



ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

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## **End of season at the OSM**

**Season closing concert: renowned soprano Karita Mattila sings Strauss for her first performance in Montreal**

***A Children's Corner* that will dazzle: *Scheherazade***

**The Beethoven Festival begins May 4: two concerts are already sold out**

**Exclusive interview with Yann Martel**

**Montreal, April 17, 2010** – On May 25 and 27, Kent Nagano and the OSM conclude their season by welcoming for the first time renowned Finnish soprano Karita Mattila, an artist acclaimed around the world. The Beethoven Festival, taking place from May 4 to 13, is rapidly approaching. A few seats are still available for these concerts (two of them are already sellouts), during which Kent Nagano and the OSM will immerse themselves in the work of Ludwig van Beethoven to reproduce all of its universal profundity and greatness. In addition to the nine symphonies, this will be an opportunity to hear the rarely played Triple Concerto, as well as music from the ballet *The Creatures of Prometheus*. On May 16 the entire family will enjoy a one-of-a-kind show in which masks, marionettes, magic and movement retell the thousand-year-old story of Scheherazade.

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Tuesday, May 25, at 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 27, at 8 p.m.

*Grand Concerts* series

### **Karita Mattila sings Strauss**

**Kent Nagano**, conductor

**Karita Mattila**, soprano

**Richard Strauss**, *Four Last Songs*

**Gustav Mahler**, Symphony No. 9

A lover of the soprano voice, Richard Strauss perhaps never did it better service than in his sublime *Four Last Songs*, meditations on the twilight of life. Hailed around the world for the beauty of her singing and the dramatic power of her performances, renowned Finnish soprano **Karita Mattila** will be appearing **for the first time in Montreal** when

she lends her voice to the silver purity of these pages. **Kent Nagano** will also be conducting Gustav Mahler's Ninth Symphony, an ode by the great Austrian composer to the Earth and to nature. The man who today is the OSM's music director made his debut with the Orchestra in March 1999, conducting this same symphony of Mahler's. That performance, which marked the beginnings of a special relationship between Kent Nagano and the OSM, was applauded by the critics:

"It is hard to remember a better Mahler performance in Montreal."  
– Arthur Kaptainis, *The Gazette*, March 24, 1999.

The concert will be preceded by a discussion hosted by CBC Radio reporter and producer **Kelly Rice**, who will welcome **Edgar Fruitier**.

The evening of May 25 is presented by **Giorgio Armani**.

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### **THE BEETHOVEN FESTIVAL**

Two concerts are already sold out.

A large-scale event: from May 4 to 13, Kent Nagano and the OSM present the complete symphonies of Beethoven. The Triple Concerto for violin, cello and piano is also on the program, and features two members of the world-renowned **Beaux Arts Trio** (officially retired since 2008) as well as Canadian violinist James Ehnes. The OSM, under the direction of Kent Nagano, additionally performs music from the ballet *The Creatures of Prometheus* to an original text by Yann Martel narrated by actor Michel Dumont.

#### **Exclusive interview with Yann Martel**

Yann Martel recently gave an interview to Kelly Rice, producer and reporter on CBC Radio. In it the writer discusses the text he created to accompany Beethoven's *Creatures of Prometheus* music, touching on the origins of the project, his collaboration with Kent Nagano and the myth of Prometheus, among other topics. The interview can be heard on [www.osm.ca](http://www.osm.ca).

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Tuesday, May 4, at 8 p.m.  
*Grand Concerts* series

#### ***Beethoven cubed!***

**Kent Nagano**, conductor

**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 2  
Symphony No. 5  
Symphony No. 8

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Wednesday, May 5, at 8 p.m.  
*Grand Concerts* series

#### ***Beethoven times three!***

**Kent Nagano**, conductor  
**James Ehnes**, violin  
**António Meneses**, cello  
**Menahem Pressler**, piano

**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Concerto for violin, cello and piano  
**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 4

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Sunday, May 9, at 2:30 p.m.  
*Musical Sundays* series

***Beethoven and nature – SOLD OUT***

**Kent Nagano**, conductor

**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 6, “Pastoral”  
**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 7

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Tuesday, May 11, at 8 p.m.  
*Panasonic Signature Performances* series

***Kent Nagano, Yann Martel...Beethoven!***

**Kent Nagano**, conductor  
**Michel Dumont**, narrator

**Ludwig van Beethoven**, *The Creatures of Prometheus* (original text by Yann Martel, OSM commission)  
**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 3, “Eroica”

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Wednesday, May 12, at 8 p.m.  
Thursday, May 13, at 8 p.m. (additional performance)  
*Panasonic Signature Performances* series

**The Ninth closes the Beethoven Festival – MAY 12 SOLD OUT**

**Kent Nagano**, conductor  
**Jennifer Wilson**, soprano  
**Susan Platts**, mezzo-soprano  
**Michael König**, tenor  
**Michael Volle**, baritone  
**OSM Chorus**  
**Michael Zaugg**, guest chorus director

**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 1  
**Ludwig van Beethoven**, Symphony No. 9

All concerts in the Beethoven Festival will follow a discussion hosted by CBC Radio producer and reporter **Kelly Rice**, who welcomes musicologist **Guy Marchand**.

The Beethoven Festival is presented by **Power Corporation**.

OSM thanks the Ministère des Affaires municipales, Régions et Occupation du territoire for the financial support granted to the Beethoven Festival

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Sunday, May 16, at 1:30 p.m. (French)  
Sunday, May 16, at 3:30 p.m. (bilingual)  
*Children's Corner* series

### ***Scheherazade***

**Nathan Brock**, conductor  
**Enchantment Theatre Company**

**Igor Stravinsky**, *Circus Polka*  
**Mikhail Glinka**, excerpts from *Ruslan and Ludmila*  
**Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov**, *Scheherazade*

Night after night the beautiful Scheherazade captivates her king by relating marvelous tales of adventure and enchantment. Music and storytelling both have that special ability to illuminate day-to-day life, to transform it before our very eyes. They join forces here in a unique show in which masks, marionettes, magic and movement retell a thousand-year-old story that has lost none of its power to move us. A production of the **Enchantment Theatre Company**, recognized for 30 years for its novel shows both in North America and in the Far East.

The *Children's Corner* series is presented by **Imperial Oil Foundation**.

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Thursday, May 20, at 6:30 p.m.  
*Rush Hour Concerts at the OSM* series

### **Cancellation – Rush Hour with Michel Rivard**

Owing to a conflict in his schedule, Michel Rivard has had to withdraw from participating in the Rush Hour Concert that was to take place on Thursday, May 20, and that concert is therefore cancelled.

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**Information and reservations:** 514 842-9951 or [www.osm.ca](http://www.osm.ca)

### **THE CONCERTS:**

**May 4 at 8 p.m.** (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier) ***Beethoven cubed!*** Kent Nagano, conductor.  
Discussion at 7 p.m.

**May 5 at 8 p.m.** (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier) ***Beethoven times three!*** Kent Nagano, conductor; James Ehnes, violinist; António Meneses, cellist; Menahem Pressler, pianist. Discussion at 7 p.m.

**May 9 at 2:30 p.m.** (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier) ***Beethoven and nature.*** Kent Nagano, conductor. Discussion at 1:30 p.m.

**May 11 at 8 p.m.** (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier) ***Kent Nagano, Yann Martel...Beethoven!***  
**Kent Nagano, conductor; Michel Dumont, narrator. Discussion at 7 p.m.**  
Series presented by Fillion Electronique in collaboration with Panasonic

**May 12 and 13 at 8 p.m.** (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier) ***The Ninth closes the Beethoven Festival.*** **Kent Nagano, conductor; Jennifer Wilson, soprano; Susan Platts, mezzo-soprano; Michael König, tenor; Michael Volle, baritone; OSM Chorus; Michael Zaugg, guest chorus director. Discussion at 7 p.m.**  
Series presented by Fillion Electronique in collaboration with Panasonic  
Evening of May 12 presented by Spinelli

**May 16 at 1:30 p.m.** (French) **and 3:30 p.m.** (bilingual) (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier)  
***Scheherazade.* Nathan Brock, conductor; Enchantment Theatre Company.**  
Series presented by Imperial Oil Foundation

**May 25 and 27 at 8 p.m.** (Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier) ***Karita Mattila sings Strauss.*** **Kent Nagano, conductor; Karita Mattila, soprano. Discussion at 7 p.m.**  
Evening of May 15 presented by Giorgio Armani

**The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec  
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