



Press release

Embargo February 5th, 1 p.m.

THE 2010 ORFORD FESTIVAL

presents

THE KENT NAGANO AND THE OSM WEEK

Saturday, July 31, to Sunday, August 8

*A major event as part of the Orford Festival
with 12 concerts, a master class and the screening of a film*

Kent Nagano and the OSM for two great concerts with Till Fellner and Christian Tetzlaff
The new Orford Academy Orchestra conducted by Kent Nagano and Jean-François Rivest
Recitals with soprano Adrienne Pieczonka and pianist Aldo Ciccolini
Soprano Suzie LeBlanc in an evening devoted to Monteverdi
Chamber music with teachers from the Academy
and with the Pacifica Quartet and Mari Kodama
Tafelmusik and violinist Aisslinn Nosky
Jörg Widmann, composer and musician, gets pride of place
Master class with Christian Tetzlaff

Montreal, Friday, February 5, 2010 – From July 31 to August 8, as part of the **2010 Orford Festival** taking place from June 18 to August 15, the public is invited to ***Kent Nagano and the OSM Week***, a true "festival within a festival." This collaboration between the Orford Arts Centre (OAC) and the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal was announced today in Montreal in the presence of Kent Nagano, music director of the OSM, Jean-François Rivest, artistic director of the OAC, Madeleine Careau, chief executive officer of the OSM, and Mathieu Bouchard, chairman of the board of the OAC.

"The Orford Arts Centre team is delighted by this new partnership with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal," stated Mathieu Bouchard, OAC chairman of the board. "It constitutes one of the cornerstones of our strategic plan aimed at enriching our high-level cultural offerings still more and at making the Orford Arts Centre an even more powerful economic engine in the Eastern Townships."

13 events including 2 concerts with Kent Nagano and the OSM

The Kent Nagano and the OSM Week will offer music lovers a rich variety of musical and artistic events. The week opens with pianist Till Fellner in a recital devoted to the last three sonatas of Beethoven in the Gilles-Lefebvre Concert Hall on Saturday, July 31, at 8 p.m.

And to conclude it, the public will get to enjoy this great performer once more, this time with the OSM and Kent Nagano at Saint-Patrice Church in Magog on Sunday, August 8, at 4 p.m. German violinist Christian Tetzlaff will join the OSM for the Orchestra's second concert.

The public is also invited to two other recitals, one by the great pianist Aldo Ciccolini in an all-Chopin program marking the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth, and the other by soprano Adrienne Pieczonka in lieder by Schubert, Strauss and Wagner; to two chamber-music concerts, with the Pacifica Quartet and Mari Kodama and then with teachers from the Orford Academy. The Toronto chamber orchestra Tafelmusik will be performing at the Gilles-Lefebvre Concert Hall, as will soprano Suzie LeBlanc and Nouvel Opéra conducted by Alexander Weimann in an evening dedicated to the music of Monteverdi. And a master class open to the public will be offered by violinist Christian Tetzlaff.

OSM music director Kent Nagano explains: "I wanted this week to be a meeting place where talented young musicians could mix with the finest performers and interact with them; a meeting place where the public would be invited to hear performances by great international artists. I thank the Orford Arts Centre for welcoming us, and I wish to underscore the invaluable collaboration of its artistic director, Jean-François Rivest."

The new Orford Academy Orchestra ~ OAO!

The Kent Nagano and the OSM week will also be the opportunity to showcase an important new feature at the Academy: the Orford Academy Orchestra ~ OAO! This ensemble will make it possible for students in training to experience all the aspects of the life of an orchestral musician. A number of OSM members, among them concertmasters Andrew Wan and Richard Roberts, will share their expertise with this new generation of performers. In a special première, Jean-François Rivest and Kent Nagano will be conducting the new Orford Academy Orchestra.

"Kent Nagano is a very great conductor," says Orford Arts Centre artistic director Jean-François Rivest. "His involvement, as well as that of the OSM organization and its musicians, the top-level programming and the close connection that Maestro Nagano will inevitably develop with the young players in the Orford Academy Orchestra ~ OAO! are eloquent testimony to the depth of his artistic vision and to its compatibility with the ideals that underlie the Orford Arts Centre."

OSM chief executive officer Madeleine Careau pointed out that "with this partnership, the OSM and the Orford Arts Centre join together their respective ways of achieving excellence, and further their individual missions. The 'Kent Nagano and the OSM week,' a true 'festival within a festival,' will be an opportunity for the public to hear great musicians from here and from the international scene."

Tickets on sale now

Tickets are on sale now at the Orford Arts Centre box office. A subscription means the chance to get the best seats, to save up to 20% on regular ticket prices and to benefit from a number of privileges, including passes to attend concerts presented by Orford Academy trainees. Subscribe and be eligible to win your subscription as a prize, or else a magnificent gift basket offered by Bleu Lavande.

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For all details and timetables, consult the Internet site www.arts-orford.org. The complete programming for the 2010 Orford Festival will be announced at a press conference at Orford on Tuesday, April 13.

The Orford Festival is presented by Hydro-Québec.

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Sources: Orford Arts Centre
Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

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