

Geoff McCausland – Strings



Geoff McCausland (B.Mus McGill, ARCT Royal Conservatory of Music) is a musician of diverse experience and training. Growing up in Saint John, New Brunswick, he was trained in the Classical tradition, which he continued at McGill University's Schulich School of Music as well as through intensive training programs including the Domaine Forget Summer Institute, the Orford Arts Centre Summer Academy, the Toronto Summer Music Festival, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet Chamber Music Seminar at Stanford University.

Geoff is himself a passionate teacher, and his love of coaching chamber groups, orchestras, and individuals alike has found him teaching at the North Bay Symphony Summer String Retreat, CAMMAC, Saint John Summer Strings, Wilfrid Laurier's QuartetFest, and at various conservatories.

As an orchestral musician, Geoff has sat as Principal 2nd in the Timmins Symphony Orchestra, the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra and the North Bay Symphony, and played section violin with the Thunder Bay Symphony, Symphony New Brunswick, the PEI Symphony, Opera New Brunswick and the Toronto Concert Orchestra. Geoff also coaches and directs the 5th Avenue Strings, an amateur string orchestra in Timmins, Ontario.

As a chamber musician, Geoff played from 2008–2016 with the Juno and Felix-nominated Silver Birch String Quartet. With the quartet he recorded two albums, commissioned new works from Canadian composers, and toured extensively. As a member of the quartet he performed alongside such notable artists as Peter Longworth, Simon Fryer, Joel Sachs, Erika Raum, Tanya Tagaq, Serena Ryder, and the Penderecki String Quartet.

In 2013 Geoff joined the Sudbury-based bluegrass band Murder Murder – exploring the art of improvisation, composition and arrangement of music of all genres. They have since recorded two full-length albums which see regular airplay internationally, performed live on BBC, and toured internationally. He has also shared the stage/recorded with other artists including Iskwe, Pistol George Warren, Barry Miles, Carden Cove, and the Nickel City Specials.