

## Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk



Born in Winnipeg, Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk is completing a doctorate in classical and fiddle music traditions on the viola at the University of Montreal. A graduate of the Lausanne Conservatory, she has performed often at the International Musician's Seminar in Cornwall, UK, and recently during the Music and Beyond Festival in Ottawa. Upon learning about her Red River Métis roots, she and her brothers discovered the old native and Métis style of fiddling traditions with the guidance of Anne Lederman. Alyssa's mentorship with Ojibwe elder fiddler Lawrence "Teddy Boy" Houle lead her to collaborate with his brother, James Flett, in creating *Oméigwessi, Reel Métis: A Tribute to Walter Flett*, which won Best Fiddle and Best Instrumental Album at the 2008 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards. Along with her brothers, she performs in the Métis Fiddler Quartet and their release, *North West Voyage*, reflects the beauty and diversity of the Indigenous fiddle traditions of Canada, infused with a diverse musical palette from Beethoven to the Beatles and beyond. The album received Best Traditional Album award at the 2012 Canadian Folk Music Awards. Alyssa is passionate about sharing music as well as her Métis culture in schools and spends a great part of her time in classrooms. She volunteers frequently with ArtsCan Circle, an organization that brings artists to remote Canadian communities to work with Indigenous youth.