

## DOMINIC DESAUTELS | CLARINET

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Principal clarinetist at the Canadian Opera Company and adjunct assistant professor of clarinet at the University of Toronto, Dominic Desautels is in high demand as a soloist and chamber musician.

He started tootling on the clarinet in his high school band at age 15, private lessons at 17, and at the age of 21 was hired as guest principal clarinetist at the Toronto Symphony Orchestra as well as making his debut as a soloist with the orchestra, in 11 concerts performing a movement of Mozart's clarinet concerto.

He studied mainly with Jean-François Normand, Robert Riseling and Joaquin Valdepeñas. After attending the Montreal Conservatory, Western University and the Glenn Gould School, he completed his studies with a Bachelor's degree from the Université de Montréal, where he won the yearly Concerto Competition. Upon graduation, Mr. Desautels won the principal clarinetist position in one of South America's top orchestras, Orquestra Filarmônica de Minas Gerais in Brazil (2008-2012). This was followed by a five years tenure in the same position with Symphony Nova Scotia in Halifax, Canada (2012-2017), until his appointment as clarinet first chair at the Canadian Opera Company orchestra took him to Toronto. He has been for several years the clarinet guest artist at Scotia Festival of Music, and every summer appears in music festivals across the continent.

Dominic Desautels has received numerous awards, he notably was the first clarinetist to ever win one of the top prizes at the 33rd International Stepping Stone of the Canadian Music Competition, Canada's most prestigious competition, open to all instrumentalists. He plays on Schwenk & Seggelke clarinets (Bamberg, Germany) made of a special exotic wood called Mopane. He is an Endorsing Artist for Légère Reeds and for Silverstein Works clarinet products.