**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 19, 2023**

**FREE OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES *ECLECTIC LOCAL* will return to the Gasworks Outdoor Stage in Summer 2023 – Eclectic Local will be co-presented by the Hamilton Music Collective and the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. The series is funded by the INCITE Foundation for the Arts (Lead Sponsor) and Ontario Creates.**

**HAMILTON, ON** – Launched in 2022 by the Hamilton Music Collective, Eclectic Local is returning to the downtown core, featuring a unique lineup of musical acts from R&B to classical. This year, we’ve expanded on the experience to include a ‘Pop Up Beer Garden’, provided by Collective Arts Brewing.

“We are excited to bring this excellent line-up of live music to the downtown core at this beautiful venue” says Hamilton Music Collective CEO Astrid Hepner. “Having the HPO as a presenting partner will help us reach new audiences and successfully deliver on our shared mandate to make high quality music accessible to everyone!”

Eclectic Local will run July through September, and showcase established artists, bands and ensembles in a variety of genres.

Says HPO Executive Director Kim Varian, “The Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra is thrilled to partner with Hamilton Music Collective to present this free music series for our city. It is an opportunity to celebrate the very talented musicians we have in our region in a relaxed and engaging setting.”

World-renowned concert pianist Valerie Tryon will open the series on July 15, followed on July 29 by Payadora, a “superstar group” which combines their deep knowledge of tango with classical, jazz and world music backgrounds to create something entirely new. The series is co-curated by members of the HMC and the HPO with the goal to bring vibrant, accessible musical performances to the downtown community.

Eclectic Local will take place at 141 Park Street North under The Gasworks outdoor stage, just steps from James Street. No admission fee is required; however, donations will be collected with all proceeds directed to the Musical Futures Summer Camp Scholarship Fund.

**Eclectic Local Concert Series 2023**

July 15         Valerie Tryon - Piano Concert
July 29         Payadora - Tango/Jazz
Aug 12        Who it Is (Darcy Hepner, Paul Intson, Joel Haynes, Jesse O’Brien)
Aug 26  Joel Haynes Quartet
Sept 9        Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra ensemble

All shows: Saturdays from 5:00 - 6:00pm

**About Hamilton Music Collective:**

**Hamilton Music Collective** (HMC) is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2008 by a local group of musicians, educators and community supporters, who are passionate about music and believe in its transformative power to enrich lives and empower students. HMC’s mission is to invigorate the music scene in Hamilton through professional live performances, education, events, workshops, and exhibits.

**About Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra**

The **Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra** (HPO) is a dynamic organization that aspires to excellence in music performances and community engagement through vibrant programming and education. Our mission is to support the wellbeing of the greater Hamilton region by engaging, educating and inspiring the community through outstanding professional orchestral music. Programs include symphony concerts at FirstOntario concert hall, a youth orchestra as part of a robust music education program and 60+ community-based partner events, serving people of all ages in our community.

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