

2019 EUROPEAN TOUR, MARCH 11 TO 25: THE OSM AND KENT NAGANO IN EUROPE'S GREAT CONCERT HALLS AND ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER'S MUCH-AWAITED VISIT TO MONTREAL

Montreal, March 5, 2019 – Europe awaits the musicians of the **OSM** and **Kent Nagano** who depart for the Old Continent on March 8. They will be greeted at some of the most prestigious venues in many of Europe's great capitals, on what will be the OSM's 12th European tour. The Orchestra will perform in 9 cities: 6 in Germany, and stops in Vienna, Paris, and Brussels. This tour will also feature the OSM's first-ever concert at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, where Kent Nagano currently serves as the Philharmoniker's Principal Conductor and State Opera's Music Director. Then, on March 19, the OSM pays its 9th visit to Paris but gives the first performance in its history at the **Philharmonie de Paris**. The following day, the Orchestra travels to Brussels for a concert celebrating the **Journée internationale de la Francophonie**. The tour concludes with an auspicious return performance at the world-class Berliner Philharmonie, on March 25.

Take off: The OSM's programming in March, in 3, 2, 1...

TOUR ITINERARY AND PROGRAMMES

MARCH 11 • DÜSSELDORF (GERMANY), TONHALLE

RAFAŁ BLECHACZ, PIANO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Mozart, Piano Concerto no. 23 in A major K. 488 / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

MARCH 13 • HAMBURG (GERMANY), ELBPHILHARMONIE

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, PIANO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Saint-Saëns, Piano Concerto no. 5, "The Egyptian" / Stravinsky, *Petrushka* (1947)

MARCH 14 • ESSEN (GERMANY), PHILHARMONIE

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, PIANO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Saint-Saëns, Piano Concerto no. 5, "The Egyptian" / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

MARCH 17 • VIENNA (AUSTRIA), KONZERTHAUS

RAFAŁ BLECHACZ, PIANO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Mozart, Piano Concerto no. 23 in A major K. 488 / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

MARCH 19 • PARIS (FRANCE), PHILHARMONIE

MARIE-NICOLE LEMIEUX, CONTRALTO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Wagner, *Wesendonck Lieder* / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

The opening work on the programme presented at the prestigious Philharmonie de Paris, *Jeux* by Claude Debussy, will be broadcast live on the OSM's Facebook page starting at 3:30 p.m. Eastern time.

The complete concert will be available for the public to watch on the paid classical music channel Mezzo, at a later date.

MARCH 20 • BRUSSELS (BELGIUM), PALAIS DES BEAUX-ARTS

MARIE-NICOLE LEMIEUX, CONTRALTO

Berlioz, 3 excerpts from *La damnation de Faust* / Wagner, *Wesendonck Lieder* / Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Stravinsky, *Petrushka* (1947)



MARCH 21 • MUNICH (GERMANY), PHILHARMONIE IM GASTEIG

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, PIANO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Saint-Saëns, Piano Concerto no. 5, "The Egyptian" / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

MARCH 22 • REGENSBURG (GERMANY), AUDIMAX DER UNIVESITÄT REGENSBURG

RAFAŁ BLECHACZ, PIANO

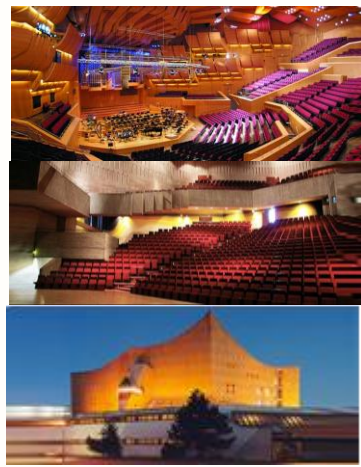
Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Mozart, Piano Concerto no. 23 in A major K. 488 / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

MARCH 25 • BERLIN (GERMANY), PHILHARMONIE

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, PIANO

Debussy, *Jeux, poème dansé* / Saint-Saëns, Piano Concerto no. 5, "The Egyptian" / Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*

Watch the complete performance of the OSM's concert in the mythical Berlin Philharmonie Hall. This closing concert of our European tour will be broadcast on the OSM's Facebook page, as well as on Medici.tv starting at 3 p.m. (Eastern time)!



Three soloists are on board for the tour: Polish pianist **Rafał Blechacz** (photo), who leads an impressive career after winning the International Frédéric Chopin Piano Competition, will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 23 in A major; French pianist **Jean-Yves Thibaudet** (photo), whose international career in the past 30 years has led to eight performances with the OSM since 1986, will be heard in Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto no. 5, "The Egyptian"; and the sublime Quebec contralto **Marie-Nicole Lemieux** (photo), an artist with whom the OSM has enjoyed a special connection since their first collaboration in 2006, joins the Orchestra and Kent Nagano in a performance of Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder*. The tour's artistic programming also features *Jeux* by Debussy, Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* and *Petrushka* (1947), as well as three excerpts from Berlioz's *La damnation de Faust*: "Marche hongroise", "Ballet des sylphes," and "Menuet des follets."



THERE'S MORE AT THE MAISON SYMPHONIQUE IN MARCH...

RAVEL AND STRAVINSKY

TUESDAY, MARCH 5 AND WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 8 P.M.

The **OSM** and **Kent Nagano** pay another tribute to Ravel, Saint-Saëns, and Stravinsky but this time around, Spain is depicted in colourful, sultry tones in Ravel's *Alborada del gracioso* and Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto no. 5 incorporates Arabic accents while providing an opportunity to hear **Jean-Yves Thibaudet** as the soloist. Stravinsky's spirited *Petrushka* completes this exciting programme presented the following week in Hamburg.

THE CONCERT ON MARCH 5 IS PRESENTED AS PART OF THE BMO SYMPHONIC TUESDAY SERIES.

ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 8 P.M.

Illustrious German violinist **Anne-Sophie Mutter** pays a visit to Montreal for a single recital in which Mozart meets French composers of the early 20th century, in a simply scintillating programme. She will be joined on stage by her faithful collaborator, the distinguished American pianist **Lambert Orkis** in a performance of Mozart's Sonata for Violin and Piano in B-flat major, Ravel's Sonata for Violin and Piano no. 2, Debussy's Sonata for Violin and Piano no. 3, and Poulenc's Sonata for Violin and Piano.

THIS CONCERT IS PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PRO MUSICA.



BRAHMS' GERMAN REQUIEM

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2 P.M.

Majestic, solemn, poignant: these are only a few of the words that describe the grandeur of Brahms' *A German Requiem*. This monument will be performed, for the occasion, with accompaniment at the organ. Brahms meditated at length on this Requiem dedicated to the memory of his mother and of Schumann, as well as to all that is sacred in humankind. This work will be performed by the **OSM Chorus** under the direction of **Andrew Megill**, with organist **Jonathan Ryan** and soloists **France Bellemare** (soprano) and **Tomislav Lavoie** (bass).

A LOOK BACK ON THE BAL DES ENFANTS



Members of the Honour Committee: Samia Medelci, Annie Paré, François Pintal, Marie-Louise Deslisle, Jean-Marc De Grandpré, Caroline Montminy, Maestro Kent Nagano, the Honorable Minister of Families Mathieu Lacombe, honorary Co-Chair Marie Pier Germain and the OSM's CEO Madeleine Careau.

On Saturday, March 2, 1800 people gathered at the Maison symphonique de Montréal for the 6th edition of the OSM's Bal des enfants. This year's theme, Jules Verne's novel *Around the World in 80 Days*, propelled this family-friendly benefit event to resounding success, raising the sum of \$ 300 000. Since its inception in 2014, the team of the Bal des enfants has judiciously invested funds raised over the years in projects that embody the OSM's mission of education and accessibility. In addition to many donations to the OSM, thanks to the generosity of the event's 67 partners, the Orchestra was able, again this year, to make room for over 400 special guests: children aged 5 to 12 and their families sponsored by 24 family support organizations in the greater Montreal area.



A live recording of this concert will be broadcast on the OSM Facebook page, Tuesday March 5th. It will remain for viewers to access during a period of one month, until April 5th, 2019. This live recording was made possible through the generous support of the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation.

For programme details or to purchase tickets online: [OSM.CA](https://osm.ca) / 514 842-9951

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR PRECIOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE OSM EUROPEAN TOUR

The Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is presented by Hydro-Québec. We thank Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Canada Council for the Arts, gouvernement du Québec, Conseil des arts de Montréal, Ville de Montréal, Power Corporation of Canada, Bombardier, OSM Foundation, and the Blue Cross.

THE OSM WISHES TO THANK ITS PARTNERS

Contributions from the Orchestre's public partners are essential to its operations. The OSM wishes to acknowledge its main partner, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, as well as the Canada Council for the Arts, the gouvernement du Québec, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, and the City of Montreal.

The OSM is proud to be able to rely on its loyal partners, and wishes to gratefully acknowledge its Presenting Sponsor, Hydro-Quebec, as well as its Season Partner, BMO.

We also wish to express our gratitude to Alfid, Fondation J.A. DeSève, IG Private Wealth Management, Le Groupe Maurice, Power Corporation of Canada, Great-West Life, London Life and Canada-Life, Stingray Music, TD Bank Group, BBA, Cogeco, Estiatorio Milos, GDI Integrated Facility Services, Korwin-Szymanowski Family Foundation, National Bank, Nitrex Metal Inc., Sélection Retraite, Spinelli Lexus, Charton-Hobbs, ESKA, DoubleTree by Hilton Montreal, IRIS, Ritz-Carlton Montreal, Solotech and the WCPD Foundation.

Tickets also available at PLACEDESARTS.COM

-30-

PRESS RELATIONS: Pascale Ouimet, Head of Public and Media Relations, T. 514 840-7436 • pouimet@osm.ca