music category. This was the Trio's second Juno Award, having previously won for their 2004 release *Canadian Premieres*, featuring new works by leading Canadian composers.

Deeply committed to the education of the next generations of audiences and performers alike, the Gryphons take time out of their busy touring schedule to conduct master classes and workshops at universities and conservatories across North America, and are Artists-in-Residence at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. In addition to *Listen Up!*, the Trio's educational initiatives include a series of in-depth lecture performances with composer Gary Kulesha that examine the art of chamber music through the centuries, and the Young Composers Program at Toronto's Claude Watson Arts High School.

ABOUT ANNALEE PATIPATANAKOON, VIOLIN



Violinist Annalee Patipatanakoon grew up in Calgary where she began her violin studies at the age of three. Her fascinating last name is of Thai origin. Her teachers have included Dr. Lise Elson (Mount Royal College), Aaron Rosand (The Curtis Institute), Franco Gulli and Miriam Fried (Indiana University). Annalee is a laureate of Belgium's Queen Elizabeth International Violin Competition and is one of Canada's most respected violinists.

In addition to her many Gryphon Trio responsibilities, Annalee is an Assistant Professor in Violin at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Annalee performs on a 1907 Carlo Oddone violin.

ABOUT ROMAN BORYS, CELLO



Roman Borys is one of Canada's most active chamber musicians and a founding member of the Gryphon Trio. As a producer, Roman oversees the production and development of the Gryphon Trio's various projects and education and outreach initiatives including *Constantinople*, *Colour...for the End of Time* and the Young Composers Initiative. In 2009, Borys became the Artistic Director of the Ottawa Chamber Music Society, which presents *Chamberfest*, one of the largest and most comprehensive chamber music festivals in the world.

A native of Toronto, Roman Borys studied with Janos Starker at Indiana University and Aldo Parisot at Yale University. Roman now teaches at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music along with Gryphon Trio pianist Jamie Parker and violinist Annalee Patipatanakoon.

ABOUT JAMES PARKER, PIANO



In the realm of Canadian pianists, James Parker, quite simply, is among the best known. Accomplished, versatile, brilliant, are descriptors all frequently linked to this most sought after artist.

Mr. Parker's achievements are both lengthy and impressive. James' musical roots can be traced to the Vancouver Academy of Music and University of British Columbia where he studied with Kum Sing Lee, and then went on to complete his Masters and Doctoral with Adele Marcus at The Juilliard School. Dr. Parker continues the teaching tradition as the Rupert E. Edwards Chair in Piano Performance on the music faculty at the University of Toronto.

Awards came early and often. Beginning in 1984 with a first prize at the Eckhardt-Gramatte Competition, James served notice that he was a rising star. The CBC competition concurred, selecting him winner of the 25th National Competition for Young Performers. The Virginia P. Moore Award as the most promising young classical artist soon followed, further solidifying Parker's place as one of Canada's best.

On-air programs have repeatedly sought out his performances. Mr. Parker has made frequent appearances on CBC, and performances on Bravo!, the CanWest Global Network, MuchMusic and a myriad of stations across the globe.

Concerts given by Mr. Parker are artistic wonders. James' style has earned him *The Globe and Mail's* praise as "One of the most searching musical intellects and 10 of the nimblest fingers in the business." James has enthralled audiences in North America and Europe, counting diplomats and dignitaries among his receptive audiences.

A consummate professional, James is recognized as a soloist and chamber musician. He is the pianist for Canada's foremost ensemble: the Gryphon Trio. Add to this Mr. Parker's critically acclaimed performances with major Canadian symphonies like Toronto, Vancouver, National Arts Centre, Nova Scotia and many in between, one is reminded of the scope of his contributions to the national classical music scene. With two JUNO recording awards and many other nominations from his vast discography, James Parker continues to graciously strive to do it all.

Unofficially, he's Jamie to us.

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http://www.gryphontrio.com/bio_roman.php
http://www.gryphontrio.com/bio_jamie.php

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