

News Release

For immediate release

Library and Archives Canada and National Music Centre Collaborate to Promote Canada's Musical History

Gatineau, Quebec, June 7, 2013 - Library and Archives Canada and the National Music Centre in Calgary, Alberta are announcing their collaboration that will support greater public access to Canada's musical history. The organizations have signed a two-year agreement to share expertise, work together on exhibitions, and develop joint programs. The collaboration is effective immediately and is exemplified by the loan of two harpsichords from Library and Archives Canada's Greta Kraus holdings.

"Both organizations have a shared interest in preserving and celebrating the history of music in Canada," said Hervé Déry, Acting Librarian and Archivist of Canada. "As the stewards of one of the most extensive holdings of Canadian music and music-related archival material in the country, we are pleased that items from our collection can be seen by the public across the country via trusted partner institutions such as the National Music Centre."

Through this agreement, the National Music Centre will be able to access Library and Archives Canada's archival and curatorial expertise during the development of its permanent exhibitions to be displayed in its architecturally striking new location in the heart of Calgary's East Village, scheduled to be completed in 2015.

"Collaborations of all kinds are fundamental to the National Music Centre. Our partnership with Library and Archives Canada ensures that Canadians have the chance to get up close and personal with unique artifacts from Canada's national collections," said Andrew Mosker, President and CEO of the National Music Centre. "This pair of harpsichords marks the beginning of what we hope will be a long and productive partnership."

Library and Archives Canada is already contributing to the enrichment of the National Music Centre's collection with a long-term loan of two harpsichords once owned by performer and Royal Conservatory of Music and University of Toronto teacher, Greta Kraus (1907-1998). The first instrument, known as a "revival" style harpsichord, incorporates early 20th-century piano building techniques, weighs considerably more than current historical copies, and possesses greater durability and stability. The second harpsichord was designed and manufactured to Greta Kraus' specifications and is one of the most complicated and sophisticated examples of the historically inspired 20th-century German school of harpsichord building. Both instruments will be prepared by the National Music Centre for permanent display.

About Library and Archives Canada

Library and Archives Canada's mandate is to preserve the documentary heritage of Canada for the benefit of present and future generations, and to be a source of enduring knowledge accessible to all, thereby contributing to the cultural, social and economic advancement of Canada. Library and Archives Canada also facilitates co-operation among communities involved in the acquisition, preservation and diffusion of knowledge, and serves as the continuing memory of the Government of Canada and its institutions.

About the National Music Centre

The [National Music Centre](#) is committed to amplifying the love, sharing and understanding of music. Its vision is to become a national catalyst for discovery, innovation and renewal through music. The National Music Centre is home to the histories and memories of music in Canada, with a growing collection of unique and iconic musical instruments and sound equipment.



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