

**“... patron's attention must have been focused on Vivaldi's music rather than on me and, in the end, that was a beautiful compliment.”**

She began her life in Nanaimo, British Columbia and now splits her time between Toronto and Boston. Recently she has burned up the stage on the West Coast at La Jolla SummerFest, on the East Coast at the Handel and Haydn Society, and in Europe at Holland Baroque, and in Canada with Tafelmusik and I FURIOSI. Her fiery red hair and amazing violin skills transfix audiences pieces across the globe. One of the most edgy and innovative interpreters of music Aisslinn will make her CMSCVA debut on September 16 and 17.



# AISSLINN NOSKY



**Q:** *Can you name the first pieces of music, performance or person that inspired you to take up an instrument, or to become a professional musician?*

**A.N.** The family lore is that one day when I was three years old I was watching Sesame Street on television. There was a violinist performing on the show and apparently I pointed to the screen and informed my mother that I was going to "do that" when I grew up. My mother asked me if I wanted to try playing the violin before I grew up to see if I enjoyed it. This seemed logical to me and off we went to get a tiny violin.

**Q:** *What is the most memorable chamber music experience you've ever had, and why?*

**A.N.** I recently had one of my most memorable experiences on stage at the Staunton Festival this past August. I was lucky enough to perform Haydn's Symphony 94 (the "Surprise") with a world-class group of musicians. One might not think of chamber music when one thinks of a symphony being performed but, in this instance, I felt that the music making was as intimate as a string quartet might be, even though there were around 30 people on stage! Every player was so committed to the music and completely absorbed in trying to communicate Haydn's vision to the audience that I will never forget that concert.

**Q:** *What can you do as a performer to truly reach an audience member through performance?*

**A.N** I have never been able to describe my personal belief system surrounding performing more clearly than Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach was able to in his Essay on the True Art of Playing Keyboard Instruments. "A musician cannot move others unless he too is moved. He must of necessity feel all of the affects that he hopes to arouse in his audience, for the revealing of his own humour will stimulate a like humour in the listener."



**Q: *What's the most striking thing an audience member has ever said to you after a performance you played?***

**A.N.** 'Were you performing tonight?' I've actually heard this more than once in my career but what was remarkable in this instance was that I had just performed all of Vivaldi's "four seasons" concertos as a soloist. The question definitely made me smile. Sometimes you may think you are the center of attention but really, you aren't. I told myself that the patron's attention must have been focused on Vivaldi's music rather than on me and, in the end, that was a beautiful compliment.

**Q: *What is the role of a "classical" musician today?***

**AN:** I believe I am a servant of the music and of the composers who are no longer physically present to advocate for their music. As such I feel that my responsibility is to do anything and everything within my power to attempt to understand and share the composer's artistic vision with my audience. At the risk of sounding arrogant, I would like to explain that I think it is most likely impossible for me to understand everything a composer was trying to impart but, to me, it's the exciting journey of *trying* to get as close as I can which keeps me continually motivated to strive to understand music more deeply.

**Q: *What music are you listening to right now?***

Michael Oesterle, Mozart, Ligeti, Stevie Wonder, Stanley Turrentine

**Q: *What's the biggest challenge you are dealing right now with as a classical musician (or a person whose profession is "musician")?***

**AN:** I get to perform music....my life feels pretty perfect!

