



CARTER JOHNSON – PIANO Wins the Grand Prize of OSM Manulife Competition 2018

Montreal, November 17, 2018 ▪ In a captivating finale at the Maison symphonique, before an enthralled and delighted audience, the 2018 edition of the **OSM MANULIFE COMPETITION** drew to a close tonight, with the revelation of its Grand Prize winner: **CARTER JOHNSON**. In addition to the various awards associated with this victory, this musician will have the opportunity to perform with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal on January 16, 2019, in a concert directed by American conductor **David Robertson**.

Without further delay... THE RESULTS!

The numerous prizes and bursaries awarded in the Competition total more than \$100,000.

OSM MANULIFE GRAND PRIZE

This prize is awarded to the finalist, all categories combined, whose performances merited the greatest distinction throughout the Competition. The winner of the **2018 OSM MANULIFE GRAND PRIZE**, **Carter Johnson** is awarded the following prizes:

- A \$10,000 scholarship from Manulife;
- A concert with the OSM conducted by David Robertson, scheduled January 16, 2019, at the Maison symphonique;
- Recital at OSM Classical Spree in the summer of 2019;
- ICI musique Prize: A professional recording in one of Radio-Canada's studios, to be broadcast on ICI Musique radio and website;
- Orford Musique Prize: A recital at the Orford Arts Centre during the 2019–2020 season;
- National Arts Centre Prize: A concert at the NAC during the 2019–2020 season;
- Northern Arts and Cultural Centre Prize: A concert at the NACC during the 2019–2020 season;
- Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra Prize: A concert during the NSO's 2019–2020 season;
- YOA Orchestra of the Americas Prize: A concert tour in the summer of 2019. This prize is generously supported by Mr. Réal Plourde and Ms. Ariane Riou;
- Michèle-Paré Prize: A \$5000 scholarship, to support the development of a professional career in music, courtesy of Jean Paré and family.

PIANO CATEGORY, CLASS A, AGES 18 TO 25

First Prize: **Carter Johnson** receives a \$10,000 scholarship provided by Manulife.

Second Prize: **Kevin Ahfat** receives a \$5,000 scholarship provided by the Marjorie and Gerald Bronfman Foundation.

Third Prize: **Zhan Hong Xiao** receives a scholarship of \$2,500 provided by Ms. Barbara Bronfman.

PIANO CATEGORY, CLASS B, 17 YEARS AND UNDER

First Prize: **Henry From**, receives a \$10,000 scholarship provided by Manulife.

Second Prize: **Kevin Chen**, receives a \$5,000 scholarship provided by the Paul A. Fournier Foundation.

Third Prize: **Bui J J Jun Li**, receives the Aline-Hector-Perrier scholarship of \$2,500 provided by the Fonds Les Amis de l'Art.

HARP CATEGORY

First Prize: **Clara Wang** receives a \$10,000 scholarship provided by Manulife.

Second Prize: **Phoebe Powell**, receives a V. E. Lambert scholarship of \$5,000 provided by the Lambert-Fortier-Gagnon Estate.

BEST PERFORMANCE OF A CANADIAN WORK

Piano Category, Class A: **Kevin Ahfat**, receives a \$2,500 scholarship provided by the OSM Volunteer Association for *The Eternal Earth, Scherzo*, T. Patrick Carrabré

Piano Category, Class B: **Bui J J Jun Li**, receives a \$2,500 scholarship provided by the OSM Musicians' Association for *Musiques de l'eau*, Gilles Tremblay

Harp Category: **Phoebe Powell**, receives a \$2,500 scholarship provided by Ms. Juliana Pleines for *Illumination*, Kelly-Marie Murphy

SPECIAL PRIZES

ASPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL AND SCHOOL PRIZE

Phoebe Powell receives a scholarship covering housing and tuition for an eight-week advanced programme during the summer of 2019 at the Aspen Music Festival and School. This scholarship is provided through support from the Fondation Ariane Riou & Réal Plourde.

DOMAINE FORGET PRIZE

Jaeden Izik-Dzurko receives a scholarship covering accommodation and tuition for an advanced training programme at Domaine Forget in 2019.

BANFF ARTS CENTRE PRIZE

Jean-Luc Therrien, Clara Wang and Zhan Hong Xiao each receive a scholarship covering accommodation and tuition for an advanced programme in the Music and Sound Department at the Banff Centre in 2019.

ORFORD MUSIQUE PRIZE

Joshua Wong, Nicole Linaksita and Kevin Ahfat each receive a scholarship covering accommodation and tuition for an advanced programme at Orford Music in 2019.

SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MUSIC PRIZE

Carter Johnson, Henry From and Clara Wang each receive a scholarship covering tuition for a programme of study in Music Performance at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University.

STINGRAY RISING STARS—PUBLIC'S CHOICE: : Bui J J Jun Li, piano

The public was invited to vote online or at the Maison symphonique to choose a winner for Competition partner Stingray Musique's Rising Stars Award. This year, **Bui J J Jun Li** won the audience's heart and receives a \$2,500 scholarship.

AN IMPRESSIVE INTERNATIONAL JURY

The jury of this year's edition of the Competition was presided by **Rachel van Walsum**, Managing Director of Maestro Arts Management in London. The grand jury was made up of professionals of international renown: **Jeremy Geffen** (USA), Director of Artistic Planning, Carnegie Hall, and **Huw Humphreys** (UK), Head of Music of the Barbican Centre.

The principal judges in the Piano Category were **Till Fellner** (Austria), soloist and Professor at Zürich University of the Arts, and **Christopher Elton** (UK), Professor Emeritus at the Royal Academy of Music. The judges in the Harp Category were **Isabelle Moretti** (France), soloist and Professor at the Conservatoire de Paris and **Yolanda Kondonassis** (USA), soloist and Professor at the Oberlin Conservatory and Cleveland Institute of Music.

The OSM wishes to thank its official Competition accompanists, as well as its mentors and volunteers. Their contributions were essential to the fulfillment and success of this year's Competition.

OSM MANULIFE COMPETITION

The OSM Manulife Competition came into being in 1940, on the initiative of Wilfrid Pelletier, the first music director of the Société des Concerts Symphoniques de Montréal, which in 1954 would become the OSM. To date, more than 350 prize-winners have made a name for themselves during this performance competition's rounds, among them Angela Hewitt, James Ehnes, Louis Lortie, André Laplante, Angèle Dubeau, Karina Gauvin, Jonathan Crow, Stéphane Tétreault, Jan Lisiecki and Andrew Wan.

L'ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

Since its founding in 1934, the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal has distinguished itself as a leader in the orchestral life of Canada and Québec. A cultural ambassador of the highest order, the Orchestra has acquired an enviable international reputation through the quality of its many recordings and tours. The OSM carries on that rich tradition under the leadership of its current music director, Kent Nagano, featuring innovative programming aimed at updating the orchestral repertoire and strengthening the Orchestra's connection with the community.

INDISPENSABLE PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE OSM

We thank Mrs Barbara Bronfman and her family for a generous donation which notably made possible the presentation of the final round at the Maison symphonique. We also thank Mrs Juliana Pleines for her support in the Competition's activities and finally, to Mr Réjean Breton and Mrs Louise-Marie Dion for their support, which made possible the realisation of educative activities and formation during the OSM Manulife Competition.

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

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

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, TD Bank Group, Manulife, Stingray Music, BBA, Cogeco, Estiatorio Milos, GDI Services aux immeubles, Korwin-Szymanowski Family Foundation, National Bank, Nitrex Metal Inc., Sélection Retraite, Spinelli Lexus, Charton-Hobbs, ESKA, Hyatt Regency Montreal, IRIS, Ritz-Carlton Montreal, Solotech and the WCPD Foundation.