

# INSTRUMENTS OF CHANGE



**SATURDAY, 4 NOV 2017  
& SUNDAY, 5 NOV 2017  
11:00 AM  
THE ROUNDHOUSE  
EXHIBITION HALL**

Janna Sailor, Conductor

Laura Barron, Robin Reid, Martin Fisk,  
Conductors / Street Beats Lead Facilitators

Street Beats Band

Music on Main All-Star Band

**James B. Maxwell** (1968)

**Eight or nine, six or seven (2017)** World Premiere, 18'  
brass, percussion, found objects, and soundscape

**Photography/Videotaping in progress. If you have any concerns regarding filming and permission, please inform a member of the ISCM2017 staff.**

# COMPOSER



## **JAMES B. MAXWELL**

(Canada, born 1968)

James B. Maxwell is a composer of concert music and music for contemporary dance, theatre, film, and media, and is Co-Artistic Director of Restless Productions. Upcoming and in-progress works include a work for eight (or more) electric guitars for Redshift Music's Vertical Orchestra 2017, a double-concerto for cello, harp, large ensemble, and soundscape, for Couloir (Ariel Barnes: cello, Heidi Krutzen: harp) and Turning Point Ensemble, and a new work for Corey Hamm and Nicole Ge Li's Piano and Erhu Project.

### **EIGHT OR NINE, SIX OR SEVEN (2017) (WORLD PREMIERE)**

*Eight or nine, six or seven* first came to me as a kind of music/sound "event" or procession; approaching a space, occupying and transforming that space, then moving on. The piece develops and extends my exploration of magic realism in music, drawing on elements of instrumental concert music, soundscape composition, and acousmatic music, to build narrative-like structures grounded in emotional logic, but resisting conventional signification and formal dogma. The collaboration with Instruments of Change that initiated this piece added another dimension to the work, with the sonic and rhythmic palette developed in collaboration with Vancouver's binner community.

Conceived to bring together the highest standards of contemporary music, community-engaged arts, and art for social change, this piece is the result of a two-year collaboration between the arts-based community development non-profit, Instruments of Change, Music on Main, members of Vancouver's binner community (the city's foremost recyclers), professional performers, and the community-at-large. Maxwell's commissioned work, funded in part by the City of Vancouver, draws on a mixed ensemble of professional and amateur musicians, with a core group of professionals—trumpet, 6 trombones, tuba, and 2 percussion—and an unspecified number of community musicians playing found-object percussion instruments. Several members of the Binner Project were hired to curate these instruments. And, excitingly, some of them are also participating as performers in the community ensemble. (James B. Maxwell)

# PERFORMERS

## **INSTRUMENTS OF CHANGE**

Instruments of Change uses the arts as an educational tool to empower people to become instruments of transformative change in their own lives. By expanding community access to cultural activities, we allow diverse populations the opportunity to make and experience music and art. Through our arts-based community development projects which serve schools, hospices, shelters, community centres and prisons, we create synergetic experiences that give both our facilitating artists and our participants a means of expression to find their authentic voice using a variety of artistic modes.

## **STREET BEATS BAND**

The Street Beats Band is a multi-cultural, intergenerational group of Vancouver community members that share a passion for music, rhythm, and collaboration. In 2016, some ensemble members contributed to an improvisatory workshop process that informed James Maxwell's compositional process. And now, the 2017 band will perform their interpretation of Maxwell's score, *Eight or nine, six or seven*, on found object instruments of their choosing.

## **MUSIC ON MAIN ALL-STAR BAND**

Founded by Artistic Director David Pay in 2008 and flexible in its personnel, this hand-picked band brings together Vancouver's most exciting and inventive musicians for performances of legendary music like Terry Riley's *In C*, Steve Reich's *Drumming*, and Louis Andriessen's *Workers Union*. Akin to the programming at Music on Main, the instrumentation and players of the Music on Main All-Star Band cross genres and defy expectations. What ties it all together? It's the unfettered commitment and energy that each player brings to the music they play.