

Michael Bridge

Accordion & Digital Accordion

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Full Bio

Updated: May 2018

Lauded as “a wizard of the accordion,” Michael Bridge is internationally-renowned for his warm stage personality, stereotype-smashing versatility, and blazing virtuosity. Named one of CBC’s “30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30”, he made his solo orchestral debut with the Boston Pops at 17 and gives over 100 concerts per year in Europe and the Americas. Encompassing the diversity of his live performances, his debut album, “Overture”, launched in 2018 and was named CBC Album of the Week.

More than a classical musician, Michael simply describes his repertoire as ‘concert music’ – encompassing baroque, classical, and contemporary works, along with a vast array of his own concert arrangements of folk and jazz music. Armed with both acoustic and digital accordions, all sounds emanating from the stage (up to the sound of a full orchestra) are played 100% live. Prolific in working with composers, Michael has given over 40 world premieres.

Equally adept performing with orchestras, playing an energetic outdoor festival, or giving a TED Talk, Michael is a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta’s Emerging Artist Medal, and winner of the University of Toronto Concerto Competition, the Canadian Digital Accordion Championships and the Calgary Stampede Talent Search.

On tour, Michael performs solo or with orchestra, and with his two ensembles – Bridge+Wolak and Lodom Ensemble. He has toured in Poland, France, Italy, the U.K., Ecuador, the USA and in every Canadian province.

Michael is pursuing doctoral studies in accordion performance at the University of Toronto, studying with Joseph Macerollo. He gives frequent guest lectures at universities and festivals on topics including The Music Business for Student, Performance and Speaking Skills, and Composing for Accordion. He has adjudicated accordion competitions in Canada and the USA.

Michael’s first accordion was purchased at a garage sale for \$5 when he was five. Two decades later, he is active in many facets of the concert music scene, boldly redefining the perception of his traditional instrument. www.MichaelBridgeMusic.com