

Oliver Schroer – composer, fiddler, producer



Oliver Schroer is a unique fiddler composer who lives at the cutting edge.

His musical explorations have taken him far beyond his traditional Canadian roots into the realms of jazz, Scandinavian, Balkan, and Asian music. But he has gone much farther. He has melded those elements into a unique and recognizable style of his own: lyrical, fractal, a continuously twisting thread.

If it was possible to hear DNA, it might sound like the violin-fiddling of Oliver Schroer. Spare, complex, naïve, intense, his music is a beauty both strange and vast – a headlong romp through a world rich in humour, heart, and unexpected resonance. His fiddle sings to us about everywhere fiddles have ever been - from concert halls to campfires, festivals to Finland, Constantinople to kitchen parties. Once his music has been heard, it's impossible to mistake it for anyone else's.

For the past fifteen years, Oliver Schroer has been prominent on the Canadian acoustic music scene as a solo performer, bandleader, producer and supporting player par excellence. He has appeared at scores of music festivals across Canada with a wide variety of top acts. Schroer has performed across North America and Europe in venues ranging from intimate clubs to New York's Lincoln Center. He has been a featured guest on virtually every leading Canadian national radio show, and has been the subject of numerous special broadcasts.

Oliver Schroer's playing appears on over 100 albums of new traditional, acoustic, and popular music, including American songwriting legends Jimmy Webb and Barry Mann, Canadian singers Loreena McKennitt, James Keelaghan and Sylvia Tyson, and Newfoundland's Great Big Sea.

Schroer has composed over 1,000 pieces and has recorded nine CDs of his own compositions. Oliver has also produced eleven albums for the Solitudes label, two of which have gone Gold. Of the roughly thirty albums Oliver has produced, eight have been nominated for a Juno Award (Canadian equivalent of a Grammy).

Oliver Schroer is currently working on five new albums of his music, soundtrack work, and various teaching projects.