

PRESS RELEASE

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ANNOUNCING THE 2013-2014 SEASON OF THE OSM

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal celebrates its 80th season

Great works conducted by Kent Nagano:

Opening the season: Berlioz's *La Damnation de Faust* and *Symphony fantastique*
Mahler's Symphony No. 7, Bruckner's Symphony No. 3, Beethoven's Symphonies Nos. 2 and 4,
Bach's Mass in B Minor, Brahms's Symphony No. 3
Concluding the season: three concerts, including Saint-Saëns's Symphony No. 3, and an open-door day
to inaugurate
the Grand Orgue Pierre Béique

Premiere of eight new works: Arcuri, Bertrand, Gilbert, Good, Hatzis, Hefti, Ryan, Saariaho

Groundbreaking programs:

OSM artist in residence: James Ehnes
Introduction of the series OSM Express
OSM Éclaté: focusing on Beethoven and Frank Zappa
Second edition of Fréquence OSM
Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition in collaboration with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

Two programs with the OSM Chamber Choir conducted by Andrew McGill

Prestigious guest conductors and soloists, including
conductors Jean-Claude Casadesus, James Conlon, Sir Andrew Davis and Michel Plasson,
pianists Yuja Wang, Radu Lupu, Stephen Hough, Marc-André Hamelin and Jan Lisiecki
cellists Truls Mørk, Gautier Capuçon and Jian Wang
violinists Gidon Kremer and Midori,
violinist Pinchas Zukerman
soprano Anna Caterina Antonacci, mezzo-soprano Ann Hallenberg,
tenor Michael Schade and bass-baritone Philippe Sly

A new Christmas story recounted by Fred Pellerin

Music & Imagery: Beethoven's *Fifth*

OSM Pops: *Hats off to Les Belles-sœurs* and *La Symphonie rapaillée*
Symphonic Duo: Adam Cohen and Cœur de pirate

Chamber music with OSM musicians

The OSM welcomes the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Gustavo Dudamel, and shines the "spotlight on
Russia" with the visit of the Mariinsky Orchestra under the direction of Valery Gergiev,
and baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky

A series of prestige recitals in a coproduction with Pro Musica, featuring
cellist Yo-Yo Ma, soprano Natalie Dessay,
violinist Hilary Hahn and pianist Louis Lortie

Montreal, March 14, 2013 – Today in the Foyer Allegro at Maison symphonique de Montréal, the music director of the OSM, **Kent Nagano**, announced **the 2013-2014 programming, which will be celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal. The inauguration of the OSM's Grand Orgue Pierre Béique**, a jewel that will complete the great project of Maison symphonique in May 2014, will make this 80th season a historic moment: open doors, demonstrations and concerts along with two exceptional programs built around Saint-Saëns's Symphony No. 3 with organ, one of which will include the premiere of *Maan varjot* (Earth's Shadows), a work for organ and orchestra by Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho. Launch of the programming, hosted by **Mario Paquet** of Espace musique, took place in the presence of **Madeleine Careau**, chief executive officer of the OSM; **Marie-Philippe Bouchard**, acting executive director for Internet, digital services and music at Radio-Canada; **Ali Yazdanfar**, principal double bassist with the Orchestra; and actor and director **René Richard Cyr**. This unveiling launches the subscription renewal campaign ending **April 26**; the new-subscription campaign as well as the sale of individual tickets will begin on **April 29**.

Music director **Kent Nagano** stated: "For 80 years Montrealers have been coming together to share in the beauty of orchestral concerts and the authentic sense of community they celebrate. As we mark the launch of our 2013-2014 season and third year at the Maison symphonique de Montréal, we continue to broaden the expressive possibilities afforded by the superb acoustics of our hall, while nurturing the great interpretive traditions at the core of the OSM's identity as an orchestra. The inauguration of the Grand Orgue Pierre Béique brings long awaited new possibilities, to be explored through repertoire both old and new. The Grand Orgue Pierre Béique is the culmination of the dream and the last missing element of the Maison symphonique original design. We welcome you back this season to enjoy, discover and reaffirm the artistic traditions that uphold us, while participating in new and unique experiences which will be remembered for many years to come."

Added OSM chief executive officer **Madeleine Careau**: "While we are just as grateful and as filled with wonder as ever to be hearing our musicians in this magnificent hall, and as we prepare to welcome the Grand Orgue Pierre Béique this upcoming season, it is with great happiness that we celebrate the 80th anniversary of our Orchestra. The season 2013-2014 looks to be vast, varied and ambitious, as it commemorates this new page in our history: several premieres, large-scale concerts and guest artists of the highest level, new features to reach an ever-growing audience, and all this in the innovative spirit that this great Orchestra has been known for since the earliest years of its existence."

MAJOR WORKS THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Kent Nagano will be conducting **Berlioz's *La Damnation de Faust* to open the season** (September 12, 15 and 17). He will additionally be conducting another choral work and keystone of the repertoire, **Bach's *Mass in B Minor***, a concert that will also be closing the Bach Festival (December 6 and 7). Also on tap, his readings of **Bruckner's *Third Symphony*** (September 19 and 21), the Mussorgsky-Ravel ***Pictures at an Exhibition*** (October 30 and 31, November 1), **Mahler's *Seventh Symphony*** (February 5, 6 and 15), **Beethoven's *Symphonies Nos. 2 and 4*** (January 7, 8 and 9), **Berlioz's *Symphony fantastique***, **Stravinsky's *Petrushka*** (February 11 and 13, March 6), excerpts from **Shubert's** rarely performed incidental music from ***Rosamunde*** (November 6, 9 and 10; the OSM Chorus will be taking part in this concert). Also noteworthy are the **premieres by Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho** on the occasion of the inauguration of the Grand Orgue Pierre Béique (May 29 and June 1), and **by Canadian composers Nicolas Gilbert** (to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of Place des Arts, September 21) and **Scott Goode, Simon Bertrand and Jeffrey Ryan**, three miniatures inspired by works of art from the Canadian collection of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts for a concert in music and images (October 30 and 31, November 1). Three concerts featuring symphonies by **Haydn** are also in the programming. These are the Symphony No. 26, "Lamentation" (November 6, 9 and 10), Symphony No. 59, "Fire" (October 30 and 31) and Symphony No. 104 (May 21 and 22). To conclude the season, as part of the week surrounding the inauguration of the Grand Orgue Pierre Béique, Kent Nagano will also conduct the **Saint-Saëns *Symphony No. 3 with organ*** (May 28 and 29, June 1).

Other outstanding conductors will be leading the OSM in the greatest orchestral works, including **Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 1, "Winter Daydreams,"*** with Edward Gardner (December 11) and **Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique"** (April 23, 26 and 27), **Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5* with Jean-Claude**

Casadesus (February 26 and 27), the **Chausson Symphony with Michel Plasson** (April 3 and 6) and **Zemlinsky's *Die Seejungfrau (The Little Mermaid)* with James Conlon** (April 30 and May 1). In the course of the season the OSM will be marking the 450th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Wagner and the 100th anniversary of the birth of Britten.

PREMIERES AT THE OSM

No fewer than **six works will be performed for the first time** by the OSM in 2013-2014: *Teiresias* by **Jörg Widmann** and *Bogus Pump* by **Frank Zappa** (October 26); "Snags and Snarls" from the opera *Alice in Wonderland* by **Unsuik Chin** (April 23); *Toy* by **Denis Gougeon** as part of the 2013-14 Tribute Series of the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec, and *Enchantements oubliés* by **Qigang Chen** (February 26 and 27); *Zipangu* by **Claude Vivier** (May 21, 22 and 24); and *Concerto for 7 Wind Instruments* by **Frank Martin** (April 3). **Eight world premieres** are also being given: a work by **Nicolas Gilbert** (September 21); a piece inspired by passages from Shakespeare's *The Tempest* by **Christos Hatzis** (October 15 and 17); three miniatures by **Scott Goode, Simon Bertrand and Jeffrey Ryan** (October 30 and 31, November 1); a **violin concerto** by **Serge Arcuri** performed by OSM concertmaster Andrew Wan (November 20 and 23); a work by Switzerland's **David Philip Hefti** (March 4 and 5); and *Maan varjot (Earth's Shadows)*, a composition for organ and orchestra by Finnish composer **Kaija Saariaho** (a co-commission of the Orchestre National de Lyon, London's Southbank Centre and the OSM), where the soloist will be Olivier Latry, OSM organist emeritus (May 29 and June 1).

THE OSM FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Maestro Nagano will be conducting five concerts during the holidays season. He will be found at the head of the Orchestra and the OSM Chorus along with renowned soloists in **Bach's Mass in B Minor** (December 6 and 7). In the wake of the success scored by the *Bellybutton-Lint Tuque* concert starring Fred Pellerin in 2011, a new project with the popular storyteller is being offered at Maison symphonique (December 16, 17 and 18). The audience will also be able to enjoy a concert at **Notre-Dame Basilica** when the OSM rejoins singer Bruno Pelletier ten years after the release of their highly successful Christmas album (December 10). Simon Leclerc, conductor and orchestrator, will lead the OSM at this concert.

OSM EXPRESS: A NEW SERIES

This **new 7 p.m. series** will allow the audience to avoid the rush-hour crush and take a seat in the hall for an orchestral concert presented without intermission. On offer are a music and images program, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, an OSM+ event (November 1), Stravinsky's *Petrushka* in a program evoking the world of tales (March 6) and the first appearance with the OSM of young virtuoso pianist Yuja Wang (April 23).

NEW AT THE OSM: ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Prize-winner on two occasions at the OSM Standard Life Competition, **James Ehnes is doing a residency this season**. He will appear as a soloist with the orchestra and as a chamber-music player, but also as a teacher, coaching young artists in masterclasses. He can be heard under the direction of Kent Nagano in Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 (September 19 and 21) and in a chamber-music program devoted to Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms with Andrew Wan, Neal Gripp, Anna Burden and Philip Chiu (September 20) at Maison symphonique de Montréal.

THE OSM CHAMBER CHOIR IN TWO PROGRAMS

After presenting the Fauré and Duruflé Requiems during the 2012-13 season, the OSM Chamber Choir, an ensemble under the direction of Andrew Megill, who is recognized as one of the finest choral directors of his generation, will perform **the chamber version of Orff's famous *Carmina Burana*** (March 9), as well as the indispensable *Stabat Maters* of **Pergolesi and Palestrina** (May 4).

GREAT ARTISTS IN RECITAL

The OSM recital series, presented as a **coproduction with the Pro Musica Society**, promises to be outstanding once again. Four stars on the international scene will perform in the intimate ambience of Maison symphonique. Canadian pianist **Louis Lortie** will be making a return to Montreal to present a rare complete reading of Liszt's *Années de pèlerinage* (February 2), while soprano **Natalie Dessay**, for her first time at the OSM, will present a recital devoted to the French art song (March 1). Montreal audiences will also be delighted to meet up again with cellist **Yo-Yo Ma** (March 19) and violinist **Hilary Hahn** (April 25).

OSM POP

Adam Cohen and Cœur de pirate will merge their worlds with the OSM's at the start of the season (October 2 and 3). The series is also offering an orchestral rereading of *Les Belles-sœurs*, an enormous hit in the year 2012 (April 16 and 17), and *La Symphonie rapaillée*, an orchestral reworking of the two *Douze hommes rapaillés* albums (May 7 and 8).

MUSIC & IMAGERY: BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH

For a third season the OSM is staging a concert in the *Beyond the Score*TM series, developed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. This season the audience will have the opportunity of revisiting in music and imagery the famous **Beethoven Symphony No. 5** (February 19). A dramatic narrative along with visual projections will place the symphony in its historical context, after which the OSM will perform the work in its entirety under **Nathan Brock**.

PRESTIGIOUS GUEST ENSEMBLES AND ARTISTS

After inviting, further to the opening of Maison symphonique de Montréal, the New York Philharmonic, the Budapest Festival Orchestra and the Collegium vocale de Gent, the OSM this season is hosting the **Los Angeles Philharmonic and its dynamic conductor, Gustavo Dudamel** (March 20). The Orchestra will be shining the "spotlight on Russia" with the coming of the **Mariinsky Orchestra under the direction of Valery Gergiev**, who this season is celebrating his 25th anniversary as music director of the eminent orchestra (October 4), and **baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky** in a recital devoted for the most part to Russian composers (May 16). The OSM will host the **Toronto Symphony Orchestra** (April 8) and the Orchestre symphonique de Québec under its new music director, **Fabien Gabel** (March 16). For its part, the OSM will be performing at Southam Hall in Ottawa's **National Arts Centre** (October 29) and at **Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto** (February 12).

The OSM will be welcoming eminent soloists throughout the season, including pianists **Yuja Wang** (for the first time at the OSM), **Radu Lupu** (in Beethoven's *Fourth Concerto*), **Stephen Hough**, **Marc-André Hamelin** and **Jan Lisiecki**; cellists **Truls Mørk**, **Gautier Capuçon** and **Jian Wang**; violinists **Gidon Kremer**, **Midori** and **Vivane Hagner**; violist **Pinchas Zukerman** and soprano **Anna Caterina Antonacci**, mezzo-soprano **Ann Hallenberg**, tenor **Michael Schade** and bass-baritone **Philippe Sly** (first-prize winner at the 2012 edition of the Montreal International Musical Competition).

Two OSM musicians will also be performing in works for soloist and orchestra: concertmaster **Andrew Wan** (November 20 and 23) in the premiere of a violin concerto by Serge Arcuri, and principal flute **Timothy Hutchins** in Mozart's Flute Concerto No. 1 (May 1). He will also take part, on April 3 and alongside principal oboe **Theodore Baskin**, associate clarinet **Alain Desgagné**, principal bassoon **Denis Lévesque**, principal horn **John Zirbel**, principal trumpet **Paul Merkelo** and principal trombone **James Box**, in Frank Martin's Concerto for 7 Wind Instruments.

CHAMBER MUSIC WITH OSM MUSICIANS

The OSM chamber-music series will be presented principally in Bourgie Hall at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. In 2013-2014 the series is offering seven concerts, three of them geared to exhibits held at the MMFA and two of them connecting literature and music. A very special chamber-music concert will be held at Maison symphonique de Montréal with OSM artist in residence James Ehnes.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Three young-audience productions are being staged this season, one of them in a new OSM production: Phantoms of the Orchestra (October 20), How the Gimquat found Her Song (November 24), and Russian Legends (April 13).

OSM STANDARD LIFE COMPETITION

The **74th edition of the OSM Standard Life Competition**, devoted to strings and harp, will run from **November 19 to 23**. The winner will perform with the OSM under the direction of **Edward Gardner** on **December 11** as part of the Wednesday Grand Concerts 2 series.

LAUNCH OF THE SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN AND OFFER FOR SALE OF SINGLE TICKETS

As of today, OSM subscribers are invited to renew their subscriptions to the regular series. The renewal period runs to April 26, and until that date they also benefit from priority in the purchase of additional tickets for all concerts. Beginning April 29, the general public will be able to take out new subscriptions as well as purchase individual tickets.

The OSM especially invites young people to be part of the upcoming season. The TD Classics 34 and under subscription, very popular over the past three seasons, allows students and young professionals to sit in the chorus section for six concerts of their choice or to attend the OSM Saturday Evenings in the parterre. Moreover, special rates are offered to youngsters 17 and under who accompany an adult to OSM concerts.

The OSM box office will have a new sign in a few days, at 1600 Saint-Urbain St., adjacent to the lobby in Maison symphonique de Montréal, and it can be reached at 514-842-9951. The public is invited to enjoy the experience of our online box office, easier and user-friendly, as well as the new OSM site at osm.ca at all times.

ESSENTIAL PARTNERS FOR THE OSM

The OSM considers itself privileged to be able to count on the support of invaluable partners, and in that light extends its thanks to its presenter, Hydro-Québec, associated with the Orchestra for over ten years. The OSM also thanks National Bank, a loyal season collaborator, and the Orchestra's official broadcaster, Radio-Canada.

The Orchestra extends its gratitude to its associate sponsors for the 2013-2014 series: Air Canada, Power Corporation of Canada, BBA, Fillion Électronique, Fondation J.A. DeSève and Industrial Alliance, as well as to all the other sponsors.

The contribution of the Orchestra's public partners being indispensable to its operations, the OSM thanks its principal partner, Loto-Québec, as well as the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and the City of Montreal.

The OSM, finally, salutes all its other partners, who at different levels provide its projects with essential support.

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

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

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

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