

Jesse Morrison and his “lovely viola tones” (Mark Morris, Edmonton Scene) enjoys a diverse career as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. Recently awarded a Canada Council for the Arts grant, Jesse commissioned a new solo viola work by Derek David and recorded his debut solo album called “*Transitions*”, with additional works by Brett Dean, György Kurtág and Telemann. As a recitalist, he has so far performed this program in Calgary through the Instrumental Society of Calgary at the Lougheed House and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Killian Hall. Jesse has participated as artist in residence at the Capital City Concerts, Chamberfest West, Chamber Music at New Park, Classical Music Institute, Concerts in the Barn, Continuum Concerts, Festival Mozaic, Flatirons Chamber Music Festival, Ottawa Chamberfest, NEXUS Chamber Music, Sound Atlas Festival and Sunset Chamberfest.

Currently in his seventh season as a member of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Jesse has also played with the Toronto Symphony and St. Paul Chamber Orchestras. A devoted chamber musician, his music collaborators include Donald Weilerstein, Kim Kashkashian, Joel Krosnick, Pekka Kuusisto, the Amici Ensemble, Boston Trio and members of the Arditti, Brentano, Chilingirian, Cleveland, Juilliard, and Takács Quartets. Jesse was also the founding violist of the Neruda Quartet in Boston and Arkadas Quartet in Toronto. He is an active music educator teaching privately and serving on faculty at the Amici String Program and Mount Royal University as both a Chamber Music Professor and Viola Professor. Jesse has also most recently given masterclasses for the Canadian Viola Society, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the University of Calgary.

As recipient of the Sylva Gelber Foundation Award, Jesse graduated from the New England Conservatory (NEC) with an M.M. under Kim Kashkashian, the Glenn Gould School with an A.D. under Steven Dann and the University of Toronto with a B.M. under Teng Li. During his time in Boston, he was a chamber music coach for the NEC Prep Program and served as the Teaching Assistant for the studio of Ms. Kashkashian. His Jordan Hall debut was a solo performance of the Ligeti Sonata, followed by being awarded First Prize for both NEC Concerto Competitions, performing the Bartók Viola Concerto and Britten's *Lachrymae*. Additionally, he was awarded the Borromeo String Quartet Guest Artist Award and the Honors Award with his quartet, all with performances in Jordan Hall. During his time in Toronto, his quartet there was awarded the Felix Galimir Award from the University of Toronto with recitals in both Walter Hall and The Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

Jesse is an alumnus of the Hindemith Foundation led by Tabea Zimmermann, Yellow Barn Music Festival, Kneisel Hall, the New York String Seminar, Domaine Forget, the Banff Centre and Scotia Festival of Music and has worked with many leading composers of this generation such as Brett Dean, Steve Mackey and Jörg Widmann. Jesse has been a representative for “Music for Food” since 2015, a musician-led initiative founded in Boston that has created more than 2 million meals across North America since 2009 and currently plays on a 1971 Otto Erdesz Viola and a modern bow by Kaspar Pankow.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY (1000-character limit)

Jesse Morrison, praised for his “lovely viola tones” (Mark Morris, *Edmonton Scene*), enjoys a versatile career as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. He recently commissioned a solo viola work by Derek David and recorded his debut album, “*Transitions*”. He has appeared at festivals including Chamberfest West, Festival Mozaic and NEXUS Chamber Music. Jesse was a founding member of the Neruda Quartet and Arkadas Quartet and also is the Canadian representative for Music for Food. His artistic collaborations include Kim Kashkashian, Ani Kavafian, Joel Krosnick, Pekka Kuusisto and Donald Weilerstein. An active educator, he both teaches privately and on faculty at the Amici String Program and Mount Royal University. He studied with Kashkashian, Steven Dann and Teng Li at NEC, the Glenn Gould School and University of Toronto respectively. Jesse's spent his summers performing at the Yellow Barn Music Festival and currently plays on an Otto Erdesz viola and a Kaspar Pankow bow.

Hyperlinks – Derek David, Brett Dean, Music for Food

Filler: school scholarships including The Sir Edmund Walker Dorothy Isabella Webb Trust Scholarship,

CHAT GPT VERSION 1

Jesse Morrison wears many musical hats—soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player. Recently, he snagged a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, allowing him to commission a fresh solo viola piece from composer Derek David. Jesse's debut solo album, "Transitions," is in the works, featuring works by Telemann, Brett Dean, and Kurtag.

Beyond his fifth season with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and stints with the Toronto Symphony and St. Paul Chamber Orchestras, Jesse has been busy as an artist in residence at various festivals, from the Capital City Concerts to the Sunset Chamber Music Festival. He's an alumnus of festivals like the Hindemith Foundation, Yellow Barn, and Banff Centre.

Diving into education, Jesse teaches at Mount Royal University and the Amici String Program, coaching chamber music and leading masterclasses. He earned degrees from the New England Conservatory, the Glenn Gould School, and the University of Toronto, winning concerto competitions, awards, and honors along the way.

Jesse, ever enthusiastic about expanding the viola repertoire, has collaborated with renowned composers like Brett Dean, Steve Mackey, and Jörg Widmann. He's a proud representative of "Music for Food," a musician-led initiative that has provided over 2 million meals across North America.

When not immersed in the world of music, Jesse can be found sipping tea, daydreaming about his next culinary creation, or exploring new destinations.

CHAT GPT VERSION 2

Jesse Morrison wears many musical hats, finding joy as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player. Recently honored with a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, Jesse commissioned a new solo viola piece by composer Derek David and is gearing up to release his debut solo album, "Transitions," featuring works by Telemann, Brett Dean, and Kurtag.

Jesse has been a guest artist and artist in residence at various noteworthy events and festivals, including Capital City Concerts, Chamberfest West, and the Banff Centre. He's also an alumnus of prestigious programs like the Hindemith Foundation and Yellow Barn.

Currently in his fifth season with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Jesse's musical journey includes playing with the Toronto Symphony and St. Paul Chamber Orchestras. His passion for chamber music led him to be the violist of the Neruda Quartet in Boston and Arkadas Quartet in Toronto.

Collaborating with renowned musicians such as Donald Weilerstein and Kim Kashkashian, Jesse is deeply involved in the music community.

As an active music educator, Jesse serves on the faculty at Mount Royal University and the Amici String Program, coaching chamber music and providing masterclasses. He holds degrees from the New England Conservatory, the Glenn Gould School, and the University of Toronto, with numerous awards and accolades, including first prizes in concerto competitions and the Felix Galimir Award.

Jesse's collaborations extend to working with leading composers like Brett Dean and Steve Mackey. His commitment to expanding the repertoire led to the commissioning of a new solo viola work, showcasing his love for bringing fresh music to life.

Beyond his musical pursuits, Jesse is a representative for "Music for Food," a musician-led initiative that has provided over 2 million meals across North America. When not immersed in the world of music, he enjoys sipping tea, dreaming up culinary delights, and exploring new places whenever he can.

CHAT GPT VERSION 3

Introducing Jesse Morrison, a versatile musician with a passion for solo, chamber, and orchestral performances. Recently honored with a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, Jesse has embarked on exciting projects, including commissioning a new solo viola piece by composer Derek David and recording his much-anticipated debut solo album, "Transitions," featuring works by Telemann, Brett Dean, and Kurtag.

Jesse has immersed himself in various artistic residencies and festivals, showcasing his commitment to musical diversity. As a dedicated member of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and having collaborated with esteemed orchestras like the Toronto Symphony and St. Paul Chamber Orchestras, Jesse brings a wealth of experience and artistry to the stage.

His chamber music journey has seen him as the violist of the Neruda Quartet in Boston and Arkadas Quartet in Toronto, collaborating with luminaries like Donald Weilerstein, Kim Kashkashian, and members of renowned quartets such as Arditti, Brentano, and Takács.

A distinguished music educator, Jesse serves on the faculty at Mount Royal University and the Amici String Program, sharing his passion for chamber music through coaching and masterclasses. A graduate of the New England Conservatory, the Glenn Gould School, and the University of Toronto, Jesse has garnered recognition for his outstanding performances, winning first prizes in concerto competitions and prestigious awards.

Known for his adventurous spirit, Jesse has worked with leading contemporary composers, commissioning new works for the solo viola to expand the musical repertoire. His collaboration with young composers and participation in festivals like the Sunset Festival in LA exemplify his commitment to fostering new talent and innovative musical expression.

Beyond the stage, Jesse is a representative for "Music for Food," a musician-led initiative that has made a significant impact by providing over 2 million meals across North America since 2009.

Currently playing on a 1971 Otto Erdesz Viola and a modern bow by Kaspar Pankow, Jesse's interests extend to savoring tea, envisioning culinary creations, and exploring new destinations when time permits.

Get ready to experience the vibrant artistry of Jesse Morrison as he takes the Carnegie Hall stage, bringing his diverse musical talents to life in a performance that promises to be both captivating and memorable.