KENT NAGANO'S LAST SEASON AS MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE OSM: BRIGHT AND FESTIVE

With more than 100 concerts, Maestro Nagano's last artistic programme features celebrations, prestigious invited guests, and performances of great masterpieces of the symphonic repertoire. Looking forward to a soulful season of triumphs and delights!

At a glance…

OPENING CONCERT: the season begins with three powerful works — Shostakovich's Symphony no. 13 "Babi Yar," Shoenberg's *Six Pieces for Male Chorus,* and Rachmaninoff's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*

CLOSING CONCERT: Kent Nagano conducts Mahler's momentous Symphony no. 2

Fauré's moving Requiem and two landmark works by Messiaen

A festival devoted to the famous Viennese composer Franz SCHUBERT, conducted by Kent Nagano

TOUR OF THE AMERICAS: seven concerts in Latin America, one in Chicago, one in Toronto, and a 45th performance at CARNEGIE HALL

¡OLÉ!: The OSM shines with the colours of SPAIN under Spanish conductor Juanjo Mena

ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER performs works by Beethoven

VALERY GERGIEV conducts the Orchestra in a performance of Bruckner's astounding Symphony no. 9

A MUSIC AND FILM SERIES with projection of three classic films, series with new subscription package!

"ÉCLATÉ" CONCERT: FASHION, MUSIC, AND MOVEMENT in collaboration with designer Marie Saint Pierre

Three programmes to celebrate the holidays with loved ones!

A new Assistant Conductor joins the OSM: The Orchestra welcomes bright young conductor Thomas Le Duc-Moreau

Montreal, EMBARGO until February 28, 2019 – In 2004, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal began a new era with the arrival of Maestro Kent Nagano, whose charisma would reach Montrealers and change the image of the OSM. Maestro Nagano has caused the Orchestra to evolve artistically in a most remarkable way, forging a solid, stable, exceptionally vigorous and future-oriented organization. After 16 years and more than 500 concerts with the Orchestra, Maestro Nagano will be taking his final bow as Music Director of the OSM at the end of the 2020 summer season. This 2019–2020 season reflects Kent Nagano's immense legacy: in a spirit both traditional and modern, the Maison symphonique welcomes several of the Maestro's close collaborators to celebrate his concluding round with the OSM.

"Nearly twenty years after my very first collaboration with the OSM as a guest conductor, the 2019–2020 season provides the Orchestra with a new opportunity to offer themes that engage with a variety of perspectives and experiences: we hope they will be a source of wonder and vitality for our audience members while remaining at the forefront of our modern lives."
– **Kent Nagano**

As he begins his final season with the OSM, Musical Director Kent Nagano has long since marked the imaginations of Montrealers. His love of music—and of culture in the broadest sense—and his commitment to the democratization of art instilled themselves among the great OSM traditions to become an integral part of the Orchestra's heritage since its foundation.

The legacy of Kent Nagano's time with the OSM is extensive. From large-scale performances attended by vast crowds—whether at the Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, the Bell Centre, or the Olympic Park—to the triumphant inaugurations of the Maison symphonique, Espace OSM, and Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique, Maestro Nagano is also credited with the formidable success of the OSM's new chamber music series, the formation of the OSM Chorus, the triumph of the Classical Spree, La musique aux enfants programme in Montréal-Nord, tours in the Americas, Europe, and Asia, recordings on the Analekta, Sony, ECM, and DECCA labels, community outreach, awards, broadly innovative concerts and above all, access to symphonic concerts for all.

GREAT CONCERTS BEGIN AND CONCLUDE THE SEASON

Opening concert

Kent Nagano's final season at the Orchestra's helm opens with three powerful, emotionally charged works (SEPT 17 and 18). First, two imposing compositions in tribute to the victims of anti-Semitism: **Shostakovich**'s **Symphony no. 13, "Babi Yar"** and **Schoenberg*'s Six Pieces for Men's Chorus***, bringing together the OSM, the OSM Chorus, and celebrated Russian bass **Alexander Vinogradov**. The spirited **Denis Matsuev**, Artist-in-residence with the OSM for the 2019–2020 season, will perform **Beethoven**'s glorious **Piano Concerto no. 3**, marking the 250th anniversary of the composer's birth, which occurs in 2020. An opening performance that will leave no one unmoved.

Closing concert

To close the season, the OSM will offer audiences two programmes spread out over six evening concerts: as part of the concert series *Kent Nagano Conducts Messiaen and Fauré's Requiem* (MAY 26, 27, and 28), the OSM musicians and Chorus will perform **Fauré**'s moving **Requiem**, a work of blissful serenity. Adding to this luminous moment, two works embodying hope by **Olivier Messiaen,** one of the most fascinating composers of the 20th century: ***Trois petites liturgies de la présence divine*** (Three Small Liturgies of the Divine Presence), followed by **Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum** (And I Await the Resurrection of the Dead).

Finally, Kent Nagano will conduct **Mahler**'s **Symphony no. 2 "Resurrection"** (JUNE 2, 3, and 4). Soprano **Camilla Tilling** and mezzo-soprano **Mihoko Fujimura**, who took part in the inaugural celebrations at the Maison symphonique in 2011, will join the OSM musicians and Chorus to perform Mahler's metaphysical work of grandiose proportions and conclude the season on a humanistic note that reflects in the most palpable way Maestro Nagano's distinctive approach.

KENT NAGANO'S SIGNATURE APPROACH, ALL SEASON LONG

To mark the end of his Montreal period, Kent Nagano will also conduct some of the major works that shaped the OSM's repertoire under his direction: the poignant Adagietto from **Mahler**'s **Fifth Symphony** (SEPT 19), immortalized in film by Visconti in *Death in Venice*, as well as **Bruckner**'s **Symphony no. 4**, known as the "Romantic" (NOV 27 and 28). Faithful to its holiday tradition, in December, the OSM joined by the OSM Chorus and distinguished soloists will present one of the jewels of the Baroque repertoire, **Bach**'s **Christmas Oratorio** (DEC 3 and 4). February brings an opportunity to attend an exceptional concert (FEB 18 and 20), the fruit of a collaboration with the ElbPhilharmonie Hamburg, Philharmonie de Paris and Orchestre philharmonique de Radio France, the Théâtre de la Monnaie in Brussels, and the Orchestre de la Suisse romande. It features the North American premiere of a work by French composer **Pascal Dusapin**, as well as a performance of Beethoven's bucolic **Sixth Symphony**, "Pastoral." It will be subsequently performed in Toronto (FEB 19).

KENT NAGANO AT THE HELM OF THE SCHUBERT FESTIVAL

The OSM devotes a festival to the famous Viennese composer **Franz Schubert** (JAN 12, 15, 16, and 17) with five different programmes spread over six concerts. Discover this composer's many facets with iconic works including *Die schöne Müllerin* and *Winterreise*, as well as his complete symphonies, all directed by Kent Nagano. **Angela Hewitt**, **Paul Lewis**, **Dietrich Henschel**, and **Ian Bostridge** will perform works by this undisputed master of the lied. The Festival also includes works by Mozart, Rossini, and Johann Strauss II, all of whom influenced Schubert. The Festival's roster of prestigious artists transports us to Classical Vienna: the cosmopolitan and frivolous city swirling to the music of the waltz.

"The Schubert cycle will be a first in the history of the OSM. It is a celebration whose cornerstone is Schubert's complete cycle of symphonies. Some of the lieder that made the composer famous will complete this core repertoire, while the music of other composers offers context. This approach faithfully reflects the practices and popular aesthetics of Schubert's time and highlights the daring, innovative spirit that characterizes his genius," explains **Kent Nagano**.

¡OLÉ!: THE OSM DONS THE COLOURS OF SPAIN

In a festival that resonates to the warm colours of Spain, Spanish maestro **Juanjo Mena** conducts three concerts that give a glimpse of Spain as dreamt of by Ravel, Debussy, and Bizet, as well as the opportunity to explore the essence of Flamenco and Arab-Andalusian music. From **Ravel**'s *Bolero* (APR 28), to *Legends of Spain* (APR 30), and *Spanish Epics* (APR 29–30), Spain's composers and soloists will be showcased. Audiences will be also be treated to the music of **Falla**, **Sor,** and **Rodrigo**, and to the melodies of **Guridi** and **Arriaga**. Pianist **Javier Perianes**, guitarist **Pablo Sáinz Villegas,** and mezzo-soprano **Clara Mouriz** share the stage with the OSM in these spring concerts. Flamenco dancers from the famous **Antonio Márquez** Company will join the Orchestra in a performance of *El sombrero de tres picos* (The Three-Cornered Hat) by **Manuel de Falla** to conclude the festival in grand style. A symphony for the eyes and ears! ¡Olé!

PRESTIGIOUS GUESTS ARTISTS, ALL SEASON LONG

Kent Nagano has also chosen to surround himself once more with great soloists and artists of international renown for his last season with the OSM. Many music lovers will delight in hearing the prodigious **Anne-Sophie Mutter** who joins the Orchestra in a performance of **Beethoven**'s sublime Violin Concerto (SEPT 24 and 25). Artist-in-residence with the OSM **Denis Matsuev** will showcase his infallible technique in performances of **Scriabin**'s Piano Sonatas nos. 3 and 5, as well as the same composer's *Poèmes pour piano* (OCT 13). Discover the profound sensitivity of outstanding Hungarian pianist and conductor **Sir András Schiff** in a return performance with the OSM (OCT 23 and 24). Conductor **François-Xavier Roth** also back with the OSM following his heralded passage at the Maison symphonique in 2018, to conduct Richard Strauss's epic *Ein Heldenleben* (A Hero's Life). This concert will also feature French pianist **Pierre-Laurent Aimard** in Bartók's Piano Concerto no. 1 (OCT 30 and 31).

Virtuoso pianist **Yefim Bronfman** will perform Mozart's majestic Piano Concerto no. 24 in C minor under the baton of the young and charismatic Swiss conductor **Lorenzo Viotti** (DEC 11, 14 and 15). Eminent organist **Olivier Latry** takes command of the Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique in a performance of **Pascal Dusapin**'s *Symphonie pour orgue et orchestre* (FEB 18 and 20). Montreal audiences will have the chance to hear Mozart's Concerto no. 20, one of that composer's finest, as spectacular pianist **Emanuel Ax** visits Montreal to perform under **Matthias Pintscher** (FEB 26 and 27), while Russian pianist **Daniil Trifonov** (FEB 23) and baritone **Gerald Finley** (MAR 20), are both featured in the Recitals series. Quebec pianist **Marc-André Hamelin** will appear in three separate performances of Liszt's masterful Concerto no. 2 (MAR 17 and 19).

The great Russian conductor **Valery Gergiev** will be heard in a masterpiece of the symphonic repertoire: Bruckner's Symphony no. 9 (MAR 4 and 5). One of the most talented young conductors of his generation, **Lionel Bringuier**, will lead the OSM in a collaboration with the outstanding Greek violinist **Leonidas Kavakos** (MAR 14 and 15). **Vasily Petrenko**'s appearances in Montreal consistently meet with critical acclaim: this time, he returns to conduct the Orchestra in **Prokofiev**'s *Romeo and Juliet*, while virtuoso violinist **Gil Shaham** delivers **Bartok**'s Violin Concerto no. 2 (APR 16 and 18). The OSM will devote three concerts to Persian-inspired music under the baton of **Jérémie Rhorer**: among others, **Strauss**' inimitable *Thus Spake Zarathustra* and **Ravel**'s sensual song cycle, *Shéhérazade*, with incomparable soprano **Patricia Petibon** in her first appearance with the OSM (MAY 20, 21 and 24).

TOUR OF THE AMERICAS

October 2019 begins with a major tour to Latin America. Joined by violinist **Veronika Eberle**, the OSM will travel to São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, Santiago in Chile, Buenos Aires in Argentina and to Mexican centres Guanajuato and Querétaro. The touring programmes include works by **Brahms** and **Bartók**, as well as **Mozart** and **Mahler**. At the end of this series of seven concerts to Latin America, Kent Nagano and the OSM will first perform at the Symphony Centre in Chicago on October 15 in a concert with the OSM's own resident pianist **Denis Matsuev**, and on February 19, 2020, in Toronto, in a programme of **Berlioz**, **Dusapin**, and **Beethoven** with **Olivier Latry**, Organist Emeritus of the OSM.

Back at Carnegie Hall!

Delivering on an invitation to perform in New York, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Kent Nagano take the stage at the prestigious **Carnegie Hall** (MAR 24) for the 45th time in the Orchestra's history. **Mikhaïl Pletnev** will be heard in **Schumann**'s Piano Concerto in A minor, op. 54, while two men's choruses from the University of Illinois and bass Alexander Vinogradov join the Orchestra to perform **Shostakovich**'s Symphony no. 13 in homage to victims of anti-Semitism and inspired by the poem *Babi Yar* by the Soviet writer Yevgeny Yevtushenko.

THE OSM PURSUES ITS EDUCATIONAL MISSION

Once again this year, the OSM moves forward with its educational mission and presents its Children's Corner series for the whole family, offering three programmes specially designed to introduce young people to classical music. Indeed, special magic potion awaits spectators of all ages in the hilarious Philharmonie de Paris production *Wizards and Witches* (NOV 3). Dukas' *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, Saint-Saëns' *Danse macabre* and Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique* are sure to cast a magic spell on our young audiences!

Later in the season, **Patrice Bélanger** guides us on a *Symphonic Journey* through musical traditions from here and around the world, featuring the Orchestra, the kora, and the arts of song and dance. This event brings with it the special participation of the children taking part in the OSM-sponsored La musique aux enfants programme, an initiative of Kent Nagano himself (JAN 26). Patrice Bélanger continues the season with *Discover the OSM*, a playful concert inviting young children to learn about the different families of instruments in the orchestra (APR 5).

Throughout the season, classrooms of children are invited to attend thirteen School Matinees carefully conceived for primary and secondary school audiences. Finally, the OSM Competition celebrates its 80th anniversary this season, with an edition devoted to organ and strings (NOV 26–30).

"As Youth Ambassador, but also as a father, I have witnessed just how receptive children are to the power of the orchestra and the intricacies of the symphonic repertoire. To attend an OSM Youth Concert is to stimulate a child's curiosity and at the same time enjoy an unforgettable musical outing with the family." —**Patrice Bélanger**, Youth Ambassador of the OSM.

THE OSM INNOVATES

Organ'n'roll

Presented in connection with Nuit blanche à Montréal, an explosive trio of organ, drums, and electric guitar revisits the great hits of the 1970s, from **Pink Floyd** to **Zappa**, and not forgetting **Genesis**. Featuring three passionate performers and sensational lighting, this immersive evening will surely be an exciting one (FEB 29).

Music, Fashion and Movement

Following last season's *Concert in the Dark*, Maestro Nagano once again gives free rein to his imagination with a new "éclaté" concert (MAR 27) that appeals to all the senses: *Music, Fashion and Movement* (MAR 27 and 28). Fashion designer **Marie Saint Pierre**'s creative outlook, based on duality, meets the timelessness of Maestro Kent Nagano's approach in two unique performances where both arts merge. Enjoy this novel sensory experience, both a musical revelation and a fashion show featuring the works of **Bach**, **Copland**, **Varèse**, and **Adams** as well as showcasing Saint Pierre's Atelier Winter 2021 collection, performed at the Maison symphonique de Montréal.

MUSIC AND FILM SERIES

This season, the OSM offers three Music and Film concerts, conferring a sensational auditory texture on three captivating films. First, a screening of *The Phantom of the Opera*, a 1925 film adaptation of Gaston Leroux's novel written just over a hundred years ago, featuring organist **James Kennerley** improvising the live musical soundtrack to suit the film's mythical main character (NOV 1). Next, film music specialist **Timothy Brock** will conduct the Orchestra to accompany the screening of **Charlie Chaplin**'s great masterpiece, *The Gold Rush* (MAR 10). Finally, the original music of **Philip Glass** will be performed as live accompaniment to the screening of *Visitors*, under the direction of the composer's close collaborator **Michael Riesman**. *Visitors*, a documentary replete with powerful images, delivers a truly authentic aesthetic experience (MAY 7). Series now available with new subscription package!

CHRISTMAS WITH THE OSM

The holidays will be celebrated throughout the month of December in 2019! Faithful to its tradition, the Orchestra under the direction of **Kent Nagano** and joined by the OSM Chorus and four soloists, will present one of the crowning jewels of the Baroque repertoire, **Bach**'s luminous Christmas Oratorio (DEC 3 and 4), presented as part of the Bach Festival. The men's vocal quartet **Quartom**, along with a brass quintet of OSM musicians, resident organist **Jean-Willy Kunz,** and children from La musique aux enfants come together to celebrate Christmas with a selection of classic holiday songs in a magical concert titled *Organ and Gingerbread* (DEC 7). With the concert *Great Voices of Quebec Sing Christmas* (DEC 17 and 19), the OSM is joined by some of Quebec's most stunning voices in a variety of seasonal classics at the Maison symphonique. Be captivated by **Marie-Nicole Lemieux**, **Étienne Dupuis**, **JIREH Gospel Choir,** and **Les Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal** performing *White Christmas*, *Minuit chrétiens*, *Adeste fideles*, and enjoy seasonal symphonic works such as Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* and other holiday favourites, under the direction of **Jacques Lacombe**.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC WITH THE OSM

The OSM supports Canadian music both by performing the works of our national composers and through commissions of new works. Over the last 40 years, more than 300 Canadian works have been the object of at least one performance by the OSM. This year, four new compositions—by **Keiko Devaux on texts by Dany Laferrière**, **Abigail Richardson-Schulte**, **Katia Makdissi-Warren**, and **Samy Moussa**—in addition to nine works by Canadian composers, are featured in the OSM's programming. The 2019–2020 season also gives a prominent place to contemporary works by international composers, including **Esa-Pekka Salonen**, **Philip Glass**, **Matthias Pintscher**, **José María Sánchez-Verdú**, and **Xavier Montsalvatge**, and of course, the *Symphonie pour orgue et orchestre* by French composer **Pascal Dusapin**, co-commissioned by the OSM together with several prestigious European musical institutions. Each concert offers a unique opportunity to enjoy our contemporary musical culture!

NEW FACES IN THE ORCHESTRA

The OSM is pleased to welcome four talented new musicians to its family of instrumentalists: Quebec violinists **Ariane Lajoie** and **Éliane Charest-Beauchamp**, and Americans **George Goad**, trumpeter and **Tavi Ungerleider**, cellist.

The year 2019 also marks the arrival of Quebec City's **Thomas Le Duc-Moreau**, who will succeed Adam Johnson as Assistant Conductor of the OSM. A trained cellist and Assistant Conductor-in-Residence with the Orchestre symphonique de Québec, our newcomer to the OSM is also Artistic Director and a founding member of Ensemble Volte. Thomas Le Duc-Moreau studied with OSM cellist Sylvie Lambert before entering the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal where he obtained his Master's degree in conducting in 2018, in the class of Jacques Lacombe. At only 24 years of age, he is the youngest conductor yet to take on this prestigious position with the OSM! For his first season, Thomas Le Duc-Moreau will conduct the Children's Corner and OSM in the Parks series, in addition to assisting Maestro Nagano and the Orchestra on a regular basis.

OUR COMMITTED PARTNERS

"It is a privilege to have the peerless Kent Nagano at the helm of the Orchestra, which has been the pride of Montreal for the sixteen years he has been conductor. The time has come to look toward the future: it is a privilege for BMO to continue to associate itself with this institution, a source of our pride on an international scale, and one that will continue to shine with the legacy of this larger-than-life Maestro," stated Claude Gagnon, President, Operations, BMO Financial Group, Quebec. "Let us make the most of this forthcoming 2019–2020 season to bid him *adieu* in our enjoyment of what this momentous and brilliant season has to offer. Farewell, Maestro Nagano, and thank you for everything."

TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE NOW

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING KENT NAGANO'S LAST SEASON–SUBSCRIBE NOW!

Being an OSM subscriber gives you access to the best seats at the best prices, as well as a range of other exclusive privileges! Different subscription packages are on offer.

Series

The OSM's concerts are scheduled again this season on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays (evenings and matinees), Saturdays and Sundays (afternoons), all part of eight major series of six concerts each, in addition to the Express series (concert without intermission beginning at 7 p.m., lasting 75 to 90 minutes). Enjoy 20% off!

À la carte

Select 4, 5, or 6 concerts to suit your schedule and tastes and save on the regular price of tickets. 15 to 20% off!

Prices: Starting at $46. Spectators aged 34 and under @ $34 per ticket or $25 per ticket with a subscription of 4 concerts or more. Special rates for children also available

For programming details, or for purchases: OSM.CA / 514-842-9951 or 1 888 842-9951
Tickets also available at placedesarts.com

THE OSM WISHES TO THANK ITS PARTNERS, ITS SUBSCRIBERS AND ITS PUBLIC

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 be able to rely on its loyal partners, and wishes to gratefully acknowledge its Presenting Sponsor, Hydro-Quebec, as well as its Presenting partner for the 2019-2020 Season, BMO, and its Season Collaborator, Power Corporation of Canada.

We are also very grateful to count on the support of our new partners, Sélection Retraite and Volvo Canada.

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

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