



# Academy Strings



2001-02

"We are the music  
makers and we are  
the dreamers of dreams"



## Academy Strings History

# Past

Founded in 1979, the Academy Strings orchestra is the University of Alberta's principal student string ensemble. Originally named the 'Baroque Strings' the group was established by noted violinist and U of A professor Norman Nelson. Since Nelson, the ensemble has had the privilege of being lead by such noted musicians as Martin Riseley (concertmaster of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra) and current conductor Tanya Prochazka. Requiring a successful audition for admission, the Academy Strings orchestra is composed primarily of string students.

Nevertheless, the group is proud to boast members from several other branches of the University, including Engineering, Creative Writing and Nursing.

This diverse group has an equally diverse touring history, from Western Europe to Southern Alberta. Spreading the joy of all kinds of music, from Baroque to Twentieth Century, is a goal and passion of the Academy Strings. The group performs at least two full programmed concerts a year in Edmonton, Alberta, as well as performing in several collaborative concerts with groups from choirs to percussion ensembles.



As a soloist, ensemble player, and pedagogue, Tanya's career has left many an impressive mark on the international music scene. Far from her native Melbourne, Australia, she studied at Paris Conservatoire under Andre Navarra, and in Indiana, U.S.A., under Janos Starker. Tanya enriched her early career touring internationally with Vienna's Ensemble I and performing extensively as a soloist in Europe. Tanya has been the recipient of many nations' prestigious prizes including the Czech International Tribune, and the English Suggia Prize.

Since arriving in Edmonton, Alberta, in 1986, Tanya has fast become one of Canada's leading cellists. Tanya is frequently broadcast on CBC radio and is an active recording artist with both the ATMA and ARKTOS labels. She maintains a vigorously noteworthy



## Tanya Prochazka: Conductor/ Cellist

# Present

concert circuit, including concerto performances with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, and is co-founder of the phenomenally successful Menage a Trio. Tanya maintains her international performing career in such countries as Germany, the U.S.A., Russia and Australia.



Furthermore, Tanya is highly regarded as an instructor. In her current home of Edmonton, Tanya teaches for both Alberta College and the University of Alberta. With her flair for international affairs, Tanya continues conducting masterclasses and workshops worldwide.

Academy Strings 2001/2002 Performance  
Season:

OCTOBER 2ND, 2001 Convocation Hall,  
University of Alberta

OCTOBER 5TH, 2001 Alberta Music  
Conference

NOVEMBER 4TH, 2001 Convocation Hall,  
University of Alberta

NOVEMBER 17TH, 2001 Czardas Ball

FEBRUARY 9TH, 2002 Valentines' Ball

FEBRUARY 10TH, 2002 Pre-Cuba Concert,  
Convocation Hall, University of Alberta

FEBRUARY 16TH-23RD, 2002: Cuban Tour

MARCH 3RD, 2002: Convocation Hall,  
University of Alberta



# at Future

## 2001/2002 Concert Season



Contact  
Information:

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## Mission Statement

We demand, and therefore teach our students to aim for, the highest standards of performance possible in both musical and technical terms. The aims of the Academy Strings are manifold:

We challenge our players with a wide range of repertoire and musical styles from the Baroque era to the present day.

We believe strongly in the importance of performing and perpetrating wider dissemination of Canadian Music, as well as music from the rest of the world. We require a high degree of personal and team commitment in everything from rehearsals, to fund-raising efforts, to concerts and tours.

We strive to enhance our city and wider community, performing benefit concerts for worthy community causes such as the Prosper Place Clubhouse. Furthermore, we provide essential musical and cultural experience for outlying communities as well as for our members through our touring projects.

We are committed to giving our students the most comprehensive musical and cultural education possible within the realm of string orchestra playing. We are proud to prepare them for successful and productive lives, both musical and otherwise.

