

A glorious launch for the OSM's new season with *Carmina Burana*

Multiple memorable moments mark the OSM autumn, including:

- Roch Voisine kicking off the OSM POP series
- Great American conductor Timothy Brock leading the OSM during the film *The Battleship Potemkin*
- As a world premiere, an octobass at the OSM for concerts celebrating 50 years of the Métro
- Two concerts guaranteed to delight 5 to 12 year olds
- A first edition of the Azrieli Music Project
- Eight pre-holiday concerts! *The Saint Matthew Passion*, a Russian Christmas and Boucar Diouf
- Plus many international soloists, including Christian Schmitt, Denis Matsuev and Vadim Repin

Montréal, September 1, 2016 — With over 100 concerts for the 2016-2017 season, a true urban symphony is what the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and music director Kent Nagano have in store. To start things off, on September 7, no less than *Carmina Burana*. Bringing together more than 200 artists on stage, the work is being presented in an orchestral version for the very first time at Maison symphonique. It's also on September 7 that the magnificent hall is celebrating its 5th anniversary. During the season the OSM is presenting a broad variety of events sure to please both lovers of classical music and those seeking to discover it.

Carmina Burana: an essential work of the 20th century

Staged on September 7, 8 and 10 (in the evening with an additional performance on Saturday afternoon), Carl Orff's cantata *Carmina Burana* is made up of 24 medieval poems. Ancient Latin cohabits with Middle High German and Old Provençal on subjects ranging from drinking to gambling, gluttony, lust and the inevitable cycle of the wheel of fortune that every year inexorably brings rebirth and springtime. This monumental concert is conducted by Kent Nagano, and groups the musicians of the OSM with soprano Aline Kutan, tenor Frédéric Antoun, baritone Russell Braun and the OSM Chorus. Also on the program, Ligeti's *Concert Românesc*.

The Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique will resonate with German organist Christian Schmitt and more;

On September 22, the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique will resonate again at the recital of the German organist Christian Schmitt. FROM BACH TO REGER: THE GERMAN ORGAN presents magisterial works, including an immense choral fantasy by Max Reger, a composer the centenary of whose death is being observed in 2016. Then on November 22, five organists come together to offer an absolutely exceptional concert! From Bach's Concerto for Four Harpsichords to Ravel's renowned *Bolero*, the overwhelming mastery of these performers will dazzle your senses. Another rendezvous on November 23 with the sounds of the pipe instrument: AMERICA ACCORDING TO GLASS, BARBER & GERSHWIN with organist Paul Jacobs, recipient of a Grammy. He will be accompanied by the OSM.

This year, the **OSM Manulife Competition** will run from November 22 to 26, 2016, and be dedicated for the first time to organ and strings. The elimination rounds are free of charge and open to the public. Come encourage Canada's best young musicians. For more information: osm.ca/competition

Pop at the OSM

For the first concerts in the series, the OSM welcomes Roch Voisine on September 27 and 28, with the participation of Jean-François Breau and Patrick Norman. This series, always much appreciated by audiences and with extraordinary quality guaranteed, presents unusual and improbable get-togethers

under the direction of conductor Simon Leclerc, who also writes the orchestrations. Don't miss the next rendezvous, in March and April 2017!

Classical music goes to the movies

A fascinating event bringing together music and cinema on October 5: projection on a large screen of one of the great works in cinematic history, the silent film *Battleship Potemkin*, to a score by Austrian composer Edmund Meisel. The musicians of the OSM will be under the direction of Timothy Brock, an American conductor specializing in 20th-century repertoire and in accompanying silent movies.

Soloists of renown

In the early part of the season, the OSM is showcasing talented soloists: Canadian violinist James Ehnes, for example, OSM violinist in residence, acclaimed on the international scene and twice a winner of the OSM Competition (October 13 and 14, and in recital on October 16); cellist Matt Haimovitz, guest soloist of the most prestigious orchestras (November 23 and 24); violinist Vadim Repin, winner of the coveted French Victoire d'honneur award (October 25 and 26); Veronika Eberle, internationally recognized German violinist (November 2, 5 and 6); and lastly, pianist Denis Matsuev, a celebrity both in Russia and around the world (November 15, 17 and 18).

Beginning on October 14, at 7 p.m. on weekdays, the MÉTRO+CONCERTO series features numerous well-known soloists and conductors in original and inspiring musical programs, but in a short intermission-free format.

Great works are on the program, including Dvořák's *Violin Concerto*, Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, Shostakovich's *Violin Concerto No. 1*, the *Brahms violin concerto*, Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No. 2* and Glass's *Cello Concerto No. 1*.

The Montréal Métro celebrates its 50th anniversary

On October 20, 22 and 23, the OSM and Société de transport de Montréal are getting together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Montréal Métro. A unique evening providing the opportunity to hear, for the very first time, works conceived especially for the event: *Tunnel Azur*, an electroacoustic piece by Robert Normandeau, and *Accelerando* an orchestral work by José Evangelista. Concert-goers will also get to see and hear, in a world premiere, an octobass, the lowest of the string instruments. It will be recalled that the OSM is alone in being privileged to integrate this extremely rare instrument into the ensemble. Complementing the program, the Orchestra performs Richard Strauss's *Ein Heldenleben*, and a Schumann concerto with one of the great cellists of our time Truls Mørk. Not your average immersion in sound!

Educational and fun concerts for the whole family

On October 2, curtain up on the Children's Corner series with MUSIC, NOISE & SILENCE, three characters from a production by *Magic Circle Mime Company* that features conductor Andrei Feher along with actors Douglas MacIntyre and Maggie Petersen. On November 13, enter the world of ALICE IN WONDERLAND as she comes across quirky characters to the sound of works by Ravel, Stravinsky, Satie, Britten, Bartok and several others. This is a multidisciplinary show produced by the OSM that blends theatre, song, puppets, juggling and dance: actors Alice Morel-Michaud and Patrick Drolet and dancers from the École supérieure de ballet du Québec will perform under the direction of the OSM's new assistant conductor, Adam Johnson.

Inaugural concert of the Azrieli Music Project

This project celebrates, fosters and ensures the creation of new Jewish orchestral music. For the inaugural concert on October 19, Maestro Nagano conducts the world premiere of the *The Seven Heavenly Halls* by Canada's Brian Current, winner of the Azrieli Commissioning Competition, as well as the Klezmer Clarinet Concerto by the young Polish-American composer Wlad Marhulets, the winner of the Azrieli Prize in Jewish Music. The Azrieli Music Project, spearheaded by Sharon Azrieli Perez, established the two new \$50,000 prizes this year to celebrate, foster, and create opportunities for the performance of high quality new orchestral music on a Jewish theme or subject. The program also features additional works reflecting

aspects of Jewish experience and culture by Mahler and Bernstein. Soloists include André Moisan, clarinet; soprano Sharon Azrieli Perez; and Serhiy Salov, piano.

Let yourself be carried away by holiday-season magic

Before yielding to the holiday rush, on November 30 and December 1 and 4 the OSM is presenting, as part of the Montreal Bach Festival, a sublime work by Johann Sebastian Bach, the *Saint Matthew Passion*, with the participation of a double chorus and six internationally renowned soloists under the baton of Kent Nagano. Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear a masterwork that has not been performed by the OSM in 10 years. On December 14 and 16, enter the magical world of a FESTIVE RUSSIAN HOLIDAY with Hélène Guilmette (soprano), Tomislav Lavoie (bass) and a children's chorus. Finally, on December 21, 22 and with an extra show on the 23rd, Boucar Diouf invites you to his with music by the band Le Vent du Nord and Patrice Michaud. Staged by Denis Bouchard and led by conductor Jean-François Rivest, these evenings will be punctuated by great orchestral works and traditional Québec music that will make you feel like dancing.

A foretaste of 2017

The programming for 2017 promises to be every bit as rich and diversified, with the HAYDN & THE MINIMALISTS FESTIVAL, the ITALIAN FESTIVAL conducted by Carlo Rizzi, the big concert celebrating the 375th anniversary of Montréal and a number of other grand-scale music events. An additional show for the Symphonic Brel concert has been announced for April 20.

The OSM's Customer Service can be reached at 514 842-9951
from Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

You are also invited to consult the OSM's 83 season programming and purchase tickets online at osm.ca.

Indispensable partnerships for the OSM

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal thanks the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and Ville de Montréal for their generous support.

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

BMO Financial Group is partner of the 2016-2017 season.

Air Canada, official carrier of the OSM

The Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique was generously offered to the OSM by Mrs. Jacqueline Desmarais.

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