



ORCHESTRE  
SYMPHONIQUE  
DE MONTRÉAL

Presented by



## Orchestre symphonique de Montréal A dazzlingly eclectic way of bringing summer to an end!

**Montréal, Thursday, September 4, 2014** – Following a memorable anniversary year and an outstanding summer that drew a record-breaking crowd of over 100,000 people, **Kent Nagano** and the **Orchestre symphonique de Montréal** are preparing to launch an 81st season that intends to dazzle and that opens on a glorious note thanks to two performances of Berlioz' *Romeo and Juliet* intended to celebrate Shakespeare's 450<sup>th</sup> birthday. In September the OSM will be welcoming some of the most brilliant performers on the world classical-music scene. Mention needs to be made of two exceptional pianists, Russia's **Boris Berezovsky** and Britain's **Benjamin Grosvenor** for the first time in Montreal. Moreover, Maison symphonique de Montréal is saluting the daring and courage of Mylène Paquette in *Symphonic Crossing*, the third episode in the *Fréquence OSM* series, inspired by the rower's great exploits. The month will wind up on a wackier note with two orchestral evenings devoted to the music of...**Les Trois Accords!**

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### September at the OSM

#### *Romeo and Juliet: A Night in Verona*

Non-series

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, September 11, 2014 – 8 p.m.

A dramatic symphony based on the famous tragedy by Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet* constitutes one of the monumental scores in Berlioz' work. This symphony with chorus is of a rare power and draws on an enormous emotional palette, formal procedures and poetic impulses. "While voices play a role almost from the start," explained Berlioz, "their purpose is to prepare the listener for the dramatic scenes in which feelings and emotions are expressed by the orchestra." An opportunity to hear and experience the moving story of the Veronese lovers in a different way. Under the direction of **Kent Nagano**, the work features mezzo-soprano **Clémentine Margaine**, tenor **Isaiah Bell**, baritone **Nicolas Testé**, and the **OSM Chorus** led by **Andrew Megill**.

**Note** that baritone Philippe Sly is being replaced by baritone Nicolas Testé. Also note that this concert is presented without intermission.

For further [details](#)

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#### *Johann Sebastian Bach cantata cycle*

Opening concert of the *Johann Sebastian Bach cantata cycle*

Series: Chamber music with the OSM musicians

Performed by Members of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio

Saturday, September 13, 2014 – 3 p.m.

Sunday, September 14 – 2 p.m.

**Bourgie Hall – Montreal Museum of Fine Arts**

Maestro **Kent Nagano** and musicians from the OSM will perform the Bach cantatas *Ihr, die ihr euch von Christo nennet*, BWV 164, *Die Elenden sollen essen*, BWV 75 and *Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben*, BWV 147. The outstanding voices of these artists will be heard: **Jacqueline Woodley**, soprano, **Charlotte Burrage**, mezzo-soprano, **Owen McCausland**, tenor and **Gordon Bintner**, bass-baritone. The **OSM Chorus** will be under the direction of **Andrew Megill**.

For further [details](#)

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***Boris Berezovsky plays Prokofiev***

Series: BBA Wednesday Grand Concerts 1

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 – 8 p.m.

**Maison symphonique de Montréal**

Gold Medal winner at the 1990 Tchaikovsky Competition, a musician “gifted with unique insight and sensitivity,” Russian pianist **Boris Berezovsky** stirs the admiration of audiences and critics wherever he performs. The man the *Times* described as “an artist of exceptional promise, a player of dazzling virtuosity and formidable power” will perform Prokofiev’s imposing Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 16, a brilliant example of the daring, virtuoso writing of the composer, himself an accomplished pianist. At its premiere, in 1913, the work sparked its share of scandal, which delighted its author, at the time going through a “futurist” phase.

Two essential scores from the 20th-century French repertoire complete this program conducted by **Kent Nagano**: *La mer*, the sole symphony in the work of Debussy, and Suites Nos. 1 and 2 from Maurice Ravel’s *Daphnis et Chloé*, a pillar of the OSM’s repertoire for over thirty years.

For further [details](#)

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***Kent Nagano: Russian festival***

Series: OSM Saturday Evenings

Soloist: Boris Berezovsky

Saturday, September 20, 2014 – 8 p.m.

**Maison symphonique de Montréal**

In addition to Prokofiev’s Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 16 played by Boris Berezovsky, the program for this grand Russian-accented evening includes Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Inspired by an exhibit of his friend the painter Victor Hartmann, and orchestrated by Ravel after the composer’s death, the work remains one of the most inspired in the Russian repertoire. And above all, in its original keyboard version, it comprises one of the summits in the piano literature. *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, a suite in six movements by Ravel, will close a festive program conceived and conducted by Maestro **Kent Nagano**.

**Note** that the works on the concert program for September 17 and 20 will figure in the Japanese portion of the OSM’s Asian tour taking place from October 10 to 22. Boris Berezovsky, moreover, will be taking part as soloist. A unique opportunity to hear what the Orchestra has in store for Japanese audiences before the big sendoff!

For further [details](#)

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***Kent Nagano: Tribute to Strauss***

Series: Musical Sundays

BMO Financial Group Tuesday Grand Concerts

Sunday, September 21, 2014 – 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 23, 2014 – 8 p.m.

### **Maison symphonique de Montréal**

At twenty-two, young prodigy British pianist **Benjamin Grosvenor** is without a doubt one of the most promising classical talents of his generation. For his first visit to Montreal he will perform Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No. 2, which appears on his latest disc and has earned the highest critical praise, including in prestigious *Gramophone*. A true reference in classical music, the magazine moreover conferred two awards on the British pianist in 2012.

A few hours before his death, Richard Strauss confided to his son: "Now I can affirm that everything I composed in *Death and Transfiguration* was perfectly accurate; I have experienced it all these last few hours." To mark the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth the OSM presents this symphonic poem, referred to as an "orchestral monodrama." Also by Strauss, the masterwork *Sinfonia Domestica*, which in its themes of man and the family comprises a display of deeply felt humanity.

**Note:** the concert on September 23 will be dedicated to the memory of Franz-Paul Decker, the fifth music director of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, who filled the position from 1967 to 1975.

#### **Preconcert discussions hosted by Kelly Rice with Kent Nagano:**

- Sunday, September 21, at 1:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, September 23, at 7 p.m.

For further [details](#)

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### ***Russian passion***

Series: Chamber music with the OSM musicians

Friday, September 26, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

### **Bourgie Hall – Montreal Museum of Fine Arts**

Violinist **Alexander Read**, second principal violin with the OSM, **Anna Burden**, associate principal cello, and pianist **Mathieu Gaudet** invite you to an evening with Slavic accents in splendid Bourgie Hall at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Two late-19th-century Russian romantic works are on the program. The Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 32 by Arensky bears the influence of Tchaikovsky, whereas Rachmaninov dedicated his famous *Trio élégiaque No. 2* "to the memory of a great artist" – Tchaikovsky again, whose recent death had affected the 20-year-old composer very deeply.

For further [details](#)

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### ***Symphonic crossing*** **(Fréquence OSM, 3rd episode)**

Non-series

Saturday, September 27, 2014 – 8 p.m.

### **Maison symphonique de Montréal**

One hundred and twenty-nine days by herself to accomplish a feat worthy of an Olympic athlete: rowing across the Atlantic Ocean. That was the challenge taken up by **Mylène Paquette**, under the close supervision of a remarkable team who remained on terra firma. Inspired by that more-than-impressive exploit, **Kent Nagano** is proposing for this third episode of *Fréquence OSM* works that reflect the greatest human accomplishments. A thrilling evening.

Text by **Daniel Langlois** and staging by **Michel G. Barette**, with actors **Céline Bonnier**, **Rémy Girard** and **Benoît Brière** and host **Michel Désautels**.

For further [details](#)

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***Les Trois Accords go orchestral***

Series: OSM POP, presented by Investors Group

Tuesday, September 30, 2014 – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, October 1, 2014 – 8 p.m.

**Maison symphonique de Montréal**

Since their first big successes, *Saskatchewan* and *Hawaïenne* in 2004, this frolicsome foursome has continued to delight young and old alike, who see themselves in **Les Trois Accords'** catchy tunes and offbeat humor. Their most recent album, *J'aime ta grand-mère*, spent several months at the top of the charts and was responsible for at least half a dozen radio hits. An orchestrator without equal, **Simon Leclerc** has found in their songs a playground in the same league as his talent. Here's betting that the delightful craziness that blows through their work will infect the crowd gathered at Maison symphonique to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the cult group.

For further [details](#)

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From *Romeo and Juliet* to **Mylène Paquette** and from **Benjamin Grosvenor** to **Les Trois Accords**, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal has emotion and surprises in store at Maison symphonique de Montréal. For more details, consult the complete programming of the OSM's 81st season and reserve your tickets online: [osm.ca](http://osm.ca)

**ANNOUNCING AN ADDITIONAL SHOW FOR PHANTOM OF THE OPERA!**

The OSM is pleased to be adding a second performance to the *Phantom of the Opera* concert, on **Saturday, November 1, 2014, at 8 p.m.** For this re-reading of the fantasy novel by Gaston Leroux published in 1910 the soundtrack will be improvised live by organist **William O'Meara**, whose interest in silent movies is such that he has come to specialize in the almost forgotten art of accompanying them.

This concert is in addition to the one presented on Friday, October 31, at 8 p.m.

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

BMO Financial Group is partner of the 2014-2015 season.

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

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