

## Dianne Aitken, Flutist

Based in Toronto, Ms. Aitken maintains a balance between her professional and family life. Currently on faculty at the Royal Conservatory, she is also Department Coordinator of the Woodwind, Brass and Percussion Department, Senior Examiner (RC Examinations, RC Music Development Program, formerly TAP – The Carnegie Hall Royal Conservatory Achievement Program) and Chair, National Flute Association's New Music Advisory (until November 1, 2014). Past academic activities include faculty at University of Toronto, Glenn Gould School, Wind Specialist Representative, Council of Examiners (RC Examinations).

As curriculum developer, her publications include the *Overtones* Flute Series (FH 2010), RC Flute Syllabi, various manuals/materials for RC Examinations, and assistance in Hiroshi Koizumi's *Technique for Contemporary Flute Music* (Schott '96). Her flute compositions in the *Overtones* Series are *Learning to Skate*, and cadenzas for Mozart and Stamitz works.

Active as a soloist, chamber and session/orchestral player, Ms. Aitken's performances/broadcasts in Canada, Europe, and the US include those with New Music Concerts, Canadian Opera Company, Esprit Orchestra, Zelda Symphony of the Goddesses, Quattro Flute Quartet, Array, Aitken/Tureski Duo, soprano Barbara Hannigan, and recent NFA/CFA Conventions in Chicago, Las Vegas, Anaheim, New York, and Oakville, ON. A selected discography: *ô Bali, à la claire fontaine, Spirit Song, Lutoslawski conducts Lutoslawski, Henry Brant: Music for Massed Flutes, Tyee* (Centrediscs' *Neue Bilder*).

As adjudicator, Ms. Aitken has appeared at the Windsor-Essex Kiwanis Festival, Winnipeg Music Festival, and co-sponsors the *Aitken Award* at the *Contemporary Showcase* Festival in Toronto. At the 2014 National Flute Association's Chicago Convention, Dianne chaired *Both Sides Now - A Composers'/Performers' Panel*. Other showcases include the *Overtones* Flute Series and *TAP* at the 2012 NFA Convention, Las Vegas, NV; 2011 TMEA Convention, San Antonio, Texas; and 2011 CFMTA Conference, Regina, Saskatchewan.

Her students continue to be consistent award winners, i.e. Kiwanis (Toronto, Provincials), North York Music Festival: Trophy (Best Senior Woodwinds) RC Examinations Gold, Silver Medals, Walter Homburger Award, and accepted into various music programs, i.e. UToronto, McGill, WLU, UWindsor, McMaster, York, Brigham Young University, École Normale de Musique de Paris.

Dianne Aitken received her Bachelor of Music (Performance) from University of Toronto, studying with Douglas Stewart. Postgraduate work includes courses in Europe, working with midi-flute & ISPW (IRCAM, Paris), Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik (Darmstadt), Rencontres de la Chartreuse (Acanthes/Festival d'Avignon); Artist-in-Residence at the Banff Centre and personal study with Marcel Moyse, Greta Kraus, Pierre-Yves Artaud and Robert Aitken.