

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kitchener- Waterloo Symphony and the Institute for Quantum Computing combine to blow your mind

On Thursday, February 23 and Friday, February 24 at 7:30pm at the Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony (KWS) joins forces with the University of Waterloo's Institute for Quantum Computing (IQC) to present a truly mind-bending collaboration.

Quantum: Music at the Frontier of Science is an innovative musical experiment masterminded by the KWS and IQC. Music and science have followed surprisingly parallel paths over the past century: both were governed by order and logic during the Enlightenment; both saw a breakdown of tradition in the early 1900s, and both saw the emergence of challenging new rules and paradigms throughout the 20th Century. The musical program extends from well-known pieces by Mozart and Webern to radical, rarely performed pieces by Xenakis, Brant, Ives and Cage. In tandem, the scientific storyline carries us from the "falling apples" of Newtonian physics to the amazing and counterintuitive phenomena of the quantum realm. The narrative of the concert was co-written by IQC Communications Officer Colin Hunter and KWS Music Director Edwin Outwater, with the help of IQC Director Raymond Laflamme and other IQC scientists.

Outwater and Laflamme will co-host the concerts, along with a live narrator. The Quebec-born Laflamme earned his doctorate under Stephen Hawking and is a respected pioneer in quantum information science. He is also an orchestral music enthusiast and Board Director with the KWS.

"Quantum science and music have more in common than people might think," said Laflamme. "Both can be challenging and counterintuitive, both can be beautiful and fascinating. In many ways, both seek to describe and make sense of the world in which we live."

"Creating the concert has been an inspiring and eye-opening experience for both the musicians and the scientists involved," said Outwater. "Quantum physics is notoriously difficult to explain in words. In the process of meeting with IQC researchers over a period of time we have created an unprecedented concert in which music and physics illuminate each other in a fascinating way."

Quantum: Music at the Frontier of Science is the second in the three-concert Intersections Series, which creates and illustrates relationships between seemingly unrelated disciplines or artists and the traditional symphony orchestra.

KWS would like to thank the following sponsors for supporting this performance: Season Sponsor: Sun Life Financial, Intersections Series Sponsor: The C3 Group, Music Director Edwin Outwater's Podium Sponsor: BMO Financial Group, and Concert Sponsors: Gowlings and KPMG.

The **Institute for Quantum Computing** is a scientific institute at the University of Waterloo where researchers are harnessing the quantum laws of nature to develop powerful new technologies in the realm of computing, communications and sensors. Today, IQC is the world's largest concentration of researchers devoted to exploring and advancing quantum information science and technology.

Formed in 1945, the **Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony** is the cultural centrepiece of Waterloo Region. The orchestra comprises 52 professional musicians under full-time contract and each season plays over 100 performances of music from early Baroque composer Monteverdi through commissioned music by Arcade Fire bassist and Canadian composer Richard Reed Parry. The KWS is nationally praised for its performances, has an education program unparalleled for an organization of its size, and is heard regularly across Canada on CBC. KWS Music Director Edwin Outwater is one of North America's most creative, dynamic, and engaging conductors. His innovative programming has earned him international acclaim, in particular for his Intersections series.

At A Glance:

QUANTUM: MUSIC AT THE FRONTIER OF SCIENCE

February 23 & 24 | 7:30PM | Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts

Edwin Outwater, conductor

Raymond Laflamme, co-host

Researchers from the Institute for Quantum Computing, University of Waterloo

To download the press kit associated with this release, please visit the media room at kwsymphony.ca/media.

TO ORDER TICKETS

Online: kwsymphony.ca

By Phone: 519.745.4711 or 888.745.4717

In person: Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts | 36 King St W, Kitchener

Tickets are \$33.

For more information, press tickets, or interviews, please contact:

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