



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate release

## VIRTUAL AND IN-HALL SEASON LAUNCH

### The Orchestra starts up again with the music of Beethoven and Mozart

Montreal, September 8, 2020 – With brilliance and excitement in equal measure, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal is soon to kick off its new season, also marking a decade on the stage of the magnificent Maison symphonique, in a fall opening that could hardly be more unusual! Eager to re-engage with audiences, from September 11 to 13, the OSM offers a series of concerts in connection with Beethoven’s 250th birthday celebrations. Spanning four programs directed by Quebec conductor **Bernard Labadie**, this major event encompasses symphonies, concertos, chamber music and vocal music, highlighting Beethoven’s musical affiliation with another Viennese genius: Mozart! In the course of these four triumphant concerts, the OSM is proud to welcome a roster of all-local artists: sublime soloists **Marie-Nicole Lemieux** (Artist-in-Residence), **Karina Gauvin**, **James Ehnes**, **André Moisan**, and **Charles Richard-Hamelin**.



Marie-Nicole Lemieux



Bernard Labadie



Charles Richard-Hamelin

In keeping with Public Health regulations, only 250 people may be admitted to the Maison symphonique per performance. The OSM will, however, make these four September concerts accessible via webcast. Designed specially for the occasion in collaboration with well-known Quebec artist **Brigitte Poupart**, these concerts will offer an enhanced experience; original staging, redesigned lighting, and exclusive content, all for the benefit of live spectators as well those viewing concerts from their home; interviews with musicologists and historians about works on the programmes; talks with guest soloists and conductors, as well as up-close and personal footage of rehearsals with the artists.



**HEALTH AND SAFETY FIRST** For the OSM, the health and safety of its audiences, musicians and staff is its highest priority. Concerts will be given under the strictest sanitary conditions, in compliance with Public Health directives. A health protocol for the Maison symphonique has been designed in collaboration with the venue’s resident staff and administration, the OSM and Place des Arts. Several measures will consequently be implemented, and audience members are invited to consult our website for further details.



The opening concert, broadcast by MEDICI.TV, will be available free of charge on our Facebook page as well as on the OSM website. For the three subsequent concerts presented from September 15 to 29 on the OSM website, home-based audience members are invited to make a donation in the amount of their choice (providing for a minimum of \$10 per concert). Each concert will be available to view for a period of seven days.

## SEPTEMBER CONCERTS AT THE MAISON SYMPHONIQUE AND THEIR WEBCASTS

### SEPTEMBER 11 AT 8 P.M. • OPENING CONCERT: VOCAL MUSIC BY BEETHOVEN

📡 SEPTEMBER 11, FREE WEBCAST ON OSM.CA, THE OSM'S FACEBOOK PAGE AND ON MEDICI.TV

### SEPTEMBER 12, 2:30 P.M. • BEETHOVEN'S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 4 BY CHARLES RICHARD-HAMELIN

📡 SEPTEMBER 15, BROADCAST BY MINIMUM DONATION OF \$10 ON OSM.CA

### SEPTEMBER 12, 8 P.M. • LOVE POETRY BY MOZART AND BEETHOVEN

📡 SEPTEMBER 22, BROADCAST BY MINIMUM DONATION OF \$10 ON OSM.CA

### SEPTEMBER 13, 2:30 P.M. • MOZART ARIAS AND BEETHOVEN'S "PASTORAL" SYMPHONY

📡 SEPTEMBER 29, BROADCAST BY MINIMUM DONATION OF \$10 ON OSM.CA

[VIEW DETAILS HERE](#)



Get ready for the 81st edition of the **OSM COMPETITION!** Open to Canadian musicians aged 16 to 25, this new edition devoted to woodwinds and brass will be 100% online! Competition rounds will be broadcast on the web, culminating in an announcement of the

winner on December 12, 2020. Registration is open now and until October 5, and everything you need to know can be found on the OSM website.

**PLEASE NOTE!** Journalists wishing to attend concerts for the 2020–2021 season should contact the OSM's public relations team without delay. **Seats are highly limited.**

## THE OSM WISHES TO THANK ITS PARTNERS, SUBSCRIBERS AND AUDIENCES

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

The OSM is proud to have the support of its loyal sponsors and gratefully acknowledges its Presenting Sponsor, Hydro-Québec, its Season and Digital Fall Concerts Partner, BMO Financial Group, as well as its Major Series Sponsor, Power Corporation of Canada. We also wish to express our gratitude to the OSM Foundation, Sélection Retraite, Yimby, Air Canada, Fondation J. A. DeSève, Le Groupe Maurice, Spinelli, Canada Life, National Bank, BBA, Cogeco, Estiatorio Milos, Volvo Car Canada, Charton-Hobbs, Doubletree by Hilton Montreal, ESKA, IRIS, Ritz-Carlton Montreal and Solotech. The OSM is likewise grateful to its other donors and partners, as well its subscribers and audiences, who in different ways provide essential support for its activities. The Artists-in-Residence programme is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Rossy Foundation. The Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique has been generously gifted to the OSM by Ms. Jacqueline Desmarais.