



ORCHESTRE
SYMPHONIQUE
DE MONTRÉAL

PRESS RELEASE
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OCTOBER AT THE OSM

**KENT NAGANO CONDUCTS THREE DIFFERENT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING
BRUCKNER'S "ROMANTIC" SYMPHONY AND
SHOSTAKOVICH'S FIFTEENTH SYMPHONY**

**GIDON KREMER MAKES AN EAGERLY AWAITED RETURN TO THE OSM IN
THE TCHAIKOVSKY CONCERTO**

**MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN PERFORMS
TWO FRENCH WORKS FOR PIANO AND ORCHESTRA**

**TILL FELLNER REVISITS THE OSM FOR
BEETHOVEN'S SECOND CONCERTO**

**VALERY GERGIEV LEADS THE MARIINSKY ORCHESTRA IN
TWO SYMPHONIES BY TCHAIKOVSKY**

**RUFUS WAINWRIGHT GOES SYMPHONIC:
A FIRST, SOLD-OUT COLLABORATION WITH THE OSM**

Montreal, October 11, 2011 – In October, OSM music director **Kent Nagano** is leading his orchestra in **three different programs**. He will be joined by a trio of brilliant soloists: violinist **Gidon Kremer**, who performs Tchaikovsky's celebrated Violin Concerto; **Till Fellner**, renowned for his interpretations of Beethoven, playing the Second Concerto; and **Marc-André Hamelin**, who appears in two French works for piano and orchestra from the late nineteenth century, the Fauré *Ballade* and Franck's *Symphonic Variations*. In addition, the OSM is presenting works by Pierre Boulez, one of the most acclaimed of contemporary composers, and Kent Nagano conducts **Shostakovich's Fifteenth Symphony** as well as **Bruckner's** popular "Romantic" Symphony.

The **Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre** of St. Petersburg will be the guests of the OSM for an unforgettable evening on October 22. Under the direction of their music director, **Valery Gergiev**, and hailed most especially for their performances of the Russian repertoire, they will be playing Tchaikovsky's Symphonies Nos. 1 and 6.

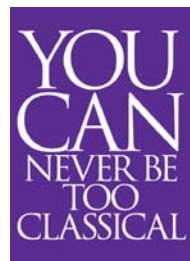
The OSM, under the baton of Simon Leclerc, started the month on a totally different note on October 5, when it accompanied singer-songwriter **Rufus Wainwright** in a sold-out show that brought together classic repertoire, contemporary creation and the popular singer's big hits.

BRUCKNER'S "ROMANTIC" SYMPHONY

**Power Corporation of Canada Thursday Grand Concerts 2, OSM Saturday Evenings
October 13 and 15 at 8 p.m.
La Maison symphonique de Montréal**

Kent Nagano, conductor
Till Fellner, piano
Timothy Hutchins, OSM principal flute

John Zirbel, Catherine Turner, horns
Andrew Wan, Olivier Thouin, Marie-André Chevrette, violins
Jean Fortin, Charles Meinen, violas
Brian Manker, cello



PRESS RELEASE

BOULEZ, *Mémoriale*, for solo flute and eight instruments
BEETHOVEN, Piano Concerto No. 2
BRUCKNER, Symphony No. 4, “Romantic” (1878-1880 version, Nowak edition)

Classicism, romanticism and modernism: three distinct stylistic periods will be showcased in this program conducted by **Kent Nagano**, with each of them represented by a masterwork in its own right. Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 2, a descendent of the worlds of Haydn and Mozart and a particularly elegant page from the composer’s younger years, will be performed by **Till Fellner**, a pianist who over recent seasons has played Beethoven’s Concertos Nos. 1, 4 and 5 with Kent Nagano and the OSM (and recorded Nos. 4 and 5 with them).

The Orchestra also performs **Bruckner’s Fourth Symphony** for the first time under Kent Nagano. The sub-title “Romantic” is not a reference in this case to passion or to love but rather a reference to the composers Weber, Schubert and Schumann, who often conveyed sublimated mental landscapes frequently inspired by literary models.

Opening the program, the OSM performs *Mémoriale* by **Pierre Boulez**, conceived for a chamber ensemble of eight instrumentalists and solo flute, the first in a series of performances of works by this essential figure in contemporary music being offered over the 2011-12 season.

The evening of October 15 is presented by RSM Richter Chamberland.

GIDON KREMER & THE TCHAIKOVSKY CONCERTO

Homeocan Tuesday Grand Concerts, Panasonic Wednesday Grand Concerts 2
October 18 and 19 at 8 p.m.
La Maison symphonique de Montréal

Kent Nagano, conductor
Gidon Kremer, violin
Small vocal ensemble

BOULEZ, *Notation I* for orchestra
PEROTIN, *Organum*
BOULEZ, *Notation IV* for orchestra
TCHAIKOVSKY, Violin Concerto
SHOSTAKOVICH, Symphony No. 15

The track record of violinist **Gidon Kremer** is especially impressive: over 100 recordings, thousands of concerts in halls all around the world, and close working relationships with a good number of contemporary composers. He is making a much anticipated return to the OSM in the celebrated **Violin Concerto by Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**, rich in bravura passages, but also in romantic lyricism.

This program, conceived by **Kent Nagano**, is intended as a study in contrasts, containing as it does music that ranks with the oldest that has come down to us: the *Organum* by Pérotin, dating from the twelfth century. At the other end of the spectrum, audiences will hear two *Notations* by Boulez, in which the composer has used an oversized orchestra to achieve a broad palette of colors.

The program is completed by the last symphony of **Dmitri Shostakovich**’s, the Fifteenth, which seems to be looking back to childhood but also ahead to death. The writing evokes the transparency of chamber music, even though the percussion section plays an exceptionally important role.

The evening of October 19 is presented by Dessau.

ST. PETERSBURG’S MARIINSKY ORCHESTRA & VALERY GERGIEV (SOLD OUT)

October 22 at 8 p.m.
La Maison symphonique de Montréal

Valery Gergiev, conductor
Mariinsky Orchestra of St. Petersburg

TCHAIKOVSKY, Symphony No. 1, Winter Dreams”
TCHAIKOVSKY, Symphony No. 6, “Pathétique”

One of the most highly lauded conductors of our time, **Valery Gergiev** impresses and captivates through his intensity, his approach to the repertoire, and his meticulousness. Intensely applauded on the international scene, in particular for his mastery of the Russian repertoire, and named a People's Artist of Russia in 1996, he returns to Montreal with the legendary Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre, which he has led since 1988.

The orchestra is presenting an in-depth exploration of the world of **Tchaikovsky** by offering his **first and last symphonies**. The composer said about "Winter Dreams" in 1883: "...fundamentally it has more substance and is better than any of my other more mature works." And with his *Sixth Symphony*, "Pathétique," a true testament in music, he would later claim to be "more satisfied than with all his other works."

The OSM welcomes the Mariinsky Orchestra, a presentation of Show One - Svetlana Dvoretkaia.

MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN PLAYS FRANCK & FAURÉ
Wednesday Grand Concerts 1, Air Canada Thursday Grand Concerts 1
Musical Sundays
October 26 and 27 at 8 p.m., October 30 at 2:30 p.m.
La Maison symphonique de Montréal

Kent Nagano, conductor
Marc-André Hamelin, piano

SCHUBERT, Symphony No. 5
BOULEZ, *Dérive 1*, for six instruments
FAURÉ, *Ballade* for piano and orchestra
FRANCK, *Symphonic Variations* for piano and orchestra
BIZET, Symphony in C major

This program, conducted by **Kent Nagano**, offers a voyage through time as well as through textures. Schubert's *Fifth Symphony* resembles chamber music in its orchestration (which includes neither clarinets, trumpets nor timpani) and its dimensions, and comes across as a tribute to the classicism of Mozart. Boulez's *Dérives 1* for flute, clarinet, vibraphone, piano, violin and cello, whose subject matter was drawn from sketches for his work *Répons*, also adopts an intimate register.

Canadian pianist **Marc-André Hamelin**, critically hailed as one of the finest pianists on the international scene, will rejoin the OSM in **two works that redefine the very notion of the concerto**. Gabriel Fauré's *Ballade*, a re-reading of a youthful work for piano solo, is in free form, with a feeling of improvisation to it. César Franck's *Symphonic Variations*, one of the composer's most famous works, is not far removed from the symphonic poem and veers away from the rules traditionally associated with the concerto. In it the piano acts more as a collaborator in the architecture, the color and the rhythm section than as a soloist.

The concert concludes with the dazzling **Symphony in C by Bizet**. Although strongly influenced by the two symphonies of Gounod, it nevertheless embodies a remarkable originality for a young man of seventeen.

Evening of October 26 presented by Blue Cross of Québec
Concert of October 30 presented by La Tête Chercheuse

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

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