



ORCHESTRE  
SYMPHONIQUE  
DE MONTRÉAL

Presented by



## PRESS RELEASE

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### ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL IT'S TIME FOR AN 80<sup>TH</sup> SEASON!

**Montreal, September 4, 2013** –After a summer filled with special events and open-air concerts, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal settles back into Maison symphonique de Montréal this month. No one will be resting on their laurels, since this particular September means the start of a special season for the OSM – its 80<sup>th</sup>!

Under the direction of **Kent Nagano**, the Orchestra is launching the anniversary season in grand style with three performances of *La Damnation de Faust*, a sublime work by Hector Berlioz. The principal characters in this “dramatic legend,” Marguerite, Faust and Méphistophélès, will be played by soprano **Anna Caterina Antonacci**, tenor **Michael Schade** and bass-baritone **Philippe Sly**, winner of a record number of awards at the 2012 edition of the Montreal International Musical Competition. Often regarded as a character in its own right, the work’s important choral part will be taken by the OSM Chorus led by **Andrew Megill**, one of the finest chorus directors of his generation.

One hour before the concert, ticket holders are invited to attend, also at Maison symphonique, a preconcert discussion with **Philippe Sly** and **Jean-Pierre Brossmann**, OSM vocal advisor, presented by **Kelly Rice** of McGill University’s Schulich School of Music. The discussions are free of charge and bilingual.

#### **Maison symphonique de Montréal**

Thursday and Tuesday, September 12 and 17, at 8 p.m. – Preconcert discussion at 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 15, at 2:30 p.m. – Pre-concert discussion at 1:30 p.m.

The concert on Thursday, September 12, is presented by Air Canada, ambassadeur aérien of the OSM.

*Aficionados* have every reason to rejoice: there will be three opportunities in September to applaud violinist **James Ehnes**, winner of six Juno awards, a Grammy, and a first prize at the OSM Standard Life Competition in 1988 and in 1992 – and artist in residence for this 80<sup>th</sup> season. On Thursday and Saturday, September 19 and 21, Ehnes takes on Mozart: under Kent Nagano, the Canadian virtuoso will join the musicians of the OSM to share his interpretation of the Violin Concerto No. 5, K. 219. The Orchestra will also be performing the overture to Mozart’s *Magic*

*Flute* and Bruckner's Symphony No. 3. Dedicated to Wagner, the work stands out through its heroic and majestic proportions.

*Le Cœur battant de la ville* (The Beating Heart of the City), a new work by the young Montreal composer and writer **Nicolas Gilbert**, will round out the Saturday program. Presented as a world premiere, the piece was commissioned by Place des Arts as a means of observing its 50th anniversary in music.

On September 20, chamber music holds sway, when surrounded by OSM principal players – violinist **Andrew Wan**, violist **Neal Gripp**, cellist **Anna Burden** and pianist **Philip Chiu** – James Ehnes will be heard in Clara Schumann's Trio in G minor and Brahms's Piano Quintet. A program that perfectly illustrates the mysterious friendship that bonded these two great musicians.

Also deserving of mention is a masterclass with James Ehnes on September 18 in Pollack Hall at McGill University. The masterclass is open to the public at a cost of \$10. [Reserve your seats](#).

### **Maison symphonique de Montréal**

James Ehnes plays Mozart: Thursday and Saturday, September 19 and 21, at 8 p.m.  
Chamber music with James Ehnes: Friday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m.

The concert on Thursday, September 19, is presented by Power Corporation of Canada

### **Fréquence OSM**

In collaboration with Espace musique and for a second consecutive year, the music director of the OSM invites the public to a radio-musical-theatrical event celebrating the radio medium:  
*Fréquence OSM*.

Entitled *The Unauthorized Biography of the OSM*, the second episode of this radio play celebrates – not without humor – the 80<sup>th</sup> season of the Orchestra. On stage with the musicians, under the baton of Maestro Nagano and backed by the work of a sound effects engineer, actors **Anne-Marie Cadieux**, **Alexis Martin**, **Sylvie Moreau** and **Pierre Verville** will slip into the roles of real or fictional characters in relating the story of the of the OSM from yesterday...to tomorrow. In nine tableaux, the narrative for this concert takes a look at the past, recounts the present, and through the magic of the airwaves hazards a projection towards the future. Also featured in this mad venture will be radio hosts **Michel Keable** and **Charles Tisseyre**, along with **Catherine Perrin**, who will be at the harpsichord.

Excerpts will be heard from works by **Stravinsky**, **Berlioz**, **Sibelius**, **Wagner**, **Tomasi**, **Shostakovich**, **Prokofiev**, **Bach**, **Rimsky-Korsakov**, **Tchaikovsky**, **Philippe Leduc**, **Bach** and **Holst**. The show will be broadcast live over Espace musique, but it's in the hall, as direct witnesses to the action, that spectators will enjoy the full experience of an extraordinary concert's unique adventure.

### **Maison symphonique de Montréal**

Tuesday, September 24, at 8 p.m.

### **Chamber music at Salle Bourgie**

The September schedule concludes in the intimacy of Salle Bourgie with an evening entitled Music and literature: Composers as authors. On the program, Mozart's Quartet in E-flat major, K. 493 and Schumann's Piano Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 47. Intermixed with the music performed on stage by **Brigitte Rolland** on the violin, **Natalie Racine** on the viola, **Anna Burden** on the cello and **Carmen Picard** on the piano, actor **Gabriel Arcand** will read texts by composers selected by literary advisor Stéphane Lépine.

### **Salle Bourgie**

Wednesday, September 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Air Canada, partner of the OSM for more than 30 years as sponsor of the Thursday Air Canada concert series, is becoming a global partner at both the national and international level in the role of OSM Ambassadeur aérien for the next two years.

Consult the complete programming of the OSM's 80th season and reserve your tickets online:  
osm.ca.

Tickets on sale now! 514 842-9951

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The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal wishes to thank Loto-Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des arts de Montréal for their generous support.

Information: 514 842-9951 or [www.osm.ca](http://www.osm.ca)

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Air Canada, Ambassadeur aérien of the OSM.

- 30 -

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