

May at the OSM:

The 80th season of the OSM concludes with a number of ambitious programs as well as the inauguration of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique

Montreal, Thursday, April 24, 2014 – “The merry month of May,” wrote the poet, and for the homestretch of its 80th season, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Kent Nagano are offering a programming guaranteed to gladden music lovers’ hearts. Flushed with the success of their European tour, **Kent Nagano** and the OSM carry on with spring in grand fashion by welcoming musicians of international renown to Maison symphonique, musicians like Japanese violinist **Midori**, violist **Pinchas Zukerman** and Russian baritone **Dmitri Hvorostovsky**. It’s also in May that we will finally inaugurate the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique with **Olivier Latry**, organist emeritus and titular organist at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, and **Jean-Willy Kunz**, organist in residence of the OSM. Noteworthy as well is the presentation of *La Symphonie rapaillée*, in which symphonic dress provides the magnificent poetry of Gaston Miron with a whole new dimension.

May also sees the 80th season of the OSM wind up in historic fashion with the welcoming of the **Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique**. An exceptional programming will mark the introduction of this larger-than-life instrument.

May at the OSM

James Conlon conducts the OSM

Series: **Fondation J.A. DeSève** Symphonic Matinees

Thursday, May 1, 2014 – 10:30 a.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

James Conlon has led the OSM on a number of occasions, including at Carnegie Hall in New York. Recognized for his interpretations of the music of Alexander von Zemlinsky, here he conducts a large-scale symphonic poem of his, *Die Seejungfrau* (The Mermaid), after the Andersen story. Especially evocative, this is one of the Austrian composer’s most performed works. OSM principal flute **Timothy Hutchins**, meanwhile, will perform the *Flute Concerto No. 1*, K. 313, which Mozart composed at the age of 22 for a rich Dutch merchant and amateur flutist named Willem van Britten de Jong.

[For more details](#)

Midori plays the Mendelssohn Concerto

Series: **BBA** Wednesday Grand Concerts 1

Air Canada Thursday Grand Concerts 1

Wednesday, April 30, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 1, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

When she was still just a child, the talent of **Midori** was already recognized by conductors around the globe, among them Charles Dutoit, who invited her to Montreal a number of times. On the subject of this exceptionally talented violinist, Mark Swed of the *Los Angeles Times* declared: “I know of no violinist with a more sensitive nor respectful sense of vibrato, which allows her to let every note speak and none to over-speak.” She returns to us at last in Mendelssohn’s famous and virtuosic *Violin Concerto*.

Recognized for among other things his interpretations of the music of Alexander von Zemlinsky, here **James Conlon** conducts one of the Austrian composer’s most performed works, the large-scale symphonic poem *Die Seejungfrau* (The Mermaid), which takes up the plot of the story by Andersen. Johannes Brahms’s *Variations on a Theme by Haydn* completes the program.

[For more details](#)

Preconcert conferences

Preconcert conferences with conductor James Conlon and Marie-Hélène Benoit-Otis, musicologist and assistant professor on the Faculty of Music at the Université de Montréal, at 7 p.m. on the parterre level of Maison symphonique.

Host: Katerine Verebely, reporter and host on ICI Radio-Canada Première and Espace musique

Masterclass with Midori

Thursday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to noon

In collaboration with the OSM, the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal presents a **masterclass with the renowned Japanese violinist on Thursday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to noon, in the Conservatoire concert hall**. At this class, violinists Denis Bernier-Martin, Mathias Larivière and Marianne Di Tomaso will respectively perform Ravel’s *Tzigane*, the Sibelius *Violin Concerto* and *Caprice on Saint-Saëns’ Etude in the Form of a Waltz* by Ysaÿe. The public is invited to attend.

Tickets, at a cost of \$11.50, are available now on Admission (1 855 790-1245) or at the Conservatoire box office.

Free admission for all students on presentation of their cards.

The Conservatoire de musique de Montréal is located at 4750 Henri-Julien Ave. (Laurier metro).

Pergolesi & Bach

Series: Special Concerts

Sunday, May 4, 2014 – 2:30 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Based on one of the most moving pages of liturgical prose and evoking the sorrow of the Virgin at the

crucifixion of her son, the *Stabat Mater* vacillates between prayer and tears, pain and acceptance. Celestial, the voices soar above themes that are often heart-rending. Besides scores by Palestrina and Pergolesi, the Orchestra and the OSM Chamber Choir, under the direction of **Andrew Megill**, perform a youthful cantata of Bach's, *Christ lay in death's bonds*.

[For more details](#)

La symphonie rapaillée

Series: OSM Pop

Wednesday, May 7, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 8, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Concerts presented by **SiriusXM**

Maison symphonique de Montréal

When, in November 2008, the first of two albums entitled *Douze hommes rapaillés* was released, those taking part in the adventure little suspected what proportions the project would assume. After 70,000 copies sold and several shows, the formula imagined by **Gilles Bélanger** around the poetry of **Gaston Miron** takes on a whole new coloring courtesy, this time, of the orchestral dress of **Blair Thompson**. With stage direction by **Marc Béland** and under the artistic direction of **Louis-Jean Cormier**, the musicians of the OSM and the “12 hommes rapaillés” conducted by **Jean-François Rivest** promise spectators an evening quite out of the ordinary.

With: **Vincent Vallières, Michel Rivard, Louis-Jean Cormier, Richard Séguin, Jim Corcoran, Yann Perreau, Martin Léon, Yves Lambert, Daniel Lavoie, Michel Faubert, Pierre Flynn, Gilles Bélanger**

[For more details](#)

Chamber music: romantic revels

Series: Chamber music with OSM musicians

Wednesday, May 14, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

Bourgie Hall

Borne by the ideals propagated by the French Revolution, romanticism affected all artistic areas. Profoundly reshaped by composers like Brahms, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Schumann and Weber, music had to be capable of expressing everything, passionate excess along with the most intimate secrets. OSM concertmaster **Andrew Wan**, principal cello **Anna Burden** and pianist **Philip Chiu** perform Tchaikovsky's *Piano Trio in A minor, Op. 50*, “In memory of a great artist,” and Rachmaninov's *Elegiac Trio No. 1 in G minor*.

[For more details](#)

Dmitri Hvorostovsky in recital

A presentation of Show One – Svetlana Dvoretzkaia

Friday, May 16, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Through the fullness and power of his voice, and thanks to a great musical refinement, the incomparable **Dmitri Hvorostovsky** has captivated music lovers around the world. Another chance for Montreal to succumb to the charm of the Russian baritone, who returns this time in the company of Estonian pianist **Ivari Ilja**. With works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, Medtner and Liszt, this recital is one of the major events of the musical season.

[For more details](#)

Led by Nagano, Zukerman plays Bartók

Series: **Fillion Électronique** Wednesday Grand Concerts 2

Power Corporation of Canada Thursday Grand Concerts 2

Wednesday, May 21, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 22, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Violinist and violist, conductor at the helm of a number of ensembles, including Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra, **Pinchas Zukerman** dazzles as much through his charisma as his great musicality. Here he places his virtuosity at the service of a rhapsodic work by Béla Bartók, the *Viola Concerto*.

Under Maestro **Kent Nagano**, the Orchestra will also perform Brahms's *Third Symphony*, best known for its highly melodious third movement, which has turned up in a number of pop-music contexts and on movie soundtracks (including last year's *Kill Your Darlings*). Also, Haydn's *Symphony No. 104*, "London," the composer's last, which blends serene incantations and impetuous motifs. *Zipangu*, a work for string orchestra by Claude Vivier, complete the program.

[For more details](#)

Pinchas Zukerman Plays Bartók

Series: OSM Saturday Evenings

Presented by **Pratt & Whitney Canada**

Saturday, May 24, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Violinist and violist, conductor at the helm of a number of ensembles, including Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra, **Pinchas Zukerman** dazzles as much through his charisma as his great musicality. Here

he places his virtuosity in the service of a rhapsodic work by Béla Bartók, the *Viola Concerto*.

Under Maestro **Kent Nagano**, the Orchestra will also perform Brahms's *Third Symphony*, best known for its highly melodious third movement, which has appeared in a number of pop-music contexts and on movie soundtracks (including last year's *Kill Your Darlings*). Brahms's *Academic Overture* and *Zipangu*, a work for string orchestra by Claude Vivier, complete the program.

Moreover, the piece *Passacaglia* by Neal Gripp will be heard as an encore. This work, which is a world premiere, was composed by Neal Gripp, principal alto of the OSM, to mark the retirement of Carolyn Christie, 2nd flute of the OSM.

[For more details](#)

The inauguration of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique

Exceptional programming will mark the inauguration of this larger than life instrument. Here are the concerts presented in May. Please note that all the details around the festivities, including the open doors, will be announced shortly.

The Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony

Series: Special Concerts

Concert gala inaugural du Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique

Under the honorary co-presidency of Mrs. Jacqueline Desmarais and Mr. Lucien Bouchard.

Co-presidency of the evening is shared by Mr. Louis Vachon, president and chief executive officer of National Bank, and Mr. Tom Little, president of Bell Business Markets.

Wednesday, May 28, 2014 – 7 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

The first French symphony of importance since Berlioz, Camille Saint-Saëns's *Third Symphony* is eloquent testimony to the wind of renewal blowing through the French orchestral world in the late nineteenth century. Here the composer merges the colors of the piano with those of the orchestra and uses the organ sometimes in a confidential register, sometimes in a sparkling one. In his day pronounced the "finest organist in the world" by Franz Liszt, Saint-Saëns possessed an intimate mastery of the instrument's very special qualities. On the occasion of the **inaugural concert of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique** at Maison symphonique, the work will be performed by France's **Olivier Latry**, organist emeritus. The titular organist at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris will also play Bach's famous *Toccatina and fugue in D minor*, BWV 565, and Liszt's *Prelude and fugue on B.A.C.H.*

[For more details](#)

Bach, Liszt and Saint-Saëns

Series: Special Concerts

Thursday, May 29, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Sunday, June 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Presenter of the inauguration of the Orgue: **Estiatorio Milos**

Partner of the Organ inaugural concert: **La Fabrique de la paroisse Notre-Dame de Montréal**

“The organ is not just an instrument,” wrote Saint-Saëns in his memoirs. “It is an orchestra, a reunion of Pan flutes of every caliber, some of them minuscule like children’s toys, others gigantic like columns of the temple... Add to that the inexhaustible breath of the monster’s huge lungs, providing sounds with the incomparable and inimitable calm that everybody knows.”

In this concert, the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique at Maison symphonique will be showcased in works by Bach, Liszt and Saint-Saëns. Solo or with orchestra, **Olivier Latry**, organist emeritus and titular organist at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, and **Jean-Willy Kunz**, OSM organist in residence, explore the multiples facets of the new instrument designed and built by Casavant Frères, a Québec maker of international reputation.

Under the direction of **Kent Nagano**, two new works will be presented in world premieres. The first, by Finnish composer **Kaija Saariaho**, is a joint commission by the OSM, the Orchestre national de Lyon and London’s Southbank Centre, while the second was commissioned by the OSM from Canadian composer **Samy Moussa**.

Preconcert conferences

Preconcert conferences with Kent Nagano and Olivier Latry, organist emeritus of the OSM, Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 1 at 1:30 p.m. on the parterre level of Maison symphonique.

Host: Georges Nicholson

[For more details](#)

Maestro Kent Nagano and the OSM are preparing a month rich in color, music and energy with the visit of a number of internationally renowned musicians, the orchestral version of *Douze hommes rapaillés*, the much-anticipated inauguration of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique and the presentation of works as world premieres.

For more details, consult the complete programming for the OSM’s 80th season and reserve your tickets online: www.osm.ca

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

The 2013-2014 season is presented in association with **National Bank**.

Air Canada has been the official airline of the OSM for over 30 years.

Information: Isabelle Brien
Head of Media Relations

T.: 514 840-7414 | C.: 514 293-1683 | ibrien@osm.ca