

## NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL

This is the second year that Prairie Voices has been able to perform in the inspiring Winnipeg New Music Festival. Full of innovative and daring new music, this festival allows many choirs and artistic groups to perform music that pushes the boundaries of normality in music. Prairie Voices had the opportunity to perform, and record live, two pieces of music at Westminster United Church on Sunday, February 27th. The first, entitled *With a Lily in Your Hand*, was an evocative piece that portrays deep passion. Written by Eric Whitacre, a favourite composer of the choir, this piece had moments of slow beauty as well as heart-racing moments where it seemed as if the choir could not sing any faster. *Luk Luk Lumbu* was the second piece Prairie Voices performed and our favourite of the two. Full of spice and rhythm, this piece had us all moving in time. Both were received well by the adjudicator, Jennifer Moir, who complimented Prairie for our passion and energy throughout both works.

## WINTER CONCERT

"With a Lily in your hand I leave you, o my night love!...I'll make my way until the universe can fit inside my heart." These words perfectly describe and set the tone for the Prairie Voices Winter Concert, entitled "*With a Lily in Your Hand*". It will be a concert focusing on love; love lost, love gained and a celebration of love. Pieces such as "*Life*" and "*I Carry Your Heart*" by Jeff Enns, "*Kihnu Island Wedding Songs*" by Veljo Tormis, and "*Lela*" arranged by Julio Dominguez are among the few moving works that will be featured at this concert. We invite you to come out and watch us as we regale you with tales of beauty, entice you to dance with us, make you cry with songs of lost love, and most of all leave you wanting to hear more from Prairie Voices!



## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD,

The beginning of a new year is always an exciting time at Prairie Voices. We've come back from our jam-packed fun-and-work filled music retreat in Gimli (and what a retreat it was! Stephen Hatfield sends his regards) and now our little heads are chock-full of music and we're rearing to go. We'll be perfecting our Gaelic soon (especially the lads) so get ready to sit back and imagine warm breezes and rolling green hills. We've always got new and electrifying music on the go, and this year is no exception. Hold on to your hats and/or acceptable hat replacements such as toques, head scarves and hoods, there's a barrel of great music rolling your way!

*Joel Guénette*, Choir Liaison