



ORCHESTRE
SYMPHONIQUE
DE MONTRÉAL

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72nd Edition of the OSM Standard Life Competition November 23 to 26, 2011

23 semifinalists between 18 and 30 from all across Canada

Master classes with singer Grace Bumbry, flutist Sir James Galway and trombonist Jonas Bylund

Montreal, November 7, 2011 – The OSM Standard Life Competition today announced the names of the **23 semifinalists** who will be taking part in its 72nd edition, which is devoted to voice, brass and woodwinds (the names of the semifinalists are appended). The Competition will be taking place from November 23 to 26 at the **Tanna Schulich Hall of McGill University's Schulich School of Music**. The public is invited to attend the **semifinals**, **finals** and **master classes** free of charge. The complete schedule is available at osm.ca.

23 SEMIFINALISTS between 18 and 30

This year, the OSM Standard Life Competition received 94 applications from almost every region in Canada: 45 for voice, 34 for woodwinds and 15 for brass. Candidates hail from nine of the ten Canadian provinces. Twenty-three (23) semifinalists between the age of 18 and 30 were selected: 8 semifinalists between 23 and 30 in the Voice category, 7 semifinalists between 21 and 25 in the Brass category and 8 semifinalists between 18 and 25 in the Woodwind category.

A PRESTIGIOUS JURY

Each edition of the OSM Standard Life Competition brings together musicians from the OSM, veteran teachers and instrumentalists, conductors and music directors recognized on the national and international scene, to evaluate the artists from the standpoint of talent and excellence.

JURY CHAIRMAN:

- **Mr. Jonathan Mills** (Australia), director of the Edinburgh International Festival.

JUDGES FOR THE SEMIFINALS:

Please note that the judges for the semifinals also take part in the OSM Standard Life Competition finals.

PRESS RELEASE

Woodwind category:

- **Mr. Stanley Drucker** (U.S.), former principal clarinet with the New York Philharmonic;
- **Mr. Werner Herbers** (Netherlands), former principal oboe with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra;
- **Mr. Jeffrey Khaner** (Canada), principal flute with the Philadelphia Orchestra and teacher at the Juilliard School and the Curtis Institute.

Brass category:

- **Mr. Jonas Bylund** (Sweden), former principal trombone with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra and teacher at the Academy of Music in Hanover;
- **Mr. James Thompson** (U.S.), former principal trumpet with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and teacher at the Eastman School of Music;
- **Mr. John Zirbel** (Canada), principal horn with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and teacher at McGill University's Schulich School of Music.

Voice category:

- **Mr. Michel Beaulac** (Canada), artistic director of the Opéra de Montréal;
- **Ms. Grace Bumbry** (U.S.), soprano and teacher at the Mozarteum Salzburg Summer Academy and at the Grace Bumbry Vocal and Opera Academy in Berlin;
- **Ms. Evamaria Wieser** (Austria), director of artistic administration at the Salzburg Festival and artistic consultant for Chicago's Lyric Opera.

JUDGES FOR THE FINALS, THREE CATEGORIES:

- **Mr. Lawrence Foster** (U.S.), conductor and music director of the Opéra et Orchestre National de Montpellier.
- **Mr. Matías Tarnopolsky** (U.S.), director of Cal Performances at the University of California in Berkeley.

MASTER CLASSES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Once again this year, the OSM Standard Life Competition is also providing the young competitors with a chance to benefit from the experience and advice of renown musicians. For this 72nd edition, opera singer **Grace Bumbry** will offer a master class on **November 23 at 7 p.m.** Visiting Montreal for a concert with the OSM on November 22 and 23 at 8 p.m., flutist **Sir James Galway** will also offer a master class, on **November 24 at 7 p.m.**, as part of the *2011 James Galway International Masterclass Series*. As for trombonist **Jonas Bylund**, he will give a master class on **November 25 at 5:30 p.m.** The public is invited to attend all these events free or charge.

MENTORING

This year again, eleven Orchestra musicians **Pierre Beaudry**, bass trombone principal, **Denis Bluteau**, associate flute, **André Moisan**, bass clarinet and saxophone, **Stéphane Lévesque**, principal bassoon, **Ali Yazdanfar**, principal basse, **Dennis Miller**, principal tuba, **Tim Hutchins**, principal flute, **Andrew Wan**, concertmaster, **Paul Merkelo**, principal trumpet, **Andrew Dunsmore**, percussion, **Sylvie Lambert**, cello, and pianist **Esther Gonthier** a long-term collaborator have generously accepted to serve as mentors

to the young contestants competing in the semifinals and finals. This allows young candidates to benefit from the support and advice of professional musicians.

OVER \$100,000 IN PRIZES

The winner of the **OSM Standard Life Grand Prize** will receive a **\$10,000** scholarship offered by Standard Life and have the opportunity to perform with the OSM under the direction of Norwegian conductor **Arild Remmereit** (replacing Ludovic Morlot) on **December 6, 2011, at the Maison symphonique de Montréal** in a concert being broadcast over **Espace musique**. The Grand Prize also includes a **professional audio recording in one of Radio-Canada's studios** as well as performance engagements on Canadian stages. The other prize-winners will be offered awards ranging in value from \$2,000 to \$10,000 and scholarships enabling them to study in greater depth at the country's finest summer academies. Further details about the prizes are available at osm.ca.

BACKGROUND

The OSM Standard Life Competition came into being in 1940, on the initiative of Wilfrid Pelletier, the first music director of the Société des Concerts symphoniques de Montréal, which in 1954 would become the OSM. Over the years, close to 300 prize-winners have made a name for themselves at this performance competition, which has served as a launch pad in the careers of artists such as André Laplante, Angela Chang, Louis Lortie, Angèle Dubeau, Lyne Fortin, Jean-François Rivest, James Ehnes, Alexandre da Costa, Andrew Wan and Jan Lisiecki, to date the youngest recipient of the Competition's Grand Prize.

All young Canadian performers and permanent residents of Canada may take part in the Competition, which is intended for orchestral instruments, piano and voice (the 2011 edition is devoted to voice, brass and woodwinds). It is one of the few competitions to offer recipients four categories of awards: cash prizes and grants totaling more than \$60,000; training scholarships making it possible for the artists to deepen their learning; the chance to be offered professional engagements; and finally the great privilege of performing before an audience with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and being broadcast over Espace musique, Radio-Canada's music radio network. Organized by the OSM in collaboration with its Volunteer Committee, the **OSM Standard Life Competition is placed under the presidency of Mr. Jean Élie** for a sixth year.

STANDARD LIFE – A PARTNER SINCE 1992

Standard Life is a leading provider of long-term savings, investment and insurance solutions which has been doing business in Canada for 178 years. They are committed to helping develop the full potential of young Canadians, namely by sponsoring the OSM Standard Life Competition for a 19th consecutive year. "We are very proud to help give young musicians an opportunity to unveil their amazing talent. Their commitment and perseverance are inspiring to many. This is why we applaud each competitor," said Joseph Iannicelli, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec

The OSM Standard Life Competition is presented by Standard Life

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Source: Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

Information: Céline Choiselat
Head of Media Relations
(514) 840-7414
cchoiselat@osm.ca

APPENDIX

2011 OSM Standard Life Competition List of semifinalists and schedule of activities

November 23 to 26 at the Tanna Schulich Hall of
McGill University Schulich School of Music
(527 Sherbrooke St. West, Montréal)

SEMIFINALS:

Wednesday, November 23, 2011

Voice

10:00 a.m. - Gordon Bintner, bass-baritone
10:30 a.m. - Jana Miller, soprano
11:05 a.m. - *Break*
11:20 a.m. - Lucia Cesaroni, soprano
Noon - Geoffrey Sirett, baritone
12:30 p.m. - *Break*
1:30 p.m. - Ileana Montalbetti, soprano
2:10 p.m. - Danielle Buonaiuto, soprano
2:45 p.m. - *Break*
3:00 p.m. - Florie Gauthier-Valiquette, soprano
3:30 p.m. - Stéphanie Lessard, soprano
4:45 p.m. - *Announcement of results*

Thursday, November 24, 2011

Brass

10:00 a.m. - Felix del Tredici, bass-trombone
10:30 a.m. - Ryan Cole, trumpet
11:05 a.m. - *Break*
11:20 a.m. - Charles Benaroya, tenor-trombone
11:55 a.m. - Nick Mahon, trombone
12:30 p.m. - *Break*
1:30 p.m. - Scott Reynolds, trumpet
2:05 p.m. - Matthew Russell, trombone
2:35 p.m. - Vanessa Fralick, trombone
4:00 p.m. - *Announcement of results*

Friday, November 25, 2011

Woodwinds

9:30 a.m. - Lara Deutsch, flute
10:15 a.m. - François Laurin-Burgess, clarinet
10:50 a.m. - *Break*
11:05 a.m. - Denise Sun, bassoon
11:35 a.m. - Ariane Brisson, flute
12:15 p.m. - *Break*
1:15 p.m. - Catherine Chabot, flute
1:55 p.m. - Eric Abramovitz, clarinet
2:30 p.m. - *Break*
2:45 p.m. - Vincent Boilard, oboe
3:20 p.m. - Vivianne Bélanger, flute
4:30 p.m. - *Announcement of results*

FINALS

Saturday, November 26

Starting at 10:00 a.m.: Brass
Starting at 1:00 p.m.: Woodwinds
Starting at 3:30 p.m.: Voice

AWARDS CEREMONY

Saturday, November 26, at 8:30 p.m.

MASTER CLASSES

Wednesday, November 23, at 7:00 p.m.

Grace Bumbry, voice

Thursday, November 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Sir James Galway, flute

Friday, November 25, at 5:00 p.m.

Jonas Bylund, trombone

ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL CONCERT

Tuesday, December 6, at 8 p.m., Maison symphonique de Montréal

Arild Remmereit (replacing Ludovic Morlot), conductor

Winner of the 2011 OSM Standard Life Competition

OSM Women's Chorus

Chorus director: Andrew Megill

Morel: *Il faut inventer la terre*

Work for soloist and orchestra performed by the winner

Holst: *The Planets*

Matthews: *Pluto, the Renewer*

