



 **ARCHITEK**  
PERCUSSION

collectif 

**Presentation File** (last update December 2017)



**collectif9 + Architek Percussion**  
*present*  
***My Backyard, Somewhere***

**[collectif9.ca](http://collectif9.ca)**

**[architekpercussion.com](http://architekpercussion.com)**

# General information



## CONTACT

For artistic and production-related inquiries:

Thibault Bertin-Maghit

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+1 (514) 528-1681 • [thibaultbertinmaghit@hotmail.com](mailto:thibaultbertinmaghit@hotmail.com)

**WEBSITES:** [www.collectif9.ca](http://www.collectif9.ca) • [www.architekpercussion.com](http://www.architekpercussion.com)

**PHOTOS:** Photos are downloadable here: <https://goo.gl/TprMkK>

## VIDEOS

Official teaser video: <https://vimeo.com/236082246>

Videos of each group are available on our websites, on YouTube, and on Vimeo.

## CREDITS

The text used in the music is from *Across/Virage* by Kaie Kellough.

Music by Derek Charke, Luna Pearl Woolf, Bret Higgins, Eliot Britton, and Nicole Lizée.

Lighting conception and scenography by Martin Sirois.

With video by Nicole Lizée.

## GROUP MEMBERS

### collectif9

- Thibault Bertin-Maghit: double bass
- Scott Chancey: viola
- Jérémie Cloutier: cello
- John Corban: violin
- Yubin Kim: violin
- Xavier Lepage-Brault: viola
- Robert Margaryan: violin
- Andrea Stewart: cello
- Rufat Aliev: sound engineer

### Architek Percussion

- Ben Duinker
- Mark Morton
- Ben Reimer
- Alessandro Valiante

*NOTE: The musician list can vary from one concert to the next. Please ask for confirmation before printing or diffusing promotional material for the event.*

**SET-UP / STRIKE DURATION : 8 h / 1 h**



## ARTIST MANAGEMENT & BOOKING AGENCY

Latitude 45 Arts - Barbara Scales and Eoin Ó Catháin

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**collectif9 + Architek Percussion** *present*  
***My Backyard, Somewhere***

— a new collaborative show about people and their places.

**collectif9** and **Architek Percussion** present *My Backyard, Somewhere*, a reflection of our malleable sense of belonging in a vast country. This is a project that explores boundaries, location, and sense of belonging of people: our displaced sense of home, travelling to and from places that have home-like meaning to us, and the elements of communication (interpretation and misinterpretation) between people and places. This is a subject particularly relatable to Canadians, be it through our history and present of immigration or our nomadic tendencies within our own country.

The text, by Montreal’s novelist and sound performer **Kaie Kellough** is a poetic “migration” through words and places. The music is a journey through the styles of five multi-disciplinary and multi-genre composers of our generation from across Canada. Beginning with the textures and recreations of sounds from the real world in the music of **Derek Charke**, we pass through the lyricism and imagery of **Luna Pearl Woolf**, the groove of **Bret Higgins**, the electronic pulse of **Eliot Britton**, and an imaginative foray into the technologies of pop culture with **Nicole Lizée**. These voices communicate with each other, with the performers, and with the audience throughout the concert experience.

As each piece is carefully shaped, so is the entire show, the full musical experience paced in a way that you have come to expect with **collectif9**. The listener is guided carefully through the innovative pieces, and the lights, staging, and amplification continue to draw you further into our world. **collectif9** cultivates communication and collaboration between artists and within their community by envisioning ways in which the concert experience can be made more inclusive, taking inspiration from other artists and concert-goers, classical and otherwise. Montréal-based quartet **Architek Percussion** is a dynamic force in Canada’s vibrant new music community with a penchant for crossing genres and connecting to people. The ensembles combine their musical visions and desire to engage to present an immersive and gripping concert experience.



## PROJECT TIMELINE

### March 2017

collectif9 obtains an exceptional grant of \$ 180,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts' New Chapter program. In collaboration with Architek Percussion, the ensemble has imagined a very exciting project...  
*My Backyard, Somewhere* is born.

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### Sep. 2017 - Feb. 2018

Creative workshops take place with the author of the project and its five commissioned composers.

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### May 2018

collectif9 and Architek Percussion travel to Rimouski for a residency at the Rimouski's Conservatoire de musique du Québec. In addition to workshops and exchanges with the students, they perform the the pre-premiere of *My Backyard, Somewhere* in Rimouski on May 26.

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### June 2018

Premiere of the show at Usine C in Montreal on June 9, 2018.

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### July 2018 - June 2019

Canadian tour supported by the New Chapter program.

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# collectif9

Classical String Band – effervescent and uncompromising.

*“Montreal’s collectif9 put on a spectacular show at last night’s Chamberfringe. This, ladies and gentlemen, is where chamber music is going.” - Ottawa Chamberfest*

Montreal’s cutting-edge classical string band **collectif9** has been gathering steam since its 2011 debut, attracting diverse audiences in varied spaces. Known for energized, innovative arrangements of classical repertoire, **collectif9** employs lights, staging, and amplification more commonly seen at rock acts, and heralds a new age in genre-bending classical performance. **collectif9** has already performed over 70 concerts across Canada and internationally, from summer appearances at the Festival de Lanaudière and Ottawa Chamberfest, to Québec’s Côte-Nord in February, to Christmas-time in China. The ensemble combines the power of an orchestra with the crispness of a chamber ensemble for a unique experience.

**collectif9**’s debut album, *Volksmobiles*, was released in February 2016: described as “dazzling” (The WholeNote), the album exudes “great brio and vitality” (GappleGate Classical-Modern Music Review), capturing the brilliant colour and driving energy of a **collectif9** live performance. Featuring folk-inspired music by Brahms, Bartók, Schnittke, and André Gagnon, **collectif9**’s new album also presents the world premiere recording of Canadian composer Geof Holbrook’s *Volksmobiles*, written for the ensemble.

The musicians and friends met as students at Université de Montréal and McGill University: they wanted to create something different yet complementary to traditional representations of classical music, more relatable to pop culture. Learning from the classical works that have influenced non-classical musicians and the structure of pop concerts, **collectif9** looks for ways to break the stigma of inapproachability, searches for new ways of expression within the classical medium, and attempts to foster communication and collaboration between artists and within their community.

During the 2017-18 season, **collectif9** returns to Asia with concerts in China and South Korea. The group appears in Ontario, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories, as well as in communities across the Island of Montreal as part of Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée.

Watch **collectif9** in action at: [www.collectif9.ca](http://www.collectif9.ca)



# Architek Percussion

*"First, the members lure you in with the astonishing, mathematical precision of their playing; then they sweep you away with an immersive sonic experience that almost overwhelms."*  
- CBC Music

**Architek Percussion** is a Montreal-based quartet specializing in the performance of experimental, minimalist, multi-disciplinary, crossover, and electroacoustic chamber music. Founded in early 2012, the quartet has quickly established itself as a dynamic force in Canada's vibrant new music community; equally comfortable in performing classic repertoire and exploring new terrain through commissions and premieres.

In addition to self producing concerts in Montreal, **Architek** regularly tours and appears across Canada and internationally. Recent and upcoming appearances include New Music Edmonton, live@CIRMMT, PASIC, Ottawa Chamber Music Festival, Virée Classique (OSM), Innovations en concert, Cluster Festival (Winnipeg), the Music Gallery (Toronto), nu:nord (UK/Norway), and the Scotia Festival of Music (Halifax). **Architek** has toured across Eastern Canada with support from the Conseil des arts de Montréal, Debut Atlantic, the Canada Council for the Arts, Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, and Jeunesses Musicales Canada.

**Architek** has commissioned and/or premiered over 40 works by composers from Canada, France, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, USA, and the UK. Several of these commissions have led to commercial recording projects, of which Architek appears on five: Bookburners (Nicole Lizée / Centrediscs, 2014), A Boat Upon its Blood (Jason Sharp / Constellation Records, 2016), Metatron (Eliot Britton / Ambiances Magnétiques, 2017), Katana of Choice (Ben Reimer / Redshift Records, 2017), and The Privacy of Domestic Life (Architek Percussion / Centrediscs, 2017).

**Architek's** diverse regular repertoire is at once engaging and challenging for audiences, and is presented in a manner inspired by the quartet's belief that given proper context, no audience member should feel alienated by the nature of a performance of contemporary art music.

**Architek Percussion** is Ben Duinker, Mark Morton, Ben Reimer, and Alessandro Valiante.

Watch Architek in action at: [www.architekpercussion.com](http://www.architekpercussion.com)



## KAIE KELLOUGH\_ writer

**Kaie Kellough** is a Canadian novelist, poet, and sound performer. The author of one novel, two books of poetry, and two albums, **Kaie's** work fuses formal experiment and social engagement. His work of vocal sound poetry multiplies and layers voice, while exploring the fundamentals of language-production.

**Kaie's** novel *Accordéon* was shortlisted for the 2017 Walrus/Amazon first novel award. He is currently working on short and long fiction. Kaie lives in Montreal and performs and publishes internationally.

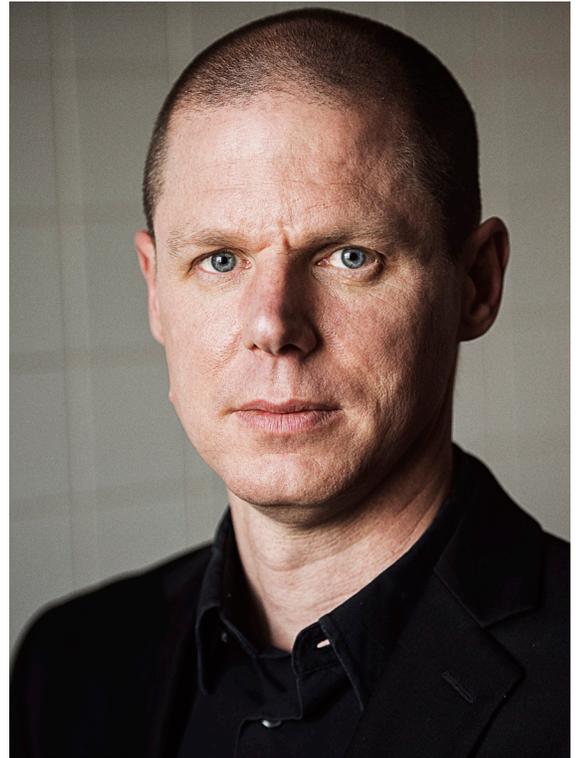


## DEREK CHARKE\_composer

**Derek Charke** is a JUNO and three-time ECMA award-winning composer and flutist. **Derek's** compositions pair electroacoustic elements with acoustic instruments. Ecological sound as an artistic statement on environmental issues has become an impetus for many works. His music bridges a divide between this play of pure sound, collecting natural and environmental sound, and a continuation of the Western classical tradition - albeit with contemporary and popular influences.

**Derek** has a catalogue of over 90 works and many high profile commissions and performances, including several by Canada's major Symphony Orchestras, the Kronos Quartet, the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Duo Turgeon, Land's End Ensemble, WIRED!, cellist Jeffrey Zeigler, as well as an impressive list of other performers and organizations.

**Derek** is a professor of composition at Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, he is co-director of the Acadia New Music Society, and he continues to actively perform as a soloist and new music improviser on the flute.





## LUNA PEARL WOOLF\_ composer



The music of composer **Luna Pearl Woolf** has been praised for its “psychological nuances and emotional depth,” by The New York Times. Her works in opera, dramatic chamber music, silent film and music-storytelling have been commissioned by Carnegie Hall, Washington National Opera, Bard Music West, Arte Musica Foundation and ECM+, among others, collaborating with artists such as Joyce DiDonato, Frederica von Stade, Evelyn Glennie, Matt Haimovitz, Marnie Breckenridge, Julian Wachner, Dennis Russell Davies, Brentano String Quartet, NOVUS NY, Deutsches Kammerorchester, and Bruckner Orchestra as well as Academy Award-winner Jeremy Irons, and author Cornelia Funke.

This season sees the premiere of **Woolf's** *Missa in Fines Orbis Terrae*, commissioned by St. James Cathedral Choir of Toronto, as well as a new work commissioned by collectif9 and Architek Percussion. Her new opera on the cellist Jacqueline du Pré, written with librettist Royce Vavrek, will premiere at Tapestry Opera in 2018. **Woolf** co-founded the groundbreaking Oxingale Productions with cellist Matt Haimovitz in 2000, garnering several Grammy and Juno nominations and awards.

## BRET HIGGINS\_ composer

**Bret Higgins** is a bassist, composer/songwriter, producer and multi-instrumentalist based in Toronto, Canada. He leads a varied career that encompasses writing original music for ensembles, co-writing with singer-songwriters, writing for film, producing, arranging, and performing and recording with a multitude of artists across the spectrum of contemporary music. **Bret's** self led instrumental project *Bret Higgins' Atlas Revolt* has 2 recordings completed to date, the first of which was released by John Zorn on his Tzadik Records label in 2015, the latter is to be released in early 2018.

The recipient of numerous Canadian scholarships, awards, and arts grants, **Bret** performs extensively in Toronto, and has toured throughout North America, Europe, South America, Australia, and Asia. Special highlights of his career include - performing with Great Lake Swimmers at the 2010 JUNO Awards, the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in both Whistler and Vancouver, and at Massey Hall as part of their 2014 *Live at Massey Hall* concert series.





## ELIOT BRITTON\_ composer

**Eliot Britton** integrates electronic and instrumental music through an energetic and colourful personal language. His creative output expresses an eclectic musical experience from gramophones to videogames, drum machines, orchestras, and electronic chamber music. Rhythmic gadgetry, artistry, personal history, and the colours of technology permeate his works.

Currently, **Britton** is working as an assistant Professor of Composition / Digital Media & Music Technology at the University of Toronto, co-director of Manitoba's Cluster New Music and Integrated Arts Festival, and continues to produce music for a variety of labels. His recently completed projects include a commission from the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra entitled "Heirloom Bison Culture", «Adizokan» for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, as well as commissions for the Plumes Ensemble and Quasar quartets.



## NICOLE LIZÉE\_composer & video artist

Called a "brilliant musical scientist", JUNO-nominated Montreal composer **Nicole Lizée** creates new music and video from an eclectic mix of influences including turntablism, rave culture, and glitch. Her commission list of over 50 works includes the Kronos Quartet, BBC Proms, San Francisco Symphony, Carnegie Hall, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

**Nicole** was awarded the 2013 Canada Council for the Arts Jules Léger Prize. She is a Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellow (Italy) and recently received a Lucas Artists Fellowship Award (California). She was selected by composer Howard Shore to be his protégée as part of the 2015 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards. Additional awards and nominations include an Images Festival Award, Prix Opus, International Rostrum of Composers' Top 10 List, Dora Mavor Moore Award nomination in opera, and the Canada Council for the Arts Robert Fleming Prize for achievements in composition.





## Workshops and Community Involvement

*"Stars, because if the nine musicians shone, even more was the sparkle in the eyes of the twelve students ... A finale imprinted with magic, for young and old." - [KRTB Rivière-du-Loup, QC](#)*

*"[I felt] right in the music - it was so much fun ... I want to do it again!"  
- Joly Primary School students*

collectif9 has created a variety of activities and concerts to enrich the experience of students and audiences alike, motivating participants to expand their expectations of classical music. Encouraging young musicians to think outside the box, explore their musical ideas, and find freedom on-stage is one of our favourite pastimes! Educational programming for *My Backyard, Somewhere* is specially designed for the age and musical level of participants.

Organizing additional activities outside of our performance encourages young people and students to experience classical music and become involved in it, creating the next generation of listeners and setting burgeoning musicians up for their professional futures, but this isn't all; community activities encourage families to be involved, experience the music with their children, and discuss the experience with their friends and colleagues.

### Q&A Sessions

Led by the curiosity of the participants, a question and answer session allows students and audience members to connect with the ensembles on their own terms. Structured with flexibility or facilitated by a leader, we discuss amplification, our on-stage approach, our musical histories, rehearsal and interpretation techniques, and any other topics that come up.

*"I was left in awe and couldn't find more words to write ... At the end of the concert, the only thing I could think was, 'Who isn't smiling right now?'" - Linfield College students*

# Workshops and Community Involvement (continued)



## Project Development

In this workshop, we discuss the steps in project development, from an idea to full fruition, from the musician's point of view. Students will discuss: narrowing down an idea into a project; developing collaborations with others; creating a compelling program, brand, and promotional plan; searching for funding; administrative and organizational needs. We will use our own projects as examples, and participants are welcome to bring their own ideas and projects to workshop as a group.

## Masterclasses and workshops

The musicians of collectif9 and Architek Percussion have trained with renowned performers and pedagogues around the world. Using their experiences gained in conservatories, universities, on stage and in the rehearsal room, they offer intermediate and advanced students traditional masterclasses on a diverse range of repertoire: classical, contemporary, early music, improvisation, and traditional musics.

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### WORKSHOP & ON-STAGE COLLABORATION VIDEOS

- collectif9 with primary school guitar students (Rivière-du-Loup, QC): <https://youtu.be/9RRAd0tWVHE>  
(On YouTube, search: *collectif9 à Rivière du Loup*)
  - collectif9 with fiddle amateurs from age 7 to age 77 (St-Hyacinthe, QC): <https://youtu.be/Hvrs8xoyT4Q?t=2m37s>  
(On YouTube, search: *Juliette vous invite... Activités de sensibilisation // watch from 2min37 to 3min57*)
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## ARTIST MANAGEMENT & BOOKING AGENCY

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## Technical rider abstract

### 1. PERFORMANCE SPACE

The performance space should be at least 30 feet (9 meters) wide and 20 feet (6 meters) deep.

### 2. STAFF

ARTIST may be accompanied by a team of up to four people: sound engineer, light operator, and two assistant technicians. Number and length of crew calls will be determined by mutual agreement.

### 3. USE OF PERFORMANCE FACILITY

After PRESENTER installation of lighting and audio, ARTIST requires eight hours on the day of the performance. The typical schedule would be as follows: 10 am-4 pm Installation/Technical setup & Focus; 4-6 pm Soundcheck/Rehearsal; 8 pm Performance (about 1,5 hours plus intermission); Strike time (one hour).

### 4. HOSPITALITY

PRESENTER will provide a hot meal in the green room two hours prior to performance time, and will supply beverages and a small selection of cold snack foods to be available from the set arrival time.

### 5. SOUND

ARTIST provides 9 DPA clip-on condenser microphones, and 1 Midas M32r mixer.

PRESENTER provides:

- Mains;
- Monitors: 10 wedge monitors
- Microphones: The following microphones can be replaced by equivalent models: 7 Shure SM58; 2 MD-421; 4 KSM44; 1 Beta56A; 2 Beta98; 4 KM184.
- Analog Snake: 32 inputs, and 8 outputs.
- Other: 6 direct boxes (DI), 55 XLR microphone cables (25' long), 17 tall and 2 short black microphone stands.

# Technical rider abstract (continued)



## 6. VIDEO

ARTIST provides one laptop computer to play the video material to be projected on a screen. PRESENTER provides one projector and one screen to be hung on stage behind the musicians.

## 7. LIGHTING

The lighting design is integral part of this production. As much as possible, the group would like to have access to a lighting system to allow presenting the show with all its visual components. The following describes a lighting system required for a typical performance.

PRESENTER provides:

- a minimum of 60 dimmers, and approximately 60 lighting instruments;
- a hazer;
- a control board with at least 24 manual faders.

## 8. INSTRUMENTS

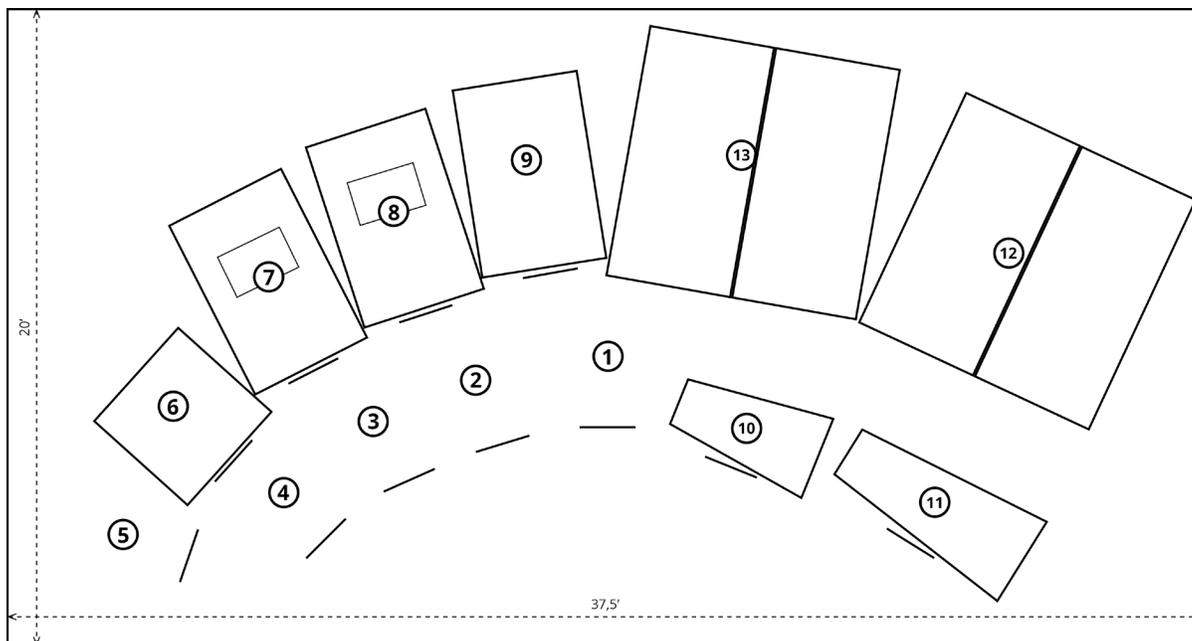
ARTIST provides 2 two-octave electronic keyboards, 1 drum machine, and a variety of handheld instruments.

PRESENTER provides 2 vibraphones, 1 marimba, 1 glockenspiel (if possible), 1 toy piano (if possible), drum kit, some additional drums and cymbals, 2 keyboard stands, cymbal stands, and 2 electric basses with amplifiers.

## 9. STAGING

ARTIST provides fifteen battery-powered stand lights. PRESENTER will provide twenty black music stands, two adjustable piano benches, one plexiglass shield for drum kit, and black risers (one 4'x4', three 4'x6', four 4'x8').

## 10. STAGE PLAN



## 11. CONTACT

For all questions regarding technical needs:

Thibault Bertin-Maghit, production manager - 514 528-1681 • [thibaultbertinmaghit@hotmail.com](mailto:thibaultbertinmaghit@hotmail.com)