Otsi’tsistó:sera [Planting Songs] (2023)

Dawn Ieri’hó:kwats Avery
(b. 1961)

Carson Landry, Grace Jackson & Tiffany Ng, carillon

From Canadian Floral Emblems (2020)

Lady Slipper (Prince Edward Island)
Mountain Avens (Northwest Territories)
Blue Flag Iris (Quebec)
Aupiluktunnguat/Purple Saxifrage (Nunavut)

Tiffany Ng & Carson Landry, carillon

From The Navajo Piano (2014)

Navajo Prelude no. 3
Navajo Vocable no. 8

Grace Jackson, carillon
AVERY, OTS'I'TSISTÓ: SERA

Otsi’tsistó:sera (2023) honors the planting songs that Haudenosaunee women of the turtle clan sing to the seeds and plants as they grow their gardens. You will hear three original planting songs, played one after the other with the insertion of a song of urgency to take care of the earth, waters, plants, and the elders. Traditional women’s seed songs are also sung consecutively, with pauses in between. The third section is followed by the last planting song that ends with a traditional women’s song coda, Kainawiyahya, Yo Ho! Avery notes: “I was privileged to work with Kaheh’tí:io (Jan Longboat) and Tawènte’se (Ray John) both of whom taught me how to plant and harvest Haudenosaunee gardens in the old way and to the Six Nations singers for teaching me planting songs. Otsi’tsitó:sera is composed for Tiffany Ng whose dedication to the performance of contemporary works for carillon is equal to her dedication to public planting projects.”

MCKIVER, CANADIAN FLORAL EMBLEMS

A suite of piano solos, Canadian Floral Emblems was inspired by the floral emblems of the ten provinces and three territories in Canada. Each piece was informed by McKiver’s love of plants and the outdoors, her personal history, and memories shared by close friends.

DAWN AVERY

A GRAMMY and NAMA nominated performer, composer, professor, Dawn Avery has worked with musical luminaries Pavarotti, Sting, Cage, Glass, Nakai, Chacon, and Shenandoah. Avery’s work has been performed at the National Museum of the American Indian, Lincoln and Kennedy Centers. Recordings “Tulpe” and “Ajijaak on Turtle Island: A Journey” feature chamber and theatre works. Two short operas with Native librettists include Sacajawea: Woman of Many Names and Trials and Tears. Avery was a composer for the award-winning film Imagining the Indian: The Fight Against Native Mascots and won best composer in the Paris Women’s Film Festival. Her compositions have been performed at Native Earth Performing Arts and in collaboration with Jumblies Theatre and Soundstreams in Toronto, and on the Peace Tower carillon in Ottawa. In 2020, she was awarded a Digital Originals grant from the Canada Council to compose piano solos for each provincial and territorial emblem. Recently, the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America commissioned her for a carillon piece to be premiered at its annual Congress in 2024.

GRACE JACKSON is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree with a concentration in organ and sacred music at the University of Michigan studying with Professor Nicole Keller. In May 2023, she received a Master of Sacred Music from the University of Notre Dame with a concentration in organ, having studied with Dr. Kola Owolabi. During her time at Notre Dame, she served as organist and graduate assistant for the Liturgical Choir at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. A native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and a member of the Choctaw Nation, Grace completed a Bachelor of Music in organ and piano performance from Oklahoma City University (OCU) studying with Dr. Melissa Plamann and Dr. Sergio Monteiro. She was honored at OCU with the Theodore Presser Scholar award, served Westminster Presbyterian Church as organ scholar (2017–2020), was music assistant for Bishop W. Angie Smith Chapel, held leadership in the Oklahoma City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, was Alpha Zeta chapter president of Sigma Alpha Iota, and from 2020–2021 served St. Joseph Old Cathedral as Director of Music and organist. Grace currently serves St. John’s Church of Detroit as organ scholar under the direction of Dr. Huw Lewis. Her latest musical endeavor is carillon study with Dr. Tiffany Ng.

BEVERLEY MCKIVER is a pianist, composer, and music educator just east of Ottawa, Ontario. Formerly a business analyst for many years, she made the decision to pursue her lifelong love of music. She spent her formative years preparing for Royal Conservatory exams and music festivals, and earned her college tuition by accompanying ballet classes. She has served as a pianist and organist for congregations in Kingston, Scarborough, and Ottawa. McKiver considers music a life-long learning process. In 2019, she completed the Undergraduate Piano Pedagogy Certificate program at the University of Ottawa, including teaching practicums with OrKidstra and Lotus Centre for Special Music Education. In 2019, 2021, and 2022, she attended the Indigenous Classical Musicians and Banff Musicians in Residence programs at Banff Centre for the Arts. Her compositions have been performed at