

musica intima

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

"The most exciting small choir in the land"
John Fraser | National Post

Internationally renowned for their warm and engaging stage presence, impeccable musicianship, and unique perspective on ensemble singing, musica intima has earned a reputation as Canada's most exciting vocal ensemble.

"The flexibility and agility that are a function of their small size is partly what makes them so exciting," says Lloyd Dykk of Vancouver's *Georgia Straight*. But what makes musica intima truly unique, is that the twelve singers rehearse and perform without a conductor. In rehearsal they exchange ideas freely while exploring their own musical creativity. In performance, they engage the audience with a spontaneity and freshness all their own.

Founded in 1992, musica intima has become an integral part of Vancouver's cultural fabric. The ensemble regularly collaborates with local organizations, including the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Pacific Baroque Orchestra, Vancouver New Music, Music in the Morning, Vancouver Pro Musica, and the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, as artists in residence at the Telus Studio Theatre. In recent seasons, musica intima has also performed with cellist Steven Isserlis, conductor Paul Hillier, and jazz pianist Uri Caine, and has premiered newly discovered works by Charpentier with conductor Hervé Niquet.

A distinctly Canadian ensemble, musica intima regularly commissions and premieres works by Canada's leading composers, including José Evangelista, Peter Hannan, Jocelyn Morlock, Jordan Nobles, and Jeffrey Ryan. They have graced the stages of some of Canada's best known festivals and concert halls, including BC Scene, Orford Festival, Festival Vancouver, Elora Festival, Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, Festival de Lanaudière, Palais Montcalm, Domaine Forget International Festival, and Indian River Festival. Also an international presence, musica intima has been invited to perform at the 2011 National ACDA Conference in Chicago, Illinois, and has appeared in France at Polyfolia, in the USA at the American Choral Directors Association Convention, in Ireland at Cork International Choral Festival, and in Denmark at the World Symposium on Choral Music.

In 2009 musica intima was voted Best Local Classical Vocal Ensemble, and took third place for Best Local Classical Music Ensemble, in The Georgia Straight's Best of Vancouver Awards. They also took home the gold in the West Ender's 2009 Best of the City Awards, for Best Choral Group. musica intima won top honours at the biennial CBC Choral Competition in 1998, 1996, and 1994, and is frequently heard on national and international radio broadcasts.

musica intima has released five recordings with the ATMA label, including a Canadian choral music CD *into light* (2010), *o nata lux* (2008), *forgotten peoples* (2006), *invocation* (2004), and *clear* (2002), along with their CBC records release *nativite* (2002), nominated for a Western Canadian Music Award, and their Juno award-nominated disc *musica intima* (1998).

Information about concerts, ticket and CD purchases, and arrangements and compositions written for musica intima by members of the ensemble, as well as individual biographies, can be found at musicaintima.org. You may also stay up to date by becoming a fan of musica intima on Facebook, or by signing up for our monthly newsletter, at musicaintima.org.