

Contemporary Showcase Edmonton

A Festival of Music of Canadian Composers

Reading Session for Teachers of Canadian Music for Violin Students Sunday, February 2nd, 2025

Six violin teachers met and read music from different sources a number of pieces by Canadian Composers for children this last Sunday afternoon. It was a fun afternoon of reading pieces by Archer, Birston, Duke, Etheridge, Carrabré, Allan Gordon Bell, Telfer, Coulthard and Donkin. All participants left with a list of Canadian Composers in the RCM books and their pieces, as well as a list of some Web Sites and other sources to acquire the sheet music. Many thanks to the Canadian Music Centre and Carlos Tinoca for curating and providing some pieces from the CMC Library in Calgary for free!

We enjoyed all the pieces, but ones marked with a star are the ones we preferred especially:

Pieces we read:

Ten Pieces for Violin Exploring the 20th Century for the Emerging Violinist 2017

by George Andrix Available through CMC <https://cmccanada.org/> a variety of different styles

★ #7. A Different Drummer – this is also in RCM Level 4/5

Twelve Miniatures for Violin and Piano 1982 by Violet Archer Available through CMC

I. Jig - Level 1

★ VIII. Joyous – Level 3

Excursions for Violin 2019 by Harold Birston Available through www.birstonmusic.com

Jazzy accompaniments of simple violin pieces, Recorded accompaniments come with it.

★ 13. Brazilian Breeze -Level 1- harmonics and a pushed beat

RCM 2021 Editions

- ★ Coraggio – Harold Birston RCM 6

RCM 1999 Editions

- ★ Two Pieces by Jean Etheridge RCM Level 4
- ★ Six Epigrams No. 2 – Derek E. Healey RCM Level 8 Also available all 6 in CMC

The Encounters Series 1995 Available from CMC

Book 1: The Sailboat on the Lake by Jean Couthard -1st melody with piano Level 1, then for 3

- ★ Violins Level 2/3
- ★ Book 3: Two Blues/Deux Blues by Jean Etheridge Level 4
- Book 5 Two Haiku by David Duke Level 7/8

Northern Lights 4 Canadian Folk Songs for 3 Violins 1999 arr. by Roberta Stephen

- ★ <https://pallisermusic.com/> Level 2/3/4

Leading. Dog's Life 1984 by Nancy Telfer 4 pieces CMC

1. Fetch the Ball Level 1
- ★ 2. Walk in the Park Level 2 (5/4 time)

If Flowers Could Speak 1984 by Nancy Telfer 4 pieces CMC

- ★ 3. Rare Orchid – Level 1 -Pizzicato/arco no accompaniment, free rhythm

Ready to Go? 1984 by Nancy Telfer 4 pieces CMC

- ★ 4. Little Red Sports Car Prep or Level 1, unaccompanied, left had slide and pizz.

- ★ Chaconne 2009 by T. Patrick Carrabre available from CMC Level 9/10 Lovely piece but difficult.

Duets

Encounters 1983 by Allan Gordon Bell

- ★ 1. Violin Duo Level 1
- ★ 2. Violin Duo Level 2
- 3. Violin Duo Level 8
- 4. Violin Duo Level 6
- ★ 5. Violin and Cello Duo Level 1
- ★ 6. Violin and Cello Duo Level 2/3
- ★ 7. Violin and cello duo Level 5/6
- 8. Violin and Cello Duo Level 9/10

Newfoundland Suite/Suite terre-neuvienne Duet for Violin and Cello 1998 Benjamin Bolden

Studea Musica Publishers. Intermediate Level

- ★ 1. The Rock
- 2. Ocean
- ★ 3. Snowdrops
- 4. Screech

CMC Curated List from Calgary Branch (Thanks to Carlos Tinoca!):

Scotty lad	MI 3211 F598sc	Robert Fleming
Singer man	MI 3211 F598si	Robert Fleming
Whistler's tune	MI 3211 F598wh	Robert Fleming
Douze pièces pour les jeunes	MI 3211 J62do	Otto Joachim
À la jeunesse a suite of ten little pieces for violin and piano	MI 3211 C855aL	Jean Coulthard
Eight miniatures from the Allen Ash manuscript	MI 3211 B397ei	John Beckwith
Three folk dances incidental music for Miss Julie-August Strinberg (ie. Strindberg)	MI 3211 B261th	Milton Barnes
Twelve miniatures	MI 3211 A672tw	Violet Archer
Three little studies	MI 3211 A672th	Violet Archer
The dancing kitten	MI 3211 A672da	Violet Archer
If flowers could speak	MI 3211 T271if	Nancy Telfer
Leading a dog's life	MI 3211 T271Le	Nancy Telfer
Ready to go?	MI 3211 T271re	Nancy Telfer
The sun, the moon, the wind and the rain	MI 3211 T271su	Nancy Telfer
Suite for violin and piano	MI 3211 B752sui	Rémi Bouchard
Eight miniatures from the Allen Ash manuscript	MI 3211 B397e	John Beckwith
Elegy for violin and piano	MI 3211 A4285el	Peter Charles Allen
Scherzo? for piano and viola	MI 3211 F615sc	Graham Flett
Who knows for violin and piano	MI 3211 L441wh	Emilie Cecilia LeBel
Violin sonata	MI 3211 R521vi	Abigail Richardson-Schulte
Prelude and impromptu for violin and piano	MI 3211 C473pr	Derek Charke
Sonata for violin and piano V	MI 3211 G527so5	Arsenio Giron
Sonata No. 6 for violin and piano	MI 3211 G527so6	Arsenio Giron
Chaconne for violin and piano	MI 3211 C311ch	T. Patrick Carrabré
Nati-Alex duo for violin and piano	MI 3211 B136nat	Maya Badian
Ten Pieces for Violin and Piano Exploring the 20th Century for the emerging violinist	MI 3211 A573ten	George Andrix
Spring Chicks A-Hatching for Violin and Piano	MI 3211 W7235spr	Garth Williams
The Scampering Scarecrow Violin Book	MI 3211 W7235sc 2013	Garth Williams
Two Blues	MI 3211 E84two 1995	Jean Ethridge
Violin	MI 3211 R888vio1 2021	Christine Donkin, Various Composers, Carmen Braden

Web Sites for Violin Student Music:

Christine Donkin Composer:

Book: Costume Party for violin and piano

<https://www.christinedonkin.com/christines-muse-for-students>

The Acrobat RCM Level 2 List A
([download](#)/[recording](#))

Athabasca RCM Prep Study ([download](#))

Autumn Storm ([download](#)/[recording](#))

Barn Dance RCM Level 5 List C
([download](#)/[recording](#))

Beaver Mines RCM Prep Study ([download](#))

A Busy Street ([download](#)/[recording](#))

Catch me if you can! RCM Level 6 List C
([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Cowboy RCM Level 1 List B
([download](#)/[recording](#))

Crowsnest Pass RCM Level 1 Study ([download](#))

The Dancer RCM Level 2 List B
([download](#)/[recording](#))

Fall Fair RCM Level 2 List B ([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Farmers' Market RCM Level 3 List C
([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Fortune Teller RCM Level 2 List B
([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Frog Prince ([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Gingerbread Man ([download](#)/[recording](#))

Happy Memories ([download](#)/[recording](#))

Kananaskis RCM Level 3 Study ([download](#))
[SheetMusicPlus](#)

The Magician RCM Level 1 List B
([download](#)/[recording](#))

Midway Ride RCM Level 3 List C
([download](#)/[recording](#))

Mosquito Creek RCM Level 3 Study
([download](#))[SheetMusicPlus](#)

Nojack RCM Level 1 Study ([download](#))

Osoyoos RCM Level 2 Study
([download](#))[SheetMusicPlus](#)

Pancake Peak RCM Level 2 Study ([download](#))

The Pirate RCM Level 1 List B ([download](#)/[recording](#))

Rainbow in a Dark Sky ([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Robot ([download](#)/[recording](#))

The Sasquatch RCM Level 1 List A
([download](#)/[recording](#))

La Señorita ([download](#)/[recording](#))

Spuzzum RCM Level 3 Study
([download](#))[SheetMusicPlus](#)

The Tooth Fairy RCM Level 1 List A

([download](#)/[recording](#))

Wild Horse RCM Level 3 Study

([download](#))[SheetMusicPlus](#)

Colleen Muriel Composer:

<https://www.elflauto.ca/music/>

All People that on Earth do Dwell violin and Piano

Midnight violin and Piano

Ricercare for Violin and Viola Grd 6

Harold Birston Composer, Cellist

<https://birstonmusic.com/>

Excursions for Violin Fredrick Harris

Expeditions for Violin Amazon.ca

Intermediate

Explorations for Violin,

Escapades for Violin

Elizabeth Raum, Composer

Freya for Violin and Piano (2003) 5 min.

commissioned by Lola-Mae and Ron Crawley for their granddaughter, Freya, for her Bat Mitzvah.

Both simple and advanced versions. Recorded commercially by Ralitsa Tcholakova and Elaine Keillor.

Prayer and Dance of Praise (1997) 10 min.

Commissioned by the Eckhardt-Gramatte

National Competition for the Performance of

Canadian Music. Premiered May, 1997 in

Brandon, Manitoba, by the winner of the competition and taken on tour across Canada.

Versions for violin, viola, or cello and piano. CMC

Shira's Habanera for Cello (or Violin) and Piano (2006) 4 min. Commissioned by Ron and Lola Mae for the Bat Mitzvah of their grand daughter. Contact E. Raum

Les Ombres (1989) 9 min. for piano and violin.

Written for the composer's daughter, Erika Raum, and her accompanist, Rachel Andrist. CMC

jean Coulthard, David Duke and Jean Etheridge

The Encore Series Books 1 to 6. CMC to Borrow

Not available in print anymore.

Two Blues/Deux Blues Etheridge CMC individual music or in Vol 3

Two Haiku by David Duke Book 5 CMC to Borrow

Roberta Stephen, Sylvia Rickart, Linda Schwartz

Allan Gordon Bell

<https://pallisermusic.com/product-category/strings/>

Canadian Violin Repertoire - RCM Syllabus 2021

RCM Grade	Composer	Title
Level 3	Frank Blachford	Minor Mode
	Violet Archer	Joyous
	Jean Colthard	A Sad Waltz (For Missy, Our Klitten)
	Christine Donken	Midway Ride
	Christine Donken	The Farmers' Market
	George Fiala	Wallaby's Lullaby
	Robert Fleming	Berceuse CMC
		Whistler's Tune
Level 4	Harold Birston	Wrist Watch
	Jean Ethridge	Two Blues
Level 5	Healy Willan	Sonata No. 2 - 3rd movement: Adagio and 4th movement: Gavotte
	Murray Adaskin	Quiet Song
	Harold Birston	Music Camp Boogie
	Harold Birston	String Xing
	Frank Blachford	Mazurka
	Jean Colthard	On the March
	Samuel Dolan	Little Sombrero
	Christine Donken	Barn Dance
	Jean Ethridge	Fairy Tale
Level 6	Healy Willan	Sonata No. 2 - 1st movement: Largo, 2nd movement: Courante
	Murray Adaskin	Daydreams
	Harold Birston	Coraggio
	George Coutts	Hornpipe
	Christine Donken	Catch Me if You Can!
	Robert Fleming	Something for Margot
	Monte Keene Pishny-Floyd	Gavotte and Musette
Level 7	Milton Bams	Folk Dance No. 3
	Robert Fleming	Recollections
	Arthur Polson	A Dream
Level 8	Murray Adaskin	Sonata No. 1 (unaccompanied) - 1st and 2nd movements
	Murray Adaskin	Sonatine Baroque (unaccompanied) - 2nd movement
	Derrick Healy	Six Epigrams - nos. 2, 5, and 6
	Garry Kulesha	Song and Dance - Dance
	Jocelyn Morlock	Dervish
	Michel Brunet Perrault	Solitude

RCM Grade	Composer	Title
Level 9	Murray Adaskin	Sonatine Baroque (unaccompanied) - 3rd movement
	Arsenio Girón	Sonata No. 4 for Violin and Piano
	Healy Willan	Sonata No. 1 in E Minor - 1st movement: Lento quasi recitativo-Allegro moderato
	Sophie-Carmen Eckhardt-Grammatté	Caprice No. 1
	Hector Glatton	Quatrième danse canadienne
	Patricia Blomfield Holt	Suite No. 2
Level 10	Walter Buczynski	Sonata
	Arsenio Girón	Sonata breve
	Jean Vallerand	Sonata (1950)
	Murray Adaskin	Canzona and Rondo
	Violet Archer	Prelude and Allegro
	Michael Conway Baker	The Flight of Aphrodite
	Chan, Ka Nin	Soulmate for Solo Violin (unaccompanied)
	Sophie-Carmen Eckhardt-Grammatté	Caprice No. 2
	Sophie-Carmen Eckhardt-Grammatté	Caprice No. 3
	Arsenio Girón	Five Episodes
	Kevin Lau	Joy