

COMMUNIQUÉ

THE OSM RECEIVES TWO PRIX OPUS ACCLAIM FOR *MAHLER : ORCHESTERLIEDER* RELEASE AND A COOL CLASSICAL JOURNEY

Montreal, January 26, 2014 – At the gala for the 17th edition of the Conseil québécois de la musique’s **Prix Opus**, which took place today at Bourgie Hall in Montreal, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal was awarded the **Prix Opus “Disc of the Year – romantic, postromantic and impressionist music”** for *Mahler: Orchesterlieder, Christian Gerhafer*, under the direction of Kent Nagano, an Analekta recording. In addition, the OSM received a special award, **“Specialized Presenter of the Year”** for **A Cool Classical Journey** (August 16 and 17, 2013).

The senior director, artistic planning and international relations, Marie-Josée Desrochers, accepted the prizes on behalf of the OSM. “We are really quite touched to be receiving these Prix Opus, because they represent recognition from our peers. Our disc *Mahler: Orchesterlieder*, with the outstanding baritone Christian Gerhafer, is a recording that has enjoyed great success with our audience as well as at the international level. And our Cool Classical Journey, a true festival of concerts at affordable prices, was very quick to create true excitement in the community. I would also like to thank Kent Nagano for his vision.” Added Ali Yazdanfar, the Orchestra’s principal double bass, “These are distinctions that reward the constant effort we devote to nourishing a close connection with our local audience, while at the same time enjoying a degree of celebrity beyond our borders – thank you!”

Other productions of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal were also in the running. First of all, the OSM was a finalist in the category “Concert of the Year – romantic, postromantic and impressionist music” for the program *Mahler: Symphony No. 2, “Resurrection,”* conducted by music director Kent Nagano and presented on September 8, 2012 at Maison symphonique de Montréal. The excellence of the Orchestra was also hailed with a special award “International Achievement” for its tour in South America (April 23 to May 3, 2013).

An OSM musician was also rewarded at the ceremony. **Innovations en concert**, which presented **OSM concertmaster Andrew Wan along with Jonathan Crow, former associate concertmaster with the Orchestra**, received a Prix Opus for **“Concert of the Year – modern, contemporary music”** for its program *Jonathan Crow et Andrew Wan : Rencontres virtuoses*, given on April 8, 2013, at Chapelle historique du Bon Pasteur. Moreover, OSM music librarian **Michel Léonard**, who also sings tenor, took part in the **Concert à l’Abbaye Val Notre-Dame** on October 28, 2012, a project initiated by the **Société musicale Fernand-Lindsay** and nominated for **“Concert of the year – medieval, Renaissance and baroque music.”** From everyone here at the OSM, bravo!

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

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec

Source: **Orchestre symphonique de Montréal**

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