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Press release – Aug. 25, 2025

Tim Brady and Instruments of Happiness 2025 – 2026 season: **guitars, guitars and more guitars!**

For the 2025 – 2026 season, the composer Tim Brady and Montreal electric guitar group Instruments of Happiness launch a new double CD, perform a world premiere at a major international festival, present a 2-day mini-festival of new guitar music, and begin production on the next opera in the “Hope” tetralogy.

On Sept. 14th Instruments of Happiness – les 100 guitares – makes its international debut at the *Brisbane Festival in Australia*. The project is a collaboration with the Brisbane group Topology, and will present a new 16-minute work by Brady for 100 electric guitars and 5-piece chamber ensemble. The event is at the prestigious Brisbane Power House cultural centre, and is free and open to the public. A full video of the performance will be available in early 2026 on YouTube.

In October artistic director Tim Brady launches a *new double CD* of solo electric guitar music entitled simply “For Electric Guitar”, on People Places Records. The CD (also available on all streaming platforms) includes 3 major new works: “For Electric Guitar” (2024), “Really, Really Solo Electric Guitar Music” (2025) and “9.75 Pieces About Change” (2023).

In November Instruments of Happiness present “Laguitare@Canada” – a *2-day mini-festival* of new music for electric guitar with soloists and composers from across Canada, including Andrew Noseworthy (ON), Sam Wilson (NS), Tim Brady (QC) and the Instruments of Happiness quartet with guest soloists Marc Djokic (violin), Charlotte Layec (bass clarinet) and Émile Fortin (trumpet).

Featured composers include Amy Brandon (NS), Jérôme Blais (NS), Jessica Ackerly (NS), Yaz Lancaster, (ON) Jason Young (MB) and Sophie Dupuis (NB). The event is at the Wilder Building Espace Bleu on November 12 (solos) and 13 (Brady and IoH quartet), at 7:30 PM, in a co-production with Le Vivier.

The winter and spring of 2026 will be largely devoted to pre-production planning and workshops for the chamber opera “MARS: Signs of Life”. This bold new work, with music by Brady and libretto by Montreal playwright Alexis Diamond, follows the experiences of 3 scientists as they try to set up the first colony on Mars, in 2040. Scored for an intimate ensemble of 3 sopranos, viola, electric guitar, and solo dancer, in dialogue

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with surround electronic music, the work will use high resolution videos from NASA and the ESA to create an immersive, visually stunning sense of time and space.

This chamber opera is the 3rd opera in the tetralogy “**Hope (and the Dark Matter of History)**” and follows on the success of “Backstage at Carnegie Hall” (2022) and “Information” (2024). “Mars: Sign of Life” is scheduled to be presented in the Autumn of 2026 in Montréal.

INFO: bw@timbrady.ca

LINKS:

www.timbrady.ca

<https://www.brisbanefestival.com.au/events/100-guitars>

<https://peopleplacesrecords.bandcamp.com/>

<https://levivier.ca/fr>