



## Jordan PAL

### 'On the Double' concert overture

With performances of his works by the Montreal Symphony, Toronto Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Quebec Symphony, Gryphon Trio, St. Lawrence String Quartet and many more, **Jordan Pal** is one of the most frequently performed composers of his generation in Canada and is regarded as one of this country's most exciting composers. His work, praised as "scintillating, exhilarating, genuinely attractive, well-crafted and brilliantly executed" (WholeNote), "masterfully developed, infectious, clever" (Ludwig-Van), and "beautifully crafted" (American Record Guide), has been lauded by audiences, critics and leading industry professionals. CBC described his music as "some of the most beautiful (they) have heard in recent years...shimmering and warm, quivering with life and intelligence." Pal is the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's RBC Affiliate Composer. His work *The Afar* was nominated for a Juno for Classical Composition of the Year (2016). Described as "One of Canada's most interesting young composers" (Ludwig-Van Toronto), "the country's current it-boy composer" (Musical Toronto), and "one to watch" (LaPresse), Pal (b. Toronto, Canada) is a leading voice of his generation in the Canadian concert music scene. An award winning composer, he has had the privilege of being commissioned and performed by many of Canada's finest orchestras and ensembles, including the Gryphon Trio, St. Lawrence String Quartet, Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra, Orchestre Symphonique de Quebec, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Regina Symphony, National Academy Orchestra, National Youth Orchestra of Canada, Symphony Nova Scotia, Thunder Bay Symphony, Windsor Symphony, Victoria Symphony, Brantford Symphony, Scarborough Philharmonic, the Mississauga Symphony, and more. Pal was the National Youth Orchestra of Canada's 2014-2015 RBC Composer-in-Residence. In May 2017, the TSO took Pal's work *Iris* on tour to Israel.

Pal's virtuosic work for orchestra, *BURN* has seen various performances since its inception, and is scheduled for multiple performances with conductor Pietari Inkinen and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. His piece, *Inclinations for Wind Quintet*, received considerable attention from various ensembles, including the NACO Wind Quintet, and was sent to the United Nations in Paris, France as a Canadian gift of peace representing Canada on the cultural front. *Inclinations* was featured as part of Soundstream's Salon series, July 2014.

Pal has participated in the masterclasses of Steve Reich, James MacMillan, Poul Ruders, Steven Stucky, Osvaldo Golijov, Krzysztof Penderecki and George Tsontakis, where his music was favorably recognized, particularly by Mr. Golijov and Mr. MacMillan. Pal began his education in composition after receiving a scholarship to study at the Faculty of Music at McGill University in Montreal, where he received an Honours degree in composition in 2005. On full scholarship at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music, he completed his Master's degree in composition (2007) under Christos Hatzis, and his Doctorate degree (2011) under the mentorship of Toronto Symphony Orchestra Composer-Advisor, Gary Kulesha. He is an associate composer at the Canadian Music Centre. Jordan Pal has emerged as one of Canada's most exciting new composers. His work, praised as "evocative," "full of colour and emotion," "beautifully crafted" (American Record Guide), and displaying a "clear sense of craft and expression" and "skilled orchestration," has been lauded by audiences, critics and leading industry professionals. Pal gratefully acknowledges the support of those who believe in the importance of sustaining this great tradition.

His concert overture, *On the Double*, has received a great deal of attention from leading members of the music community, and has been performed on numerous occasions by various professional orchestras since its inception in 2009. It was performed on multiple occasions with conductor Long Yu and the Montreal Symphony, Quebec Symphony, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and more. *On the Double* is a fast and furious, adrenaline-pumping roller coaster of an overture. Running sixteenths and dashing eighth-note triplets fervidly ebb and flow through razor-edged turns of harmony and mercurial shifts in orchestral color. With moments of devastating climaxes and contrasting moments of subtle beauty, the work moves speedily and unexpectedly between various moods and characters. Cast in a single, dramatic movement, *On the Double* was composed over a short and creatively intense period. Spiraling out from its brief and frenzied introduction, the first section surges forward. The lighter middle section, fluent and infatuated, gradually builds into a varied return of the first section. Here, the piece fervently thrusts towards the end of the work, a return of the frenetic introduction. *On the Double: Concert Overture for Orchestra* was written for the National Arts Centre Orchestra in 2009.