



ORCHESTRE
SYMPHONIQUE
DE MONTRÉAL

For immediate
distribution

Presented by



MARCH AT THE OSM

THE EMINENT RUSSIAN PIANIST NIKOLAI LUGANSKY
PERFORMS THE GRIEG CONCERTO
(other soloist: cellist Matt Haimovitz)

KENT NAGANO WELCOMES THE GREAT SOPRANO JUNE ANDERSON
AND THE RENOWNED CELLIST MISCHA MAISKY

RACHMANINOV AND HIS FAMOUS PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2
(soloist: pianist Simon Trpčeski)

WHEN THE MARIMBA RANGES THROUGH MULTIPLES CAPRICES...
(soloist: percussionist Anne-Julie Caron)

D.R. COLEMAN CONDUCTS TCHAIKOVSKY'S INTENSE SYMPHONY NO. 4
(soloist: pianist Hélène Mercier)

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH ROULEAU AND THE JEUNESSES MUSICALES
under the direction of Jean-Philippe Tremblay

Montreal, February 15, 2011 – The month of March at the OSM is distinguished notably by the array of great soloists that the Orchestra is hosting. On March 22 and 24, the outstanding Russian pianist **Nikolai Lugansky** will make his Montreal debut in the famous **Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor** under the direction of **Kent Nagano**. During the same concert, the highly versatile American cellist **Matt Haimovitz** will share with us his inspiring vision of the world premiere of a piece by **Denys Bouliane**. On March 27, another cellist, one of the most renowned there is, the Latvian-born Israeli **Mischa Maisky** will thrill us with his performance of the **Dvorák Concerto**, also under the direction of **Kent Nagano**. This concert will additionally feature the dazzling American soprano **June Anderson** in the cycle **Correspondances** by **Henri Dutilleux**, as well as two very well-known **Mozart Symphonies**. On March 1 and 2, the young Macedonian pianist **Simon Trpčeski** will interpret one of the best loved works in the concerto repertoire, **Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto**. On March 30, Canadian percussionist **Anne-Julie Caron** will be playing an instrument of multiple possibilities, the marimba, in a program featuring a succession of capriccios. On March 6, **David Robert Coleman** will collaborate with the Canadian pianist **Hélène Mercier** and also conduct **Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony**, in which the composer said we would find echoes of our most profound ideas and feelings...

RACHMANINOV & HIS FAMOUS SECOND PIANO CONCERTO

Air Canada Classical Escapes, March 1 at 8 p.m.

Symphonic Matinees, March 2 at 10:30 a.m.

Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

Robert Spano, conductor

Simon Trpčeski, piano

ESTACIO, *Borealis*

RACHMANINOV, Piano Concerto No. 2

SIBELIUS, Symphony No. 5

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With his **Second Concerto**, one of the most beloved works in the repertoire for soloist and orchestra, **Rachmaninov** signaled a return to the creative life. That score, performed here by the young Macedonian pianist **Simon Trpčeski**, can be seen as a journey towards the light, with a tormented first movement, a second ruled by a theme of great beauty and a finale drenched in vitality.

Rachmaninov's works are widely enjoyed, and the movies have contributed considerably to that popularity. The film *The Seven Year Itch*, for example, made in 1955 by Billy Wilder and starring Marilyn Monroe, made use of the Concerto No. 2.

Robert Spano, music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, also leads the OSM in the **Fifth Symphony by Sibelius**, a work both heroic and poetic, and which has become one of the Finnish composer's most treasured. Every bit as northerly, **Borealis** articulates the emotions felt by **John Estacio** when he experienced the phenomenon of the Northern Lights for the first time. (The Estacio work will not be presented at the concert on March 2.)

The Air Canada Classical Escapes series is presented by Air Canada with the special participation of Fondation J.A. DeSève.

The Symphonic Matinees series is presented in association with VIA Rail Canada.

TCHAIKOVSKY'S FOURTH

Musical Sundays, March 6 at 2:30 p.m.

Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

David Robert Coleman, conductor

Hélène Mercier, piano

MANOURY, *Abgrund* (North American premiere, commission of the OSM and the Bavarian State Opera)

FALLA, *Noches en los jardines de España* (Nights in the Gardens of Spain), for piano and orchestra

TCHAIKOVSKY, Symphony No. 4

"Never before had any of my works for orchestra caused me so much pain, but neither have I ever felt as much love for any of my compositions." At once lyrical, tormented and profoundly inspired, **Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony** remains one of the cornerstones of the romantic repertoire.

Canadian pianist **Hélène Mercier** will transmit the subtleties of **Nights in the Gardens of Spain**, symphonic impressions for piano and orchestra, a work influenced by Debussy's *Iberia*. A work has also been commissioned from France's **Philippe Manoury**, one of the most original composers on the current scene, rewarded in other ways with the Grand prix de la musique symphonique from SACEM, in 1999, and the Prix de la critique musicale, in 2001.

This concert is presented by the OSM's Volunteer Committee.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH ROULEAU AND THE JEUNESSES MUSICALES

Les Grands Québécois

Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at 8 p.m.

Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

The OSM pays tribute to **JOSEPH ROULEAU** and marks the **60 years of Jeunesses Musicales Canada**, a celebration during which concert-goers will get to hear, in the first part, instrumental concerto works, and then opera arias that have made a difference in Joseph Rouleau's career.

Violinists **Alexandre da Costa** and **Andrew Wan**, the OSM's concertmaster, will perform Bach's Concerto for two violins. Also taking part in this tribute, prize-winners at the Montreal International Musical Competition: soprano **Marianne Fiset**, bass **Burak Bilgili** and pianist **Serhiy Salov**, who will perform Prokofiev's Concerto No. 3. The **Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal** will also take part in the program. This concert-tribute will be under the direction of **Jean-Philippe Tremblay**, who has performed a number of times as a

violinist in Jeunesses Musicales concerts.

Joseph Rouleau is a prominent figure in Québec vocal circles. An internationally renowned bass, he has sung on the greatest stages of the world alongside artists as celebrated as Callas and Pavarotti, and under the most illustrious conductors. Joseph Rouleau has been president of Jeunesses Musicales Canada since 1989 and with André Bourbeau was cofounder of the Montreal International Musical Competition.

Jean-Philippe Tremblay, conductor

Alexandre da Costa, violin

Andrew Wan, violin

Serhiy Salov, piano

Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal

Marianne Fiset, soprano

Burak Bilgili, bass

Joseph Rouleau, bass

Françoise Davoine, host

Brahms, Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80

Bach, Concerto for Two Violins, BWV 1043, with Alexandre da Costa and Andrew Wan

Prokofiev, Piano Concerto No. 3, Serhiy Salov

Mozart, Sunday Vespers (Beatitus), Petits chanteurs du Mont-Royal

Verdi, Don Carlo (Ella giammai m'amò), Burak Bilgili

Rossini, Il Barbiere di Siviglia (La Calunnia), Burak Bilgili

Puccini, La Bohème (Sì, mi chiamano Mimì), Marianne Fiset

Verdi, Simon Boccanegra (Il lacerato spirito), Joseph Rouleau

Rachmaninov, Aleko (Cavatina), Joseph Rouleau

NIKOLAI LUGANSKY & THE GRIEG CONCERTO

Grand Concerts, March 22 and 24 at 8 p.m.

Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

Kent Nagano, conductor

Nikolai Lugansky, piano

Matt Haimovitz, cello

BRAHMS, Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op. 56

GRIEG, Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16

BOULIANE, *Vols et vertiges du Gamache*, for cello and orchestra (world premiere, OSM commission)

R. STRAUSS, *Till Eulenspiegel (Till the Merry Prankster)*

“The generation of Russian thirty-somethings is undeniably an exceptional vintage,” stated Altamusica in reference to the remarkable playing of pianist **Nikolai Lugansky**. He is making his Montreal debut in **Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A minor**, the only concerto Grieg managed to finish, one of his most celebrated works and one of the great concertos in the piano repertoire.

Kent Nagano will also lead the OSM in **Brahms’s Variations on a Theme by Haydn**.

Brahms wrote eight variations on this theme, plus a finale, a magnificent passacaglia whose culmination is a moment of great transcendence.

The program includes **Strauss’s Till Eulenspiegel**, which since its premiere in November 1895 has enjoyed resounding success. Québec composer **Denys Bouliane**, meanwhile, will be presenting a brand new work for soloist and orchestra commissioned by the OSM and performed by **Matt Haimovitz**, an outstanding and nonconformist cellist.

The March 24th concert is presented by Spinelli Lexus.

KENT NAGANO & DUTILLEUX

Musical Sundays, March 27 at 2:30 p.m.
Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

Kent Nagano, conductor
June Anderson, soprano
Mischa Maisky, cello

MOZART, Symphony No. 31, "Paris"
DVOŘÁK, Cello Concerto
DUTILLEUX, *Correspondances*
MOZART, Symphony No. 36, "Linz"

A student of the renowned Gregor Piatigorsky, **Mischa Maisky** has become one of the most acclaimed cellists of our day. Here he conveys his vision of the **Dvorák Concerto**, written by a particularly inspired composer, nostalgic for and impatient to return to his native Bohemia, and refusing to indulge in any virtuoso effect for its own sake.

The audience will also have a chance to enjoy the rare marriage between the celebrated American soprano **June Anderson** and a choice contemporary work, *Correspondances*, composed by Henri Dutilleux in 2003 for the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, a cycle of five songs to texts by Prithwindra Mukherjee, Solzhenitsyn, Rilke and Van Gogh that deal with the cosmos and religion. This highly diversified program, under the direction of **Kent Nagano**, is rounded off by two **Mozart symphonies**, the highly popular "Paris" and "Linz".

CAPRICCIOS & MARIMBA

Symphonic Matinees, March 30 at 10:30 a.m.
Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts

Stéphane Laforest, conductor
Anne-Julie Caron, marimba

TCHAIKOVSKY, *Capriccio italien*
DION, *Itinéraire*, for solo marimba, percussion, piano and strings (world premiere)
SAINT-SAËNS, *Introduction and rondo capriccioso*
RACHMANINOV, *Caprice bohémien*
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV, *Capriccio espagnol*

Canadian percussionist **Anne-Julie Caron** stands out through her sensitivity and the broad range of colors in her playing. She came to the attention of Argentine composer Guillo Espel, who called her "one of his favorite marimbists in all the world," while the *Vancouver Sun* commented that "Anne-Julie Caron performed with a talent reminiscent of Evelyn Glennie." Winner of the 2007 Prix Opus as "Discovery of the Year," second prize at the 2006 International Marimba Competition in Linz and of the 2005 OSM Standard Life Competition, here she showcases, under the direction of **Stéphane Laforest**, an instrument with multiple possibilities, many of them unfolding in a program composed almost entirely of much enjoyed romantic capriccios.

The marimba, that very large xylophone with padouk or rosewood keys and played with mallets, is included in an endlessly growing number of orchestral works by Western composers (among others, Olivier Messiaen, Pierre Boulez, Steve Reich, John Williams and Bruno Mantovani).

This series is presented in association with VIA Rail Canada.

PRE-CONCERT DISCUSSION at 9:30 a.m., hosted by **Kelly Rice**, CBC Radio director and reporter, in the Piano nobile at Place des Arts. Guests: **Anne-Julie Caron**, marimba, and **Stéphane Laforest**, conductor.

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

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