



ORCHESTRE
SYMPHONIQUE
DE MONTRÉAL

Presented by



**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OPENING CONCERTS
AND THE SPECIAL CONCERTS OF THE
2011-2012 SEASON
IN THE OSM'S NEW HOME**

CONCERTS OF THE INAUGURAL PERIOD (September 7 to 14)

Kent Nagano conducts three works exemplifying different generations of compositional creation in Québec and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, authors provide an echo to the "Ode to Joy" through unpublished texts.

(Sept. 7, 9, 10)

Sept. 7 concert broadcast on the **Internet** and on **Radio-Canada television and radio**

A first concert in the **Children's Corner** series conducted by **Kent Nagano** (Sept. 11)

The **Borodin Quartet** in an intimate setting (Sept. 11)

Kent Nagano and **Messiaen's Turangalila** (Sept. 13, 14)

SPECIAL CONCERTS IN THE 2011-2012 SEASON:

Mariinsky Orchestra of Saint-Petersburg & Valery Gergiev (Oct. 22)

New York Philharmonic & Alan Gilbert (Nov. 4, 5)

Christmas according to Fred Pellerin (Dec. 16, 17) and **Handel's Messiah**

(Dec. 21, 22)

Music & Imagery (new multimedia concept – May 17)

Rufus Wainwright goes symphonic (Oct. 5)

Canadian premiere of **Répons** by **Pierre Boulez** (March 15)

Daphnis et Chloé with **Kent Nagano & Cirque Éloïze** to conclude the season (May 28)

NEW SERIES: CHAMBER MUSIC WITH OSM MUSICIANS

**LAUNCH OF THE NEW-SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN AND
PROGRESSIVE OFFER FOR SALE OF TICKETS**

Montreal, March 10, 2011 – After unveiling the regular series of the 2011-2012 season last October, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Kent Nagano announced today the complete programming for the upcoming season. Maestro Nagano presented the **inaugural period of the OSM's new home**, which will run from September 7 to 14 and which will consist of the opening concerts and other exceptional performances. The OSM music director also announced the **special concerts** that will be given during the season. The event took place in the presence of the **Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, Christine St-Pierre**. Today's announcement marked the launch of the **new-subscription** campaign and the offer for sale beginning in mid-April of **individual tickets for all concerts in the season**.

YOU
CAN
NEVER BE
TOO
CLASSICAL

PRESSE RELEASE

At the dawn of a new era in the OSM's history, which begins in September, **Kent Nagano extended this invitation** to the community: "Our city is receiving a new heart: a new music centre, a wonderful concert hall for unforgettable musical events. While we make music for our fellow citizens, this new venue now makes the OSM, more than ever, a world ambassador for a special sense of citizenship that is deeply human and culturally aware. Let it be a symbol and a sign of a deliberate musical culture in which national traditions and sources connect with a broad, open-minded universalism. We invite friends and music-lovers to accompany us in our explorations of artistic creativity and managing change, so that we may continue to enjoy together the countless expressions and variations that can be found in music."

The **chief executive officer of the OSM, Madeleine Careau**, pointed out that this long-awaited project was made possible thanks to the government of Québec: "It's now about thirty years that the OSM has been **entertaining** the dream of playing in a concert hall the level of the one we'll be inaugurating next September. But the OSM has not only dreamed of this hall, for years it has promoted its realization, which the cultural life of our entire community will benefit from. Today we have the pleasure and honor of wholeheartedly thanking the Québec government, which fully recognized the value of this project and took the necessary steps to ensure that it came to be."

The **Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, Christine St-Pierre**, stated: "As the minister responsible for the building site of the 'Adresse symphonique,' I am happy to open, in the company of Maestro Kent Nagano, a fresh chapter in the history of music in Quebec. The new season of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal will unfold in a setting that is a match for the prestige of this great ensemble, a unique artistic venue at the heart of our city that will lend its spaces to musical performances that will delight music lovers from everywhere in Québec."

The Orchestra will inaugurate a concert hall located at the heart of the **Quartier des spectacles** in Montreal and funded by the government of Québec in the framework of a public-private partnership with Groupe immobilier Ovation. The hall will bear the acoustic signature of the renowned firm **Artec Consultants Inc.**, while its architecture has been entrusted to **Diamond Schmitt + Ædifica**.

NEW SEASON, NEW HALL, NEW ERA

INAUGURAL PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 7 TO 14

The inaugural period envisioned by Maestro Kent Nagano to kick off this memorable season **comprises a number of exceptional concerts presented in the space of just a few days.** Québec musical creation, two great works from the orchestral repertoire, a remarkable concert for young concert-goers and one of the most celebrated chamber-music ensembles lie at the heart of this inaugural period, which flies the flag of celebration.

Opening concerts: Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* (Sept. 7, 9 and 10)

The opening concerts are intended as a great musical celebration conceived as a crescendo. The first sounds heard in the new hall will be those of Québec, with works exemplifying three generations of Québec compositional creation. The human voice will first fill the air with *Jesus, erbarme dich*, a choral work by **Claude Vivier**, an essential ambassador of Québec musical sound. One of the oldest of instruments, the flute, will be heard next when Timothy Hutchins (OSM principal flute) performs *Envol: Alléluia* for solo flute by **Gilles Tremblay**, a true pioneer in the repertoire of Québec. The Orchestra's own sound will then take wing in a premiere commissioned by the OSM from young contemporary composer **Julien Bilodeau**.

In addition, **short unpublished texts by authors that include Wajdi Mouawad, Marie-Claire Blais and Joséphine Bacon** will echo Schiller's "Ode to Joy."

Kent Nagano will then conduct **Beethoven's Ninth Symphony**, that monumental work that changed the course of the history of music. For the occasion the Orchestra will share the stage with a brilliant ensemble of soloists made up of soprano **Erin Wall** (Canada), mezzo-soprano **Mihoko Fujimura** (Japan), tenor **Simon O'Neill** (New Zealand) and bass **Mikhail Petrenko** (Russia), while Toronto's **Tafelmusik Chamber Choir** joins the **OSM Chorus**.

So that the broadest possible audience can attend this memorable event, the first of the **opening concerts**, on September 7, will be **broadcast on television, radio and the Internet by Radio-Canada**, the official broadcaster of the OSM.

The performance of **Beethoven's Ninth Symphony** by Kent Nagano and the OSM will be recorded for release on **disc (Sony/Analekta)**.

A family concert in the Children's Corner series conducted by Kent Nagano (Sept. 11, 2:30 p.m.)

To convey the importance of the new hall for future generations, Maestro Nagano will be on the podium for the first time at a concert in the **Children's Corner** series and will conduct **three masterworks of the orchestral repertoire for young listeners**. Actress **Anne Dorval** will lend her voice to the characters of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, students from the **École supérieure de ballet du Québec** will illustrate Debussy's *Toy Box*, and young virtuosos **Karin Nagano** and **Annie Zhou** will interpret Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*.

Intimate concert with the Borodin Quartet (Sept. 11)

The renowned **Borodin Quartet**, formed in the Soviet Union more than 60 years ago, will be playing quartets by **Beethoven** and **Shostakovich**, a repertoire that the ensemble has recorded in its entirety. The Quartet, who, notably, collaborated with Shostakovich for many years, will perform in the new hall in an **intimate setting**, with the audience invited to take their seats in the section normally reserved for the chorus in order to discover the hall from a different perspective (evening of Sept. 11).

Kent Nagano & Messiaen's Turangalila-Symphonie (Sept. 13, 14)

The inaugural period also includes the first concert in the regular series: **Kent Nagano & Messiaen's Turangalila-Symphonie** (Sept. 13 and 14). The maestro is conducting this twentieth-century ode to the universality of love, which will call on among other things the services of pianist **Angela Hewitt** (who is performing with the OSM at Carnegie Hall on May 14, 2011) and of ondes Martenot player **Jean Laurendeau**. Renowned violinist **Joshua Bell** will perform the Glazunov Violin Concerto at the same concert.

SPECIAL CONCERTS IN THE 2011-2012 SEASON

The OSM welcomes...

In the fall, the OSM will play host to two of the world's most prestigious orchestras, beginning with the **Mariinsky Orchestra of Saint-Petersburg** and its Artistic Director **Valery Gergiev**, who will be performing Tchaikovsky's Symphonies Nos. 1 and 6 (Oct. 22). The **New York Philharmonic** and Music Director **Alan Gilbert** will be presenting two different programs: the overture and Venusberg music from Wagner's *Tannhäuser* along with Mahler's Symphony No. 5 (Nov. 4), and then Mozart's Symphony No. 40 and Brahms's Symphony No. 3 (Nov. 5).

Holiday season in the new hall

The **holiday season** will be a ready-made opportunity for the OSM to collaborate with one of Québec's most original personalities whose imagination never ceases to amaze. **Christmas according to Fred Pellerin** will offer a first-time-ever encounter between the orchestral world and the universe of this storyteller (Dec. 16 and 17). Also, the OSM under conductor John Oliver (director of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus) will perform **Handel's Messiah** for the first time in the new hall, joined by soloists from the Atelier lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal (Dec. 21 and 22). *The Messiah* is one of the OSM's longest and most appreciated traditions, the Orchestra having performed the famous oratorio during the holiday period since the 1950s.

Music & Imagery (May 17)

This concept enables us to rediscover the orchestral repertoire thanks to pieces being set in historical context and to a staging that makes use of dramatic narration and visual projections. Conductor **Jean-François Rivest**, narrator **Catherine Perrin** and actor **Gilles Renaud** are featured in this event. On the concert program, **Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony** in a production conceived and successfully developed in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Beyond the Score series.

Rufus Wainwright goes symphonic (Oct. 5)

The OSM will be welcoming for the first time **Rufus Wainwright**, a pop singer-songwriter known the world over. The artist is one of the most influential of his generation, having reprised Judy Garland's legendary concert at Carnegie Hall and composed the opera *Prima Donna*. With the orchestra he will perform songs by Berlioz, Shakespeare sonnets he has set to music and songs from his own repertoire, including excerpts from the album *Want One*.

Pierre Boulez & Répons (March 15)

As part of the **Boulez cycle** presented throughout the 2011-2012 season, the OSM is presenting in a **Canadian premiere** one of the most significant of contemporary compositions: *Répons*, a gripping exploration of the connections between sound and space. **Peter Eötvös**, former music director of the Ensemble Intercontemporain founded by Boulez and a former student of his, will be on the podium for this concert.

Concert concluding the season: *Daphnis et Chloé* with Kent Nagano & Cirque Éloize (May 28)

Kent Nagano and the OSM will wind up the season by observing the **100th anniversary of *Daphnis et Chloé***, the famous Ravel ballet that was premiered in Paris on June 8, 1912, by the Ballets Russes. For the occasion, **Cirque Éloize** will lend a brand new visual dimension to this musical tableau. The Orchestra's concertmaster, Andrew Wan, will also perform Shostakovich's First Violin Concerto.

NEW SERIES: CHAMBER MUSIC WITH OSM MUSICIANS

The public is invited to enjoy the most intimate sort of artistic experience and discover the OSM's new home from a different perspective by taking seats in the chorus section for this new concert series. The *Music & Literature* component of the *Chamber music with OSM musicians* series will allow the audience to discover the ties that bind music and literature in the company of some of the Orchestra's musicians and well-known figures from Québec's theatre scene. These concerts offer a musical journey to Québec, France, Italy and Germany, besides exploring the writings of Milan Kundera and offering two major works from the modern repertoire: Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* (with soloists from the Bavarian State Orchestra conducted by Kent Nagano) and Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale*. **James Hyndman, Élise Guilbault, Guy Nadon, Pascale Montpetit and Marc Béland** will take part as readers or narrators at these concerts, which are presented in partnership with Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec.

Also as part of the *Chamber music with OSM musicians* series, the Orchestra continues its collaboration with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) to present once again *Musical Canvases*, created in 2006 by the OSM and the MMFA. With this series, audiences can visit the exhibits presented at the MMFA and attend chamber-music concerts given at the Museum's new Bourgie Hall.

REMINDER OF THE REGULAR SERIES IN THE 2011-2012 SEASON

The OSM's regular series now offer Grand Concerts from Tuesday to Sunday, including **Thursdays** and the **OSM Saturday Evenings**. The Orchestra will be presenting a rich and varied musical panorama next season, with Kent Nagano conducting such works as Schubert's Symphony No. 5, **Dvořák's "New World" Symphony**, **Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique***, **Bruckner's "Romantic" Symphony**, Richard Strauss's *Don Quixote*, **Bach's *Saint John Passion*** and **Mozart's *Requiem***.

The Orchestra's guests will include pianists **Leif Ove Andsnes, Marc-André Hamelin, Nelson Freire, Angela Hewitt, Till Fellner** and **Alain Lefèvre**, violinists **Gidon Kremer, Vadim Repin, Joshua Bell, James Ehnes** and **Hilary Hahn**, cellist **Gautier Capuçon**,

flutist **Sir James Galway**, soprano **Deborah Voigt**, baritone **Christian Gerhaher** and tenor **Marc Hervieux**.

The Orchestra will also be playing under the direction of prestigious guest conductors, including **Franz-Paul Decker**, **Michel Plasson**, **Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos**, **Sir Roger Norrington**, **James Conlon**, **Stéphane Denève**, **Jacques Lacombe**, **Lawrence Foster** and **Ludovic Morlot**.

Taking part in the OSM recital series are pianists **Lang Lang**, **Evgeny Kissin**, **Hélène Grimaud** and **Menahem Pressler** (with his guests, in a chamber setting).

The OSM Éclatés concerts continue

The first OSM Éclaté performance took place in October 2010, when Kent Nagano conducted an original concert at Molson Brewery, one that blended orchestral and electronic music. Following up on that immense success, which attracted a young audience, Maestro Nagano and the OSM will present a concert in that series once more next season. Details will be revealed at a later date.

OSM Standard Life Competition

The 72nd edition of the OSM Standard Life Competition, devoted to **woodwinds**, **brass** and **voice**, will be presented from **November 23 to 26, 2011**, in Tanna Schulich Hall at McGill University's Schulich School of Music. It will offer over \$100,000 in prizes and grants, in addition to allowing the winner of the grand prize to perform in concert with the OSM on **December 6, 2011**. The public is invited to attend the Competition semifinals and finals free of charge.

LAUNCH OF THE NEW-SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN AND PROGRESSIVE OFFER FOR SALE OF SINGLE TICKETS

OSM subscribers have had the possibility since October of renewing their subscriptions to next season's regular series. The **general public is invited as of today to take out new subscriptions for all series** and to benefit from priority in the purchase of additional tickets for all concerts. Beginning **April 11**, everyone will be able to purchase **individual tickets for any concert in the season**.

Youngsters will find a special place in the OSM's new home. In effect, the OSM continues to offer the **TD Classics 34 and under** subscription, which enjoyed great success in 2010-2011. That subscription will allow young concert-goers to sit in the chorus section for six concerts of their choice or to attend the OSM Saturday Evenings series in the parterre. Special rates are also offered to youngsters **17 and under** who accompany an adult to OSM concerts.

The OSM box office can be reached at **514-842-9951**, or via **osm.ca** at all times.

ESSENTIAL PARTNERS FOR THE OSM

The OSM considers itself privileged to be able to count on the support of invaluable partners, and to that end extends its thanks to its presenter, Hydro-Québec, now associated with the Orchestra for over ten years. The OSM also thanks National Bank Financial Group, a loyal season collaborator, and the Orchestra's official broadcaster, Radio-Canada.

The OSM thanks Rio Tinto, SNC Lavalin, Power Corporation of Canada as well as Scotiabank Group, co-presenters of the grand gala inaugural of September 7, and Scotiabank Group, presenter of the September 9 and 10 evenings.

The Orchestra extends its gratitude to Air Canada, Power Corporation of Canada, Fondation J.A. DeSève, Panasonic, Homeocan, and five sponsors who have partnered with the 2011-2012 series, as well as the other sponsors, both those who have already renewed their sponsorship and those who are collaborating with the Orchestra for the first time next season.

The contribution of the Orchestra's government partners being indispensable to its operations, the OSM thanks its principal public partner, Loto-Québec, as well as the Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des arts de Montréal.

The OSM finally salutes its other partners, who at different levels provide its activities with essential support.

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by
Hydro-Québec

The 2011-2012 season is presented in association with
National Bank Financial Group

**A video in which Kent Nagano presents the opening concerts
and the special concerts in the 2011-2012 season is available at osm.ca.**

**The history of the OSM and a biography and photo of Kent Nagano
are also available on osm.ca.**

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