**JEFF REILLY**

“*Reilly’s performance is gripping: his use of extended techniques add moments of sudden rawness to a beautifully full tone that masterfully conveys the image of the lone prophet Jeremiah”*. **The Classical Review, UK (re: ECM release of Lamentations of Jeremiah)**

*“Jeff Reilly is an undisputed master of the Bass Clarinet who has gone to the end to explore its sonic universe.”* **Halifax Chronicle Herald**

*“The virtuoso clarinetist Jeff Reilly extends his cadenzas across the history of sound, from monotony to modernism, in a performance that is dominant and often hypnotic”*  
**Norman Lebrecht**

*“Another real treat was the set by Upstream Orchestra, 18 pieces from the Maritime Provinces of Eastern Canada….. an improvising orchestra with real depth and* ***very strong conduction by Jeff Reilly…..*** *Big chunks of Mingus, George Russell, the ICP and much else assembled itself into a squawk-swept landscape of brilliant playing.”***The Wire (UK)**

ECM recording artist Jeff Reilly leads a multifaceted life as a bass clarinetist, composer, conductor, a CBC radio music producer, and as a radio documentary maker. The pure emotional accessibility of his rich, lyrical performance and compositional style reminds us that extended techniques, avant-guard sonorities and complex forms of notation can be executed within the service of musicality and sensitivity. Receiving 4 Juno nominations, an ECMA award as well as 4 ECMA nominations, his approach to music blurs any simple distinctions between improvisation and composition, and does so with a musicality and sensitivity that reminds us that such distinctions are moot.

He has performed with choirs, orchestras and chamber groups, in music festivals, cathedrals and concert halls around the world – with his trio *Sanctuary* he has performed in Shanghai, Paris, London, New York, St Petersburg, Moscow, Riga, Toronto, Montreal and more. Jeff Reilly also composes, records, tours and performs with the jazz drummer Jerry Granelli, the British duo of bassist Barry Guy and violinist Maya Homburger, the Halifax based Upstream Orchestra, as well as the Subtext and Suddenly ensembles also based in Halifax. Jeff Reilly has commissioned large scale performance works that feature bass clarinet from Eriks Esenvalds, Peter-Anthony Togni, Christos Hatzis and Barry Guy.

Jeff Reilly lives in Halifax with his wife and twin daughters, and is the CBC senior producer of music production for the Atlantic Region.

**Recent notable performances as a bass clarinetist:**

* ***Responsio*:** Tour and recording of a 50 minute work by Peter-Anthony Togni for solo bs. Clar. And vocal quartet throughout Nova Scotia with vocalists Suzie Leblanc, Andrea Ludwig, Charles Daniels, John Potter - August 2013
* ***Orgue et Colours Festival Montreal:*** Feature concert with the Sanctuary Trio October, 2013
* ***Ottawa Chamber Music Festival****:* Feature concert with the Sanctuary Trio July 2013
* ***Scotiafestival of Music*:** Feature performance of the Berg Concerto for Piano, Violin & 13 Winds May 2013
* ***Waterloo Chamber Players*:** Featured soloist with the Waterloo, Ont. Chamber players orchestra performing Peter Togni’s “Illuminations” for bass clar and strings as well as the solo english horn part (on bass clarinet) in Aaron Copeland’s *Quiet City* March 2013
* ***Winnipeg New Music Festival***: Featured soloist at the opening night of the festival performing Peter Togni’s *Lamentations of Jeremiah*, a concerto for solo bass clarinet and chamber choir with the Elmer Iseler Singers. Feb. 2013
* ***Club Inegal, London, UK:*** soloist with ensemble Inegal at Club Inegal, a contemporary music ensemble and performance space. Nov. 2012
* ***Sound Symposium, St John’s:*** featured solo performance at the St John’s Sound Symposium in July, 2012

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**Recent notable performances of his compositions:**

* ***Creatures of Infinite Grace*** with the Sanctuary Trio – Ottawa Chamber Music Fest 2013
* ***1313 Squared*** with Note Inegales in London, UK 2012
* ***Meditations on Innocence*** with the Evergreen Club Contemporary Gamelan Orchestra 2010
* ***Internal Combustion*** with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra and Mark Duggan, soloist 2009
* ***Klangfarben Waltz*** with Barry Guy and Maya Homburger, Toronto 2008
* ***Chiaroscuro*** with the Upstream Orchestra at Scotiafestival of Music 2007

**Recent notable performances as a conductor:**

* ***2013 Victoriaville International Music Festival***. Conducted the Upstream Orchestra performing Paul Cram’s “The Magic Order” and “Convoy HFX” as well as “Witch Gong Game II/10”
* ***2012 Open Waters Festival Halifax***. Conducted the Upstream Orchestra performing Barry Guy’s seminal masterwork “Witch Gong Game II/10”
* ***2011 Open Waters Festival Halifax***. Conducted the Upstream Orchestra performing his own work “Internal Combustion”

As a CBC producer he has produced over 6,000 hours of radio programming, including 4 multi-episode documentaries on issues in contemporary music for the program IDEAS, he has also produced over 300 concert recordings of classical, jazz, world and contemporary music, over 70 studio sessions and 20 CD’s of Canadian Jazz and Classical music, including releases on CBC records, Warner Classics UK, Taflemusik Media, Centrediscs and NAXOS.

[www.jeffreilly.ca](http://www.jeffreilly.ca)

**Selected list of notable recordings produced by and/or featuring Jeff Reilly since 2003:**

**Year Label Title Role Content**

2014 Naxos Responsio Performer/producer Jeff Reilly performs

Peter-Anthony Togni with Suzie Leblanc, Charles Daniels, John Potter, Andrea Ludwig

2014 Sanctuary Silentio Performer/producer New music by the Sanctuary

Trio

2012 Tafelmusik Handel’s Messiah Producer Tafelmusik Baroque orchestra

Media and Chamber Choir

2010 ECM Records Lamentatio Jeremiah Performer/editor Jeff Reilly, bs clar soloist with

Prophetae the Elmer Iseler Singers

2010 Centerdiscs Piano Atlantica Producer Barbara Pritchard plays

Atlantic Canadian composers

2005 CBC Records Dancing in the Light Producer Symphony Nova Scotia performs

Christos Hatzis

2005 Warner The heart has its Performer/producer Sanctuary trio with the

Classics reasons Sanctuary String Orchestra

2003 Hanssler Refuge Performer/producer Sanctuary Trio

Classics

2003 Loveslave Iron Sky Performer Duo production with

Records percussionist Jerry Granelli

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**List of principal Compositions:**

# For Full Orchestra

## CHIAROSCURO 20:00 2001 (Canada Council Commission)

INTERNAL COMBUSTION 18:00 2009 (Canada Council Commission)

(percussion concerto, commissioned by Mark Duggan)

**Chamber Ensembles**

1313 SQUARED 15:00 2012 (Canada Council Commission)

# The Upstream Orchestra – a 22 piece chamber group

THE WISDOM OF INSECURITY 10:00 1993

GEMINI 12:00 1994

FLIGHT 750 10:00 1997

GHOST TRACKS 8:00 1998, revised 2000

# Upstream and Symphony Nova Scotia – a 46 piece Orchestra

KILLING TIME II 18:01 1998

**For the Sanctuary Trio**

Devon’s Song 6:00 1999

Father Time 4:00 2000

Ghost Tracks 8:00 2002

Creatures of Infinite Grace 6:00 2004

Klangfarben Waltz 8:00 2006

## **For Sanctuary with Evergreen Club Gamelan Orchestra (an 11 piece ensemble)**

## Meditations on Innocence 20:00 2004 (Canada Council Commission)

## **For Sanctuary with String Orchestra**

Creatures of Infinite Grace 12:00 2004

# Professional Activities

***SANCTUARY***  **(1998 to present) performer, composer, co-artistic director and executive director.** *SANCTUARY*  is an internationally recognized touring and recording ensemble of Bass Clarinet, Cello and Pipe Organ dedicated to the performance of **contemporary, improvised music** in cathedral spaces. Sanctuary has toured Europe 5 times, Canada 7 times, as well as Russia in 2008 and china in 2009. ***SANCTUARY*** released its third CD on **Warner Classics** in April of 2005 and is managed by *First Name Composer Management* in London and *Latitude 45 Artist Management* in Montreal, Canada. Their fourth CD is scheduled for release in the spring of 2014..

###### *UPSTREAM* (1990 to 1999) co-artistic director.

*Upstream* is a collective of Halifax based musicians dedicated to the exploration of the relationships among composition, performance and improvisation in a co-operative and collective spirit. Performed over 60 concerts and released one CD.

***OPEN WATERS FESTIVAL* (1995 to 2000) artistic director ’95 -’98.**

A music festival that celebrated a ground breaking collaboration between the improvisers in *Upstream* and *Symphony Nova Scotia* (a 37 piece fully professional symphony orchestra). Presenting over 15 concerts in its five year life, the *Open Waters Festival* introduced many classical musicians to improvisation, and many improvisers were introduced to the rigors of classical music. Peter Weigold contributed his experience and leadership during the final two years. Open Waters has had a resurgence in recent years under the directorship of Paul Cram.

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***THE UPSTREAM ORCHESTRA* (2001 to present) composer, conductor, performer** **and improviser**.

A 20 piece improvising orchestra that integrates literate and non-literate approaches to music making. This ensemble is the culmination of 15 years of experience and experimentation.

***IRON SKY*** **(1997 to present) performer, composer, co-artistic director, producer** A project with the internationally recognized electro-acoustic percussionist Jerry Granelli. A duo collaboration featuring ***sonic art sculptures*** made by Nova Scotian blacksmith, John Little. Our second CD will be released in 2006. Iron Sky will be featured in the 2005 fall edition of ***“Unknown Public”***, an audio journal based in London by *Guardian* reviewer John Walters.

***THE JERRY GRANELLI SEPTET* (2003 to present) composer, performer and improviser.** An ensemble with a focus on the integration of improvisation, composition and the spoken word. Our first CD *“Sandhills Reunion”* was released in 2005 on the *Songlines* label, produced by Lee Townsend.

***THE PAUL CRAM ORCHESTRA* (1994 to present) performer and improviser**. An ensemble led by Paul Cram. 2 CD’s released in the past 3 years with tours of Canada and southern Europe in 2004.

***SUBTEXT ENSEMBLE* (2010 to present)** a quintet led by pianist Steven Naylor performing improvised and composed music. A season of 3-4 concerts per year with Derek Charke, Christoph Both, Tom Roach and Jeff Reilly