

Carnegie Hall today unveiled its 2019–2020 programming: the OSM in concert in New York on March 24, 2020!

UNTIL THEN, FEBRUARY WITH THE OSM AND KENT NAGANO IS FULL TO THE BRIM

Montreal, January 30, 2019 – This month, the OSM carries on its tradition of devoting a week of concerts to the musical world of a single composer. From February 7 to 10, BRAHMS AND THE ART OF FILM will treat audiences to Johannes Brahms' complete cycle of four symphonies, as well as four new soundtracks to four short films directed by Kent Nagano. Then, the public is invited to DON JUAN SYMPHONIQUE, a new version of the popular musical, orchestrated by conductor Simon Leclerc. The month of February also features an unprecedented musical event: IMPROV AND ORGAN, a theatrical and musical encounter between actors and musicians! Stravinsky's groundbreaking THE RITE OF SPRING is sure to captivate audiences all over again. Finally, this month the OSM showcases the most accomplished Polish pianist of the younger generation, Rafał Blechacz, who returns to perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 in MOZART ACCORDING TO KENT NAGANO.

RETURN PERFORMANCE AT CARNEGIE HALL! Today, Carnegie Hall announced its programming for the 2019–2020 season: the **OSM** and **Maestro Nagano** return to perform in the prestigious New York venue on **March 24, 2020! Mickaël Pletnev** will give a performance of Schumann's *Piano Concerto in A minor, op. 54*, and two men's choirs from the University of Illinois along with bass **Alexander Vinogradov**, joins the Orchestra in a performance of Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 13*, a work that pays tribute to victims of the Babi Yar massacre and is inspired by the eponymous poem of Soviet writer Yevgeny Yevtushenko. This marks the 45th time the OSM takes the stage at Carnegie Hall for its 29th programme offering there.

And now, here is our wide-ranging February programming at the Maison symphonique!

BRAHMS AND THE ART OF FILM These four concerts are the result of a collaboration between the OSM, the National Film Board (NFB), and the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia University. In February 2019, the OSM presents a screening of four films, each to a live performance of a newly composed soundtrack and exploring the perennial close connections between orchestral music and moving pictures.



This new music in cinematic performance will also be heard alongside one of the four symphonic masterpieces of Johannes Brahms, a composer whose final years coincided with the birth of cinema.

BRAHMS AND THE ART OF FILM: SYMPHONY NO. 1

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 AT 8 P.M.

Brahms completed his superb *Symphony No. 1* after nearly twenty years in the making. The work was received with exceeding warmth and was dubbed "Beethoven's 10th Symphony," for it was seen in Brahms' time as a passing of the torch between composers of great symphonic masterpieces. Also on the programme: the premiere of a new work commissioned by the OSM for bass clarinet and orchestra by Quebec composer **Blair Thomson**, as well as Mozart's *Violin Concerto No. 5*, performed respectively by the OSM's Principal Bass Clarinet **André Moisan** and outstanding German violinist **Veronika Eberle**. The film to be screened is *Pas de deux* (1968) by **Norman McLaren** (NFB).

BRAHMS AND THE ART OF FILM: SYMPHONY NO. 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 7 P.M. - EXPRESS CONCERT

Newly enthused by the symphonic genre, Brahms composed his *Symphony No. 2* in just one year. A delight to listen to from the very first measures, it shows the composer's penchant for the Classical style and was received even more enthusiastically than his First Symphony. Also on the programme of this concert, Richard Strauss' Brahms-influenced *Burleske* for piano and orchestra, composed in 1885-86. This work provides the opportunity to appreciate the art of illustrious Austrian pianist **Rudolf Buchbinder**. Next on the programme is the world premiere of *Iris* by Canadian composer **Jordan Pal**, to a screening of *Vogue la rivière* by Quebec filmmaker **Mathias Arroyo-Bégin** of Concordia University's Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema.

BRAHMS AND THE ART OF FILM: SYMPHONY NO. 3

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 AT 8 P.M.

The success of Brahms' Symphony No. 3 echoed as far as North America. Though the work expresses a world of emotions, a heroic quality emanates from the first movement especially. Audiences will also hear the world premiere of a work by Canadian composer and pianist Zosha Di Castri: an original soundtrack commissioned by the OSM to accompany the screening of Hunger (1973) by Peter Foldès (NFB). To complete the programme, the OSM welcomes Veronika Eberle in a performance of Dvořák's Slavonic-inflected Violin Concerto.

BRAHMS AND THE ART OF FILM: SYMPHONY NO. 4

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10 AT 2 P.M.

Brahms' last orchestral work, the *Symphony No. 4*, is a compendium of the composer's passions and torments. Before this monument is heard, however, Beethoven expert **Rudolf Buchbinder** will perform the latter composer's *Piano* Concerto No. 4, a masterpiece that transcends musical eras. A screening of *Nails* (1973) by **Phillip Borsos** (NFB) to the world premiere of an OSM-commissioned work by French composer **Régis Campo**, concludes the programme.

THIS CONCERT IS PRESENTED AS PART OF THE GROUPE MAURICE MUSICAL SUNDAYS SERIES.

DON JUAN SYMPHONIQUE

FEBRUARY 12, 13, 14, AND 15 AT 8 P.M., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AT 2:30 AND 8 P.M.





Acclaimed by over 600 000 spectators in Canada, France, and South Korea, Félix Gray's musical comedy celebrates its 15th year! DON JUAN SYMPHONIQUE brings together the talents of Marie-Ève Janvier, Jean-François Breau, Mario Pelchat, Robert Marien, Philippe Berghella, Cindy Daniel, Cassiopée, and the musicians of the OSM. Directed by Simon Leclerc, Associate Conductor of the OSM POP series and creator of the symphonic arrangements, this is a marvellous opportunity to discover and fall for the legendary lovers of Seville, or to rediscover this famous musical in a masterful adaptation! THIS CONCERT IS PRESENTED BY THE OSM IN

IMPROV AND ORGAN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 8 P.M.

Improvisation is not just for actors! Improvisation is an integral part of mastering the organ, as will be abundantly clear after this extraordinary musical encounter pairing organists with actors under the leadership of Master of ceremonies **François-Étienne Paré**. Enjoy new heights of artistic versatility with this unprecedented concert full of

intensity, novelty, and delight, a truly memorable evening! Featuring actors **Réal Bossé**, **Vincent Bolduc**, **Sophie Caron**, **Salomé Corbo**, and **Didier Lucien** as well as musicians **Alcée Chriss III** (organ), **Jean-Willy Kunz** (organ), **Fabrice Marandola** (percussion), and **André Moisan** (clarinets and saxophones).





THE RITE OF SPRING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 2:30 P.M.

Kent Nagano sets the Maison symphonique ablaze with Stravinsky's **RITE OF SPRING**, one of the OSM's signature classics. This programme, which the Orchestra is also scheduled to

perform in March 2019 at several of the most prestigious European concert halls, also includes Debussy's *Jeux* and Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder*, featuring the sublime voice of contralto **Marie-Nicole Lemieux** (photo).

THIS CONCERT IS PRESENTED AS PART OF THE GROUPE MAURICE MUSICAL SUNDAYS SERIES.

MOZART ACCORDING TO KENT NAGANO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 AND THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28 AT 8 P.M.

Polish pianist **Rafał Blechacz**, who has led a remarkable career after his triumph in 2005 at the International Chopin Piano Competition, returns to perform Mozart's celebrated *Piano Concerto No. 23* with the OSM. Alongside other works by the great master of Viennese classicism, this concert also features Claude Vivier's *Siddhartha*, inspired by Herman Hesse's novel of the same name, which relates the story of a young man who embarks on a spiritual journey in search of enlightenment. The OSM will also perform Mozart's *Serenade No. 12 in C minor* as well as the Overture to *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute). THE CONCERT ON FEBRUARY 27 IS PRESENTED AS PART OF THE ALFID WEDNESDAY 1 SYMPHONIC SERIES.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: THE UNVEILING OF THE 2019–2020 SEASON,
MAESTRO NAGANO'S LAST SEASON WITH THE OSM. WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 28 AT 1PM



ALSO NOT TO BE MISSED AT THE MAISON SYMPHONIQUE...

On February 23, **Kent Nagano** conducts **SOUTH AMERICA ACCORDING TO THE OSM**, a concert that explores an eclectic assortment of times and places! After the performance of two dance suites, respectively by Bach and Ravel, we pay a visit to Latin America, with Ginastera's *Violin Concerto* (Argentina) performed by OSM Concertmaster Andrew Wan, as well as *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5* by Villa-Lobos (Brazil). The OSM will also

welcome a great number of families to its 6th edition of the **BAL DES ENFANTS**, on March 2, 2019. The event features a performance of **AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS... OR ALMOST!** From London to San Francisco, with stops in Mumbai and

Tokyo, the **OSM**, under the direction of **Maestro Nagano** will transport guests of all ages on an adventure packed with surprises! Enjoy this annual fundraising event in support of the OSM's educational and accessibility missions.



For programme details or to purchase tickets online: OSM.CA / 514 842-9951.

THE OSM WISHES TO THANK ITS PARTNERS Contributions from the Orchestra'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 have the support of its loyal sponsors, and gratefully acknowledges its Presenting Sponsor, Hydro-Quebec, as well as its Season Partner, BMO Financial Group.

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

Tickets also available at PLACEDESARTS.COM