

March at the OSM

Pianists in the spotlight in March at the OSM:

Kent Nagano welcomes pianist Maria João Pires

Maria João Pires and Pavel Kolesnikov in recital

A foretaste of the OSM's BMO American tour:

Kent Nagano conducts *The Rite of Spring*

and Daniil Trifonov is back with the OSM in Prokofiev's explosive Third Piano Concerto

The splendors of French polyphony with the OSM Chorus and Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique

Montréal, February 24, 2016 – The countdown has begun. It's with great anticipation that the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is preparing its major ten-concert tour in as many towns across the United States in mid-March. But before leaving, **Kent Nagano** and the **OSM** are offering music lovers a few not-to-be-missed concerts: the visit of pianists **Maria João Pires**, **Pavel Kolesnikov** and **Daniil Trifonov**. Then, in the absence of the Orchestra, **Andrew Megill** will lead the **OSM Chorus** for a concert featuring the splendors of French vocal music as well as the breathtaking sound of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique, with organist **Vincent Boucher** at the helm.

Maria João Pires & Kent Nagano

Thursday, March 3, 2016 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 5, 2016 – 8:00 p.m.

Series: Power Corporation of Canada Thursday Grand Concerts 2

Air Canada OSM Saturday Evenings

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Artists

Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

Kent Nagano, conductor

Maria João Pires, piano (OSM artist in residence*)

Presentation of the concert

Beethoven, Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37 (34')

Bruckner, Symphony No. 4 in E-flat major, "Romantic" (70')

On the occasion of this Beethoven-Bruckner double-header conducted by **Kent Nagano**, pianist **Maria João Pires** will perform Beethoven's *Third Piano Concerto*. Born in Portugal, the pianist began performing in public at the age of five, playing Mozart. Ms. Pires attended the Lisbon Conservatory, and refined her art with such teachers as Campos Coelho and Francine Benoît in Portugal and Rosl Schmidt and Karl Engel in Germany. Recipient of many distinctions, she was awarded first prize in Brussels in 1970 at the Beethoven Bicentennial Competition – a recognition that launched her career, and her refined playing has been acclaimed by critics ever since. Artist in residence at the OSM, she will also be alongside the Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in New York on March 15 for a concert given as part of the 2016 American tour. The grand-scale and the sublime rub shoulders in Bruckner's imposing *Symphony No. 4*. Designated "Romantic" by the composer himself, the luminous work, which celebrates the mysticism of nature, completes the program for these two evenings.

medici.tv

The **Maria João Pires & Kent Nagano** concert
will be recorded by medici.tv and be available free of charge on their Web platform
for a period of 90 days starting on March 6, 2016.

*The *OSM Artists in Residence* program is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Larry & Cookie Rossy Family Foundation.

[For further details](#)

Maria João Pires & Pavel Kolesnikov

Sunday, March 6, 2016 – 2:30 p.m.

Series: Recitals

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Artists

Maria João Pires, piano (OSM artist in residence*)

Pavel Kolesnikov, piano

Presentation of the recital

Schubert, Allegro in A minor for Piano Four Hands, D. 947, “Lebensstürme” (13’)

Beethoven, Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111 (26’)

Beethoven, Seven Bagatelles, Op. 33 (22’)

Schubert, Fantasy in F minor for Piano Four Hands, D. 940 (20’)

The career of the young pianist **Pavel Kolesnikov** is flourishing. Hailed by *BBC Magazine* for the “tremendous clarity, unflinching musicality and considerable beauty” of his playing, he will be making his Montreal debut at this exceptional recital, where he will be joined onstage by **Maria João Pires**, whose student he was in Brussels.

Pavel Kolesnikov and Maria João Pires will perform Schubert’s *Allegro “Lebensstürme”* (Storms of Life) as well as his *Fantasy in F minor*, written in 1828 – the very year of his death – and which remains the composer’s best-known work for four hands. As a solo, the Russian pianist will perform Beethoven’s *Seven Bagatelles, Op. 33*, while Maria João Pires will tackle the formidable *Sonata, Op. 111*, the last of the great composer’s 32 sonatas.

This recital is presented in collaboration with Pro Musica.

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[For further details](#)

The Rite of Spring conducted by Kent Nagano

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 – 8:00 p.m., presented by Air Canada

Wednesday, March 9, 2016 – 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 10, 2016 – 8:00 p.m.

Series: BMO Tuesday Grand Concerts

Wednesday Grand Concerts 2 Fillion électronique

Thursday Grands Concerts 1

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Artists

Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

Kent Nagano, conductor

Daniil Trifonov, piano

Presentation of the concert

Debussy, *Jeux* (20')

Prokofiev, Piano Concerto No. 3 in C major, Op. 26 (27')

Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring* (30')

When admitted to Moscow's Gnessin Russian Academy of Music, **Daniil Trifonov** studied under Tatiana Zelikman until 2009, and then entered the class of Sergei Babayan at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Since 2011, the year he won two prestigious competitions, the Russian pianist has led a brilliant international career. He joins the OSM for Prokofiev's explosive *Third Concerto*.

Kent Nagano will also conduct the OSM in two ballets: *Jeux*, Claude Debussy's final piece for orchestra, and *The Rite of Spring*, a flagship work of the 20th century and one of the monuments of Stravinsky's musical modernism. Premiered in Paris a few weeks apart for the renowned choreographer Vaslav Nijinsky, these pillars of the repertoire are also part of the musical program for the tour that will bring the OSM and its music director to American audiences from March 14 to 26.

[For further details](#)

The OSM Chorus and French polyphony

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 – 8:00 p.m.

Series: Non-series

Maison symphonique de Montréal

Artists

OSM Chorus

Andrew Megill, OSM chorus director

Ellen Wieser, soprano

Marie-Annick Béliveau, alto

David Menzies, solo tenor

Benoît Leblanc, solo bass

Vincent Boucher, organ

Presentation of the concert

Dufay, *Adieu ces bons vins de Lannoy* (4 min.)

Marie-Annick Béliveau, alto; David Menzies, tenor; Benoît Leblanc, bass

A capella, without the chorus

des Prés, *Mille regretz* (3 min.)

Chorus a capella

Passereau, *Il est bel et bon* (1 min.)

Chorus a capella

Lassus, *Bon jour mon cœur* (3 min.)

Chorus a capella

Lassus, *La nuit froide et sombre* (2 min.)

Chorus a capella

Janequin, *La guerre* (7 min.)

Chorus a capella

Saint-Saëns, *Calme des nuits*, Op. 68, No. 1 (4 min.)

Chorus a capella

Saint-Saëns, *Les fleurs et les arbres*, Op. 68, No. 2 (3 min.)

Chorus a capella

Ravel, *Trois chansons* (7 min.)

No. 1 Chorus a capella

No. 2 Ellen Wieser, soprano; Marie-Annick Béliveau, alto; David Menzies, tenor; Benoît Leblanc, bass;
chorus a capella

No. 3 Chorus a capella

Debussy, *Trois chansons de Charles d'Orléans* (7 min.)

No. 1 Chorus a capella

No. 2 Ellen Wieser, soprano; chorus a capella

No. 3 Ellen Wieser, soprano; Marie-Annick Béliveau, alto; David Menzies, tenor; Benoît Leblanc, bass;
chorus a capella

L. Boulanger, *Psaume 24, « La terre appartient à l'Éternel »* (Psalm 24, "The earth is the Lord's") (5 min.)

David Menzies, tenor; chorus; Vincent Boucher, organ

Poulenc, *Gloria* (arr. for chorus and organ) (25 min.)

Ellen Wieser, soprano; chorus; Vincent Boucher, organ

This concert showcases the splendors of French vocal music from the Renaissance to the 20th century, including the rarely heard *Gloria* by Poulenc, all of it glorified by the **OSM Chorus** led by **Andrew Megill**. This will be a true journey through time with works either *a capella* or accompanied on the organ by **Vincent Boucher**, titular organist at Saint Joseph's Oratory. Here is the ideal opportunity to discover both the Maison symphonique acoustics in a different way and the majestic sounds of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Bélique!

[For further details](#)

The OSM's BMO American tour

March 14 to 26, 2016

Under the direction of **Kent Nagano**, the great American spring tour will be the ninth by the OSM in the United States and will mark the 27th appearance of the Orchestra at New York's prestigious Carnegie Hall.

Pianists **Daniil Trifonov** and **Maria João Pires** are the soloists taking part in the tour. They will perform concertos by Prokofiev and Beethoven in programs that include Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring and The Firebird*. The tour will begin on the American East Coast, with concerts in Washington, New York and Boston, before continuing in Chicago and

Ann Arbor. The Orchestra will wind up its travels on the West Coast, in California (Palm Desert, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Rohnert Park and Berkeley). The last tour on this scale right across U.S. territory took place 25 years ago.

Tour partners

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal wishes to thank its tour partners: BMO Financial Group, Power Corporation of Canada, presenter of the concert in New York and Boston, Fiera Capital, Fondation de l'OSM, Air Canada, Tourisme Montréal and Blue Cross. This tour is made possible thanks to the financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the City of Montréal.

At the dawn of its large-scale American tour, the OSM welcomes three of the great pianists on the international scene. Then, with the Orchestra away, the OSM Chorus invites music lovers to enjoy beautiful scores from French vocal music. That, in a nutshell, is the programming for the month of March at the OSM!

For further information on the OSM's 82nd season: osm.ca

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The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal wishes to thank the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and the City of Montréal for their generous support.

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

BMO Financial Group is partner of the 2015-2016 season.

Air Canada, official carrier of the OSM.

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