



Chair and Members
Financial Management Committee
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V4G 1M2

November 12th, 2018

Dear Committee Chair and Members,

I am the Artistic Co-Director of the Blueridge Chamber Music Society. I am writing to request financial support for *Recitations*, a multi-disciplinary production that will be presented in Burnaby as a co-production by Blueridge and the Shadbolt Centre as part of the Shadbolt's 2019/20 subscription series.

ABOUT BLUERIDGE

Hailed by the *Georgia Straight* as "ambitious in its scope" and an event where "musical excellence is assured," the Blueridge Chamber Music Festival offers innovative programming, dazzling artists, thought-provoking free public masterclasses and lectures, and unforgettable performances in a relaxed summer setting. Now entering its Tenth Anniversary season, Blueridge presents a characteristic blend of beloved chamber music classics and intriguing new music. *The North Shore News* calls it "not what people usually expect from a chamber music festival."

Vision

We envision a society where people take time to listen together with open minds.

Mandate

- Connection: to create a space in time for listening in community
- Excellence: to produce the highest quality classical music programming
- Innovation: to present inspiring, thought-provoking, and varied programming and collaborations
- Accessibility: to create concert experiences that are accessible, welcoming, and meaningful to all, regardless of income, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or ability
- Diversity: to present a roster of performers and creators reflecting the diversity of our community
- Mentorship: to nurture and inspire the next generation of classical musicians

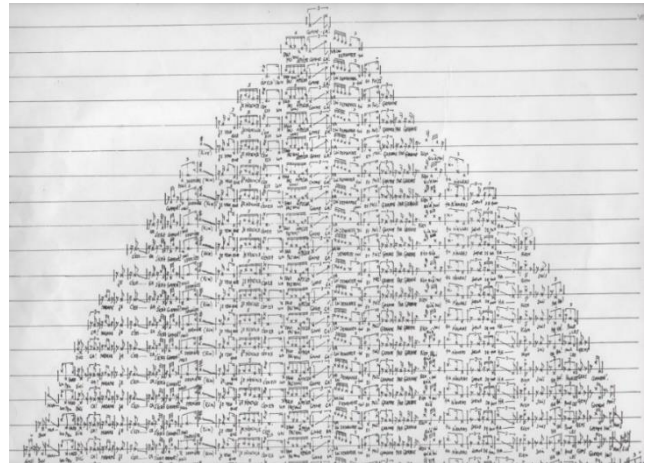
The Blueridge Chamber Music Festival currently offers two interlocking components: 1) a mainstage festival concert series in Vancouver and North Vancouver, featuring masterpieces of the classic chamber music repertoire alongside newer and more adventurous works; and 2) a chamber music workshop for aspiring young musicians. The Blueridge Chamber Music Society also occasionally presents projects outside of our main festival programming. As part of our Tenth Anniversary celebrations for the 2019/20 season, we will be presenting a co-production with the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts.

ABOUT RECITATIONS

Georges Aperghis, composer
Dory Hayley, soprano/music director
Paraskevas Terezakis, choreographer

Elissa Hanson, dancer
Arash Khakpour, dancer
Renée Sigouin, dancer
Lexi Vajda, dancer

Diane Park, costumes
Jo Leslie, dramaturge
Anne Daroussin, production



A page from *Recitations*' unusual musical score

The 14 Recitations by Georges Aperghis are among the most powerful and influential vocal works of the past century. Scored for solo voice, the showpieces draw on a potent arsenal of sung sounds, spoken, whispered, muttered and gasped text, laughs, coughs, sighs, whoops, hoots, and croaks. Vivacious and bizarre, they combine nonsense language, unsettling noises, humorous contrasts, and obsessive repetitions. Each of the 14 pieces requires supreme virtuosity from the singer, demanding rhythmic precision, expressive flexibility, physical stamina, and technical mastery almost to the point of abuse. Complete live performances have been attempted by only a couple of singers since the work's inception.

The 14 Recitations were composed in 1979. For the 40th anniversary of the composition in 2019, we propose a complete performance incorporating dancers and theatrical elements. Soprano Dory Hayley and choreographer Paras Terezakis will create an electrifying dialogue of sound and movement emanating from the wit, complexity, and exuberance of Aperghis' score.



Dory Hayley wearing a costume by Diane Park

This collaboration emerged from the 2012 Co:LAB program at the Dance Centre. When I worked with Paras in that context, I was fascinated by his vivid and teeming imagination, whimsical language of metaphors, and intuitive and even impulsive way of working. I feel his poetic, surreal and striking images and moving yet often minimalistic actions are perfectly suited to interact with Aperghis' musical language.

The Blueridge Chamber Music Festival is excited to embark on a co-production with the Shadbolt Centre to realize this moving and unique work.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

This project gives Burnaby residents rare access to one of the most influential and jawdropping masterpieces of 20th century music, presented in a groundbreaking multi-disciplinary production.

In addition, the whimsical peculiarities of Aperghis' musical score, and the unusual nature of this collaboration raise multiple interesting opportunities for community outreach. We propose the following activities, to take place during the rehearsal period for Recitations:

1. Open rehearsals: In addition to opening the rehearsal process to public observation at 3 free open house sessions, we will host an open discussion and question period on the work and the creative process moderated by members of the dance and music communities.
2. Workshop: Open to the general public, this free 3-hour workshop will examine the interplay between voice and movement. Participants—who need have no experience in music or dance—will engage in a guided exploration, responding to vocal and physical cues, interrogating impulses, and creating improvised interactions.
3. Voice masterclass with Dory Hayley: A free workshop open to classical voice and musical theatre students of the Shadbolt music arts program and pre-registered members of the general public.

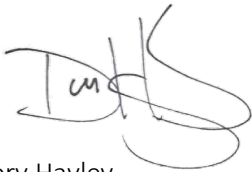
FUNDING REQUEST

We would like to request a contribution of \$10,000 from the City of Burnaby to assist with artist fees.

The Blueridge Chamber Music Society is extremely grateful for any support the City of Burnaby can provide to allow us to continue our mission of producing innovative, accessible, and meaningful classical music programming.

We have attached a project budget, biographies of the principal artists, and a letter of support from the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts. Please let me know if you would like any further information.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dory Hayley'.

Dory Hayley
Artistic Co-Director
Blueridge Chamber Music Society
www.blueridgechamber.org