



**Caitlin Berger** is a flutist based in Tiohtià:ke/Montreal. She enjoys teaching teens and adults the art of flute playing, as well as exploring solo and chamber music through recording projects and live performances. Connecting with audiences and students about the joy and empathy that can be created in the music field is her passion.

Caitlin recently celebrated her 10th studio recital with her 15 flute students this past May, and had the honour of guiding her students through the OMNI Competition and auditions for the FHOSQ's *Symphonie de la virée*. She has also been publishing movements of Pierre Paubon's *Croquis d'hiver* on her YouTube channel, alongside her clarinet collaborator Erin Smith.

Teaching has always been of interest to Caitlin, due to her background in tutoring while in music school and the excitement she consistently feels when talking about the flute. She's had the honour of teaching at the Fortissimo Academy of Music and Arts, the Just and Accessible Music School (of which she was a co-founder), and the Vanier Music School. She currently offers flute lessons exclusively through her private studio in NDG, which she created in 2016. As her current student Mary puts it, "[Caitlin's] focus is your growth, but never at the cost of the joy of playing." Caitlin also loves teaching flute sectionals and regularly works with wonderful students at Villa-Maria High School, Collège Esther-Blondin, and The Study.

Caitlin graduated from McGill University and the University of Montreal under the tutelage of Denis Bluteau, after studying with Heather Howes to obtain a DEC in music from Vanier College. She was a member of the UofM Orchestra, McGill's Contemporary Music Ensemble and Wind Orchestra, and the Montreal Youth Symphony Orchestra. She attended the Orford Music Academy three summers in a row, studying with renowned flutists Julien Beaudiment and Alexa Still.

Some of Caitlin's solo performance highlights include reaching the semi-finals of the first ever *Concours de flûte de Paris* in 2019; performing the Chaminade *Concertino* with the West Island Youth Symphony Orchestra in 2013, while she was still a member; and creating a digital concert entitled "Alone Together: A COVID Concert" for the Nextus Festival in 2021. During the COVID lockdowns, Caitlin created a monthly livestream series entitled "Caitlin's Cozy Concerts", where she connected with her community through solo flute music and meaningful discussions. She went on to publish her first professional recording of Debussy's *Syrinx* on streaming platforms in 2022. Caitlin also adores playing with her friends and is currently working on performance projects with oboist Ted Cameron, clarinetist Erin Smith, and pianist Jana Stuart. Caitlin plays on a silver Powell Conservatory flute, which she has happily owned since 2017.

Apart from teaching and performing, Caitlin thoroughly enjoys reading and watching TV. So much so, in fact, that she co-created a podcast called *Watched It!* all about shows with one of her best friends, Jackie, who she met at McGill (a flutist as well). The art of storytelling, whether through music or television, is a huge passion of Caitlin's. She remains committed to the field of arts and culture forever.