

SOOKE HARBOUR Chamber Music Workshop

FACULTY



Violinist **NORMAN NELSON**

Norman studied at the Royal College of Music, London. He held the position of Assistant Concertmaster with the Royal Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, Philharmonia and London Symphony. In 1965 he was appointed Concertmaster of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and, soon after, founded the internationally acclaimed Purcell String Quartet. He has appeared as soloist with many orchestras, including the London Symphony, The Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (of which he was a founding member), the BBC Symphony and the Vancouver Symphony. As a chamber musician, he has performed in every major city in Canada and the United States, in Europe, Russia, Japan and China. In 1979 he was appointed Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at the University of Alberta in Edmonton and Leader of the University String Quartet. In 2007 Norman was awarded the **Orchestras Canada Betty Webster Award**, a national award presented to individuals or organizations that have made a sustained and significant contribution over a number of years to the Canadian orchestral community, with an emphasis on leadership, education and volunteerism. Norman now makes his home on Vancouver Island and is active as a player, teacher and conductor.



Violinist **ROBERT SKELTON**

Robert Skelton is a native of Chilliwack, BC, where he began violin studies with Earle Dunne, subsequently studying for several years with Clifford Evens in Vancouver and later in Toronto. He completed a B. Mus. Degree (University of Toronto) and holds Master's and Doctoral degrees in Violin Performance, Literature and Pedagogy at Indiana University with the noted violinist and pedagogue Josef Gingold. Other teachers have included Albert Pratz, Daniel Guilet, Tadeusz Wronski, Janos Starker, and Ivan Galamian. Robert was the National Youth Orchestra's first concertmaster in 1960, and is currently concertmaster of the London (ON) Concert Players. He is also a Royal Conservatory examiner and has been a senior string adjudicator for many of Canada's major music festivals. Dr. Skelton retired as Professor Emeritus from the University of Western Ontario in 2003, where he taught violin and chamber music for several decades and now divides his time between London and Vancouver Island.



Violist **PHILIPPE ETTER**

Philippe was born in England of French Swiss parents. He started studying the violin at the age of four and later studied as a scholarship student at the Trinity College of Music, London. At 20, Philippe was appointed to the first violins of the City of Birmingham Symphony and transferred to viola three years later. He then played principal viola in the Sadlers Wells Opera, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Vancouver Symphony, the CBC Radio Orchestra and the Vancouver Opera. He has been associated with many prestigious chamber groups such as the Element String Quartet, the London Soloists Ensemble, etc. Philippe emigrated to Canada in 1969 to become the violist of the Purcell String Quartet, which has toured throughout Canada, the United States, Mexico, Cuba, Japan, the USSR and Europe. He is well known as a teacher and soloist and is also a graduate of the Jewellery Art & Design program at the Vancouver Community College.



Violist **MICHAEL BOWIE**

Michael was London Symphony Orchestra's assistant principal viola and initiated the formation of the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In 1961, he joined the CBC Vancouver Chamber Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony and Beethoven Quartet, playing the Beethoven Cycle for Harry Adaskin's 'Music & Poetry' UBC concerts. He conducted for the CBC, played and conducted at the Courtenay Youth Music Camp, and was principal viola and chamber musician of the Stratford Festival Orchestra. He became Murray Adaskin's assistant at the University of Saskatchewan in 1963. He co-founded the University of Alberta String Quartet in 1969, touring Canada, Europe and Asia. In Edmonton, he founded and conducted the University's St. Cecilia Orchestra, and was principal viola and soloist with the Alberta Baroque Ensemble and broadcast often for BBC and CBC. Since 1993 he's played in chamber ensembles in Victoria and serves as advisor, guest conductor and clinician of the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra.



Cellist **IAN HAMPTON**

Ian began his career in the United Kingdom as cellist with the Edinburgh Quartet, attached to Edinburgh University, and as a member of the London Symphony Orchestra and the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. He emigrated to Canada in 1966, via Berkeley California, where he taught for a year with his father, the renowned cellist Colin Hampton. Ian was appointed principal cellist of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and the CBC Radio Orchestra. He was a member of the Purcell String Quartet, resident at Simon Fraser University for over a decade and he has been the Principal of Langley Community Music School since 1976. Ian is currently the principal cello and also the personnel manager of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. In 1999, Ian received an award from the British Columbia Arts Council for his "extraordinary" contribution to music as a performer, teacher and administrator.



Cellist **TANYA PROCHAZKA**

Born in Melbourne, Australia, Tanya studied at the Paris Conservatoire with Andre Navarra and at Bloomington, Indiana with Janos Starker. She won many prizes at prestigious competitions and was a semi-finalist at the Tchaikovsky competition in Moscow. While residing in England, she performed throughout Britain as soloist and chamber musician, and broadcast regularly for the BBC. She taught at the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music. Since arriving in Edmonton, Alberta in 1986 she has become one of Canada's leading cellists, and broadcasts frequently coast to coast on CBC Radio. Appointed Professor of Cello, Strings & Chamber Music at the University of Alberta, Edmonton in 1998, Tanya is conductor of both the University Symphony Orchestra and the Academy Strings. She has performed throughout Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia and Australia and has a growing discography of CDs.