



ORCHESTRE  
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DE MONTRÉAL

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# LE BAL DES ENFANTS DE L'OSM



**KENT NAGANO, MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE OSM, AND PATRICE BÉLANGER, HONORARY PATRON, ARE PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE OSM BAL DES ENFANTS**

**Saturday, March 25, at noon, at Maison symphonique de Montréal**

**With actors Didier Lucien (Puss-in-Boots), Marianne Fortier (Princess), Marc St-Martin (Young Miller), Antoine Vézina (King) and other artists.**

**Under the direction of Kent Nagano**

**Montréal, October 25, 2016** – The OSM Bal des enfants, the great Montréal celebration of orchestral music for 5 to 12 year olds, will be back on **Saturday, March 25, 2017, at noon** at **Maison symphonique de Montréal**. The OSM and its honorary patron, **Patrice Bélanger**, invite families to join them for another concert-event dedicated entirely to children. On the theme of ***What is Maestro Puss-in-Boots up to?***, this fourth edition of the Bal des enfants will be under the honorary presidency of Patricia Châteauneuf, Director of National Multiplatform Sales and Customer Innovation, CBC & Radio-Canada Media Solutions, and Sandy Vassiadis, Vice President of Corporate Communications, Saputo Inc.

*“Providing education to children through classical music is as relevant today as it was in 1934, when Wilfrid Pelletier founded the OSM on that core principle. Each year, we present the Bal des enfants in fulfillment of our conviction that every child deserves the chance to benefit from exposure to music.”* **Kent Nagano**

*“Do what I do, and take part in the OSM Bal des enfants as a family! Not only will you be offering your children very special contact with classical music, but you’ll enable them to discover all the power of an orchestra, and more than anything you’ll be contributing with your donation to the OSM’s youth initiatives.”* **Patrice Bélanger**

### **What is Maestro Puss-in-Boots up to?**

The OSM is taking on the mythical tale of Puss-in-Boots with a theatrical concert staged by **Charles Dauphinais** and scripted by **Elisabeth Sirois**. The symphonic spectacle will enchant spectators with its combination of theatre and music, transporting them to this world of fantasy.



The program, conceived especially for a young audience (age 5 and up), will feature great compositions from the orchestral repertoire as well as contemporary works, all performed by the musicians of the OSM under the direction of **Kent Nagano**. In a festive spirit, with young people very much the heart of the event, the concert will be preceded by entertainment and a snack in the lobbies of Maison symphonique and followed by an autograph session with the artists.

***What Maestro Puss-in-Boots*** features a dusty farm cat who tries to transform his master, a poor miller, into the Marquis of Carabas. An instinct for survival, well-chosen words, the power of charm – not to mention some crafty little schemes – all of it heightened by captivatingly colorful music from a symphony orchestra: these are the tricks in the repertoire of our vastly entertaining Maestro Puss-in-Boots, played by **Didier Lucien**, as he raises his master to the highest rung on the social ladder. The cast also includes **Marc St-Martin** in the role of the Miller, **Marianne Fortier** as a princess and **Antoine Vézina** playing the part of the king.

#### **An important role with the young and with the community**

Since it began, in 2014, the Bal des enfants and its donors have raised more than \$400,000 net in support of the OSM's mission of education and accessibility.

Over 1,000 people, 520 of them last year, selected through 40 organizations dedicated to helping families in need, have been invited free of charge as part of the Bal des enfants. A figure we are hoping to increase to 580 guests for 2017. The greater OSM team is proud to offer what is for most of these families a first concert experience, at Maison symphonique de Montréal. A family outing that makes it possible for a child to share this magic moment with a parent, a grandparent or a guardian.

The Bal des enfants is one of the Orchestra's initiatives designed to make orchestral music accessible to everyone. Among the successes in that regard may be mentioned not just the 12 young-audience concerts that reach 20,000 primary and secondary students each season or the 240 introductory classical-music sessions in primary schools, but also a schedule of affordable ticket prices, the OSM Classical Spree, and free concerts in the parks.

#### **The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal**

Since its founding in 1934, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal has distinguished itself as a leader in the orchestral life of Canada and Québec. A cultural ambassador of the highest order, the Orchestra has acquired an enviable reputation internationally through the quality of its many recordings and tours. The OSM carries on that rich tradition under the leadership of its current music director, Kent Nagano, featuring innovative programming aimed at updating the orchestral repertoire and strengthening the Orchestra's connection with the community. Over the years the OSM has undertaken about 40 tours and roughly 30 national and international excursions. The Orchestra has made more than 100 recordings, on the Decca, EMI, Philips, CBC Records, Analekta, ECM and Sony labels, as well as on its own label, which have earned it some 50 national and international awards.

## **The OSM's Valued Partners**

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal wishes to thank its indispensable partners,

The Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, The Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, and the City of Montreal, for their generous support.

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

BMO Financial Group is the OSM's partner for the 2016–2017 season.

Air Canada: Official Airline of the OSM

To make a donation, get in touch with the OSM at 514 840-7425.

To purchase your tickets and to make reservations:

514 842-9951 or 1 888 842-9951

Further details at

[www.baldesenfants.osm.ca](http://www.baldesenfants.osm.ca)

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### **Source:**

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