



2022 JUNE 2-5  
[openears.ca](https://openears.ca)  
#OE22

# 2022 We're back

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Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound would like to acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Haudenosaunee people of Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. This territory is the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnabeg, and Haudenosaunee Peoples.

We're back! As we continue to keep an eye on world events, I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for sticking around and continuing to support the arts. It has been a long, rough road for many industries and we have been working diligently in the background to reimagine how we, the festival, can continue to transform while pivoting towards a hybrid model of live events and online content. On behalf of our board of directors and general manager, I am incredibly excited to present to you our hybrid *Open Ears Festival 2022* (#OE22). Once again, this year's festival brings some of the world's highest caliber musicians to our region, featuring local, national and international award-winning soloists and ensembles.

In 2022, we continue to engage with long-standing partners and supporters of Open Ears, while developing new relationships, new sponsors and new donors. We are grateful for the ongoing support for Open Ears and for the shared belief and confidence in the future of the festival.

Open Ears will present numerous performances and workshops to satisfy your curiosity, and highlight the many cultural activities in our area, including the world premiere of Grace Scheele's *not yyr angel bby harpist*. We also have more premiere performances including sound installations, multi-media, an augmented organ, radios, and newly-invented instruments.

I can't wait to see you in the audience throughout the festival!



Richard Burrows, Artistic Director



## Seed Song Workshop with Carmen Braden

**JUN 2** Thursday, 4:00pm

 **#OE22 FREE**

Follow songwriter/composer Carmen Braden through her process of generating beautiful, short musical ideas with text as the source. This workshop series guides you through creating your words, find a musical connection to your words, and exploring the potential to grow that “seed” musical idea past the workshop end. Maybe you create a song, maybe it’s an instrumental approach, maybe it’s simply a sound idea! Hear examples of how Carmen has written her songs (ya, that she sings!) and compositions (with no singing or words at all!) - inspired by words, text, prose, poetry, improvisation, crafting... Bring your own preferred process of writing words, or come open to being guided in a new way. Bring an instrument (instruments are also available to borrow using your library card from the KPL Musical Instrument Lending Library) or just your voice. The power of words, and their ability to inspire musical creation will be at the core of this workshop - whether words end up being heard in the end or not!

*Kitchener Public Library, Meeting Room C, 85 Queen St. N., Kitchener, ON*

## Architek Percussion presents *Connective Tissue*

**JUN 2** Thursday, 8:00pm

 **#OE22**

Architek Percussion presents an all-new program that highlights the intersection of art music, video, and aspects of popular culture. The program, “Connective Tissue”, weaves together folklore and nostalgia in a way that both foregrounds the role technology and digital culture play in our lives today and predicates itself on the fundamentally communal—and connective—nature of human interaction. Works by Canadians Eliot BRITTON, Myriam BOUCHER, and Nicole LIZÉE as well as Wojciech KILAR (Poland) and John PSATHAS (New Zealand) lead audience members through a 70-minute audio-visual experience.

*The Registry Theatre, 122 Frederick St, Kitchener, ON*





## OpenEarsFM featuring Andrew O'Connor

**JUN 2** Thursday, 8:00pm

 **#OE22 FREE Online**

Broadcasting on 87.5FM and steaming online. Tune in for interviews, new music, info 24 hours a day for the duration of the festival featuring Andrew O'Connor from Disco3000/Parkdale Pirate Radio.

*Streaming online at [openears.ca](http://openears.ca)*

## Seed Song Workshop with Carmen Braden

**JUN 3** Friday, 4:00pm

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*Kitchener Public Library, Meeting Room C, 85 Queen St. N., Kitchener, ON*



## Composer Panel

**JUN 3** Friday, 6:00pm

 **#OE22 Free**

Grace Scheele, Carmen Braden, Nancy Tam, Suzanne Kite Q&A

*The Registry Theatre, 122 Frederick St, Kitchener, ON*

## Wake of Vultures presents *Walking at Night by Myself*

**JUN 3** Friday, 8:00pm

 **#OE22**

Walking at Night by Myself is a hypnotic audiovisual performance that teeters off quotidian nocturnal ritual into a wordless psycho-horror. Under the constellation of confusion, distraction, and overlapping patterns, we slowly examine notions of familiarity and difference, the real and the illusion, the signal and the noise. This work questions the surety of our senses, opens us up to the changing environs around us, and lulls us deeper into our own internal worlds.

*The Registry Theatre, 122 Frederick St, Kitchener, ON*



## People Like Us presents *The Mirror*

**JUN 3** Friday, 10:00pm

 **#OE22**

The Mirror is a live audiovisual performance which splices together movie snippets with unique sample-based music exploring the masks that we wear represented through the lens, using parallel narratives across the screen to depict an ever-changing stream, rather than a singular, fixed being, narrative or moment in time.

*THEMUSEUM, 10 King St. W., Kitchener, ON*

## Soundwalk

**JUN 4** Saturday, 11:00am

 **#OE22 Free**

The sound walk is an immersive experience where audience members will be led by foot throughout the downtown region to areas featuring public art installations. At each of these stops there are musical performances, including pop-up guerilla performances that occur throughout the journey. This includes musicians in the park, street corners, rooftops, and incognito. This interactive experience is accessible and is facilitated by an OE volunteer.

*Starts in Victoria Park, Finishes at KWAG*



## wreckage upon wreckage...

**JUN 4** Saturday, 11:00am

 **#OE22 Free**

wreckage upon wreckage... is a durational performance installation for solo performer accompanied by an immersive soundscape. From dusk to dawn, the performer encases her body with cling film and tape to create translucent skin-like sculptures—physically documenting her existence. Each human-shaped chrysalis is then moulted, and the process begins again. Inspired by Benjamin's ninth thesis of the Philosophy of History, ...wreckage upon wreckage... is a meditation on history, time, and the body—a constant movement toward the future while leaving behind corporeal traces of the past.

*The Button Factory, 25 Regina St. S., Waterloo, ON*

 *Warning: Adult content. Contains nudity.*



## George Rahi presents *Music for the Augmented Pipe Organ*

**JUN 4** Saturday, 1:00pm

 **#OE22**

Music for the Augmented Pipe Organ is a series of compositions which merge the vibrant acoustics of the pipe organ with the techniques of electronic and post-digital music. Through computer control of the organ's pipes and stops, methods to dissociate the timbres of the organ from its keyboard interface are used to conjure extremes of minimal and maximal soundworlds from the organ's harmonic design. Exploring the idiosyncrasies and affordances of each particular pipe organ, the performance intertwines digital processes of controlled feedback and machine listening software to respond to the resonances between each instrument and space. Through this process of hybridizing acoustic and digital approaches, the project explores new possibilities for the world's oldest mechanical synthesizer. The project was first developed using Vancouver's largest pipe organ at the Pacific Spirit United Church and has also been realized upon the experimental organ at Kunst-Station Sankt Peter in Köln.

*Trillium Lutheran Church, 22 Willow St., Waterloo, ON*



## SHHH!! Ensemble presents *Spirits*

**JUN 4** Saturday, 3:00pm

 **#OE22**

*Spirits* is a journey through composer's reflections on the nature of creativity, meditation, scotch whiskey, and the beyond. The recital features commissioned works, previously composed music, improvisation, creative arrangements and programmatic features that create a unique and immersive concert experience.

Deemed "truly virtuosic and intense" by Confluence Concerts, SHHH!! Ensemble's *Spirits* program debuted at the Canadian Music Centre in Toronto on January 31st, 2020 following an intense weeklong residency at the Centre. Since then, the program has toured at concert series and universities across Canada.

*The Registry Theatre, 122 Frederick St, Kitchener, ON*



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*Kitchener Public Library Meeting Room C, 85 Queen St. N., Kitchener, ON*



## Grace Scheele presents *not yr angel bby harpist*

**JUN 4** Saturday, 8:00pm

 **#OE22**

Often associated with divinity, feminine beauty, and dream-states, the Western Classical pedal harp's enduring stereotype places player and instrument within the same realm of visual and aural expectation by its audience within pop culture - as seen in Snapchat stickers, glissandi in film scores for dream sequences or visits to heaven, or the placement of the harp in various royal party scenes in the latest Netflix rom-com.

*Not yr angel bby harpist* is an interdisciplinary multimedia live show which integrates projection mapping, fusion of lighting design and music via Ableton Live, circuit-bending, alongside avatar creation and fusion. The audience's experience is dependent on the medium they choose - digital versus live performance. Its sole thesis is the exploration and deconstruction of this stereotype.

*Catalyst 137 Event Marketplace, 137 Glasgow St., Kitchener, ON*



## Soundwalk

**JUN 5** Sunday, 11:00am

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The sound walk is an immersive experience where audience members will be led by foot throughout the downtown region to areas featuring public art installations. At each of these stops there are musical performances, including pop-up guerilla performances that occur throughout the journey. This includes musicians in the park, street corners, rooftops, and incognito. This interactive experience is accessible and is facilitated by an OE volunteer.

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*The Button Factory, 25 Regina St. S., Waterloo, ON*



## Carmen Braden presents Seed Songs

**JUN 5** Sunday, 3:00pm

 **#OE22**

Carmen Braden performs songs from her latest album *Seed Songs* (2021).

“Through the first fall and winter of the pandemic, the minutiae and small details of everyday life were my focus. I wrote dozens of these short ‘seed song’ ideas — all connected to moments of beauty I encountered, or struggles of the day-to-day. I strived to share things that may seem ordinary or simple at first, but are actually profound, fulfilling, and nuanced,” says Carmen. “Each song has a core: a seed idea I tried to capture. They’re each a kind of vignette: a moment in time; a snapshot of joy or struggle, fragments; phrases; edges...”

Joined onstage by producer/drummer Mark Adam and local contributors, Carmen brings to life her love of her sub-Arctic environment, her experiences as a mother and spouse, and her moments as a human living in the pandemic. This concert has a dynamic range from lullaby to crash-landing, and a performance experience from thoughtful to instinctual.

*Descendants Beer & Beverage Co., 319 Victoria St. N., Kitchener, ON*



Presented in partnership with NUMUS we present KITE

**JUN 5** Sunday, 5:00pm

 **#OE22**

Hél čhaŋkú kiŋ ħpáye (There lies the road) is a performance by Oglála Lakǰóta artist Kite using a hair-braid musical performance interface and Machine Learning technologies in collaboration with musicians.

*The Registry Theatre, 122 Frederick St, Kitchener, ON*

Open Ears Festival is grateful for the support of the following:

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CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

an Ontario government agency  
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MONOGRAM

Information + Tickets: [openears.ca](https://openears.ca)

   [openearsfest](https://openearsfest.com)

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Festival events may be photographed or recorded. Please be advised that photographs and/or video may be taken at all events for use by Open Ears in ongoing print, online, web, social media marketing and promotion.