



ORCHESTRE
SYMPHONIQUE
DE MONTRÉAL

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RELEASE OF THE RECORDING
IN THE BREATH OF TIME:
BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONIES
No. 6 ("PASTORAL") AND No. 8 AND GROSSE FUGE

Montreal, September 13, 2011 – The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal today released *In the Breath of Time* on the Canadian market, an album that consists of Beethoven's **Symphonies Nos. 6 ("Pastoral") and 8** as well as the *Grosse Fuge* (arrangement by Felix Weingartner). This recording appears on the OSM label in Canada and on Sony internationally, having been released in the United Kingdom and in Europe last August. This is the sixth recording by the Orchestra under the direction of its music director, **Kent Nagano**. The OSM called on the services of internationally renowned ecologist and writer **David Suzuki** as the author and reader of the *Declaration of Interdependence* on this album, which offers a reflection through music on the unstable connection between society and its environment.

According to his contemporaries, Beethoven loved nothing more than to immerse himself in the beauties of nature, and was never shy to rebel against the encroachments of urbanization. Two centuries later, the flagrant degradation of our planet forces us more than ever to open our eyes and take concrete action. Kent Nagano designed this program as a counterpoint to the words of David Suzuki, who on the album reads the *Declaration of Interdependence* written in 1992 as part of the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit. The acceleration of the pulse of the *Eighth Symphony* and the density of the contrapuntal language in the *Grosse Fuge* replicate the sense of urgency that should move us to act. The repetition of the motifs in the "Pastoral," meanwhile, become the mirror of the repetition of the elements in nature.

In the Breath of Time continues the complete recording of Beethoven's symphonies by Kent Nagano and the OSM. Released in 2008, *Beethoven: Ideals of the French Revolution* included the Symphony No. 5, while the Symphony No. 3, "Eroica," is found on the album *Gods, Heroes and Men*, released this past March. A recording was also made of the Symphony No. 9, performed a few days ago during the opening concerts of the OSM's new home, and which will be released this fall.

The OSM has done over 100 recordings for Decca, EMI, Philips, CBC Records, Analekta, ECM and Sony as well as on its own label, which have earned 48 national and international awards.

Information: (514) 842-9951 or www.osm.ca

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