

CKS

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Music ensemble performs in a cave

Montreal's new music ensemble *The Contemporary Keyboard Society* (CKS) will present an unusual event entitled **cave_music** in the Bonnechere Caves, Ottawa Valley on September 26th at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. as part of the Renfrew County Rural Ramble Weekend.

Described by the musicians as an "underground multimedia performance installation," the performance will feature new music by Toronto composer Erik Ross, and is sponsored by the Canadian Music Centre's ambitious *New Music in New Places* initiative, designed to bring Canadian contemporary music out of the concert halls and into the community. The cave site by the historic Bonnechere river is home to thousands of fossils embedded in the walls of the passages, dating back as far as 500 million years ago.

Performers Katelyn Clark and Xenia Pestova will play multiple toy pianos and portable percussion instruments, placed strategically throughout the cave's winding passages. Canadian Music Centre Associate Composer Erik Ross will provide an electroacoustic soundscape, which will be played back by loudspeakers, creating an intricate sonic tapestry. According to the composer, the audio material will be based upon Canadian environmental themes and use sounds directly inspired by the cave setting, such as running water, as well as spoken text.

"The audience will be encouraged to move through the sonically enhanced caves, guided by the performers," says musician Xenia Pestova. According to Bonnechere Caves owner Chris Hinsperger, the project will be "fun and a wonderful learning experience for everyone."

September 26th, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., free admission (donations welcome: \$5)
Bonnechere Caves, 1247 Fourth Chute Road, Douglas, Ontario
1-800-469-2283 / 1-613-628-CAVE (2283)

Guided cave tours 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

<http://www.contemporarykeyboardsociety.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.bonnecherecaves.com>

<http://www.erikross.com>

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