



MARTHA WAINWRIGHT TO OPEN THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

October 7-19, 2014

Montreal, Monday, September 8, 2014 – The third edition of the Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC), held **from October 7 to 19**, promises a more ambitious, exciting, and diverse programme featuring stars from the organ and popular music worlds. Audiences will discover artists **Martha Wainwright, Jean-Willy Kunz, and Christian Lane** during a unique opening concert.

For two weeks, the CIOC will spotlight the organ through 40 activities at a dozen venues showcasing the impressive capabilities of the king of instruments.

MAJOR EVENTS

The 2014 program includes, among other events, several major concerts, from the opening concert featuring the famous singer Martha Wainwright, to the Gala Concert at the Maison symphonique de Montréal, bringing together the 2014 CIOC winners.

On October 7, the CIOC will offer a blend of classical and pop genres during the opening concert at Saint James United Church, in which the folksinger Martha Wainwright will lend her voice to organ music played by Christian Lane and Jean-Willy Kunz, both winners at the 2011 CIOC competition.

On October 18, just before the closing of the 2014 Competition, the concert *Great Organ, Great Choir* will set the colours of the St. Andrew and St. Paul Choir ablaze with the dramatic "Dona nobis pacem," masterpiece of Vaughan Williams.

Finally, the CIOC Gala Concert on October 19 – a musical event not to be missed – will be held in one of Canada's premiere concert halls. Selected among 16 young competitors from around the world, the CIOC winners will give a full concert at the prestigious Maison symphonique de Montréal on the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal's Grand Orgue Pierre-Béique. The Gala will include an official ceremony to celebrate the 2014 winners.

THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION (CIOC)

The competition portion of the Canadian International Organ Competition will take place in 3 rounds at the Immaculée-Conception church (October 8, 9, 10), Saint-Jean-Baptiste church (October 13, 14) and Notre-Dame Basilica (final round, October 17). 16 young organists will be competing for the title of Grand Prize Winner; over \$70 000 in prizes will be awarded. Rounds are free and open to the public.

The Canadian International Organ Competition is a non-profit cultural organization dedicated to the promotion of pipe organ music throughout Quebec and across

Canada through public educational and outreach activities. These include a national concert series and an annual international festival in Montreal, dedicated to the pipe organ and its vast repertoire. The triennial competition is presided over by the CIOC Artistic Director and eminent organist, John Grew.

Since 2008, the CIOC recognizes the best and most promising young organists from around the world, through the work of our prestigious international juries and with prizes totalizing over \$70 000. Previous grand prize winners include Frédéric Champion (France, 2008) and Christian Lane (USA, 2011).

Information

***Opening Concert with Martha Wainwright
October 7 • 8 p.m. at St. James United • \$40**

Martha Wainwright, singer

Jean-Willy Kunz, Christian Lane (2011 CIOC Prize Winners), organ

On the program: Works by Martha Wainwright and well-known pieces on the organ

***Great Organ, Great Choir!**

October 18 • 8 p.m. at St. Andrew and St. Paul • \$20 / \$25 at the door

St. Andrew and St. Paul Choir, dir. Jordan de Souza

Jonathan Oldengarm, Christian Lane

***Gala Concert of the Canadian International Organ Competition**

October 19 • 7 p.m. at the Maison symphonique de Montréal • \$30 to \$125

Canadian International Organ Competition 2014 Prize Winners

In collaboration with l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

Complete schedule will be unveiled at a later date.

More information: www.ciocm.org

Box-Office: Ticketpro

514 790-1111 • ticketpro.ca

- 30 -

SOURCE : CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

Media relations : Stéphanie Culakowa
stephanie@bchabotcom.ca / 514 861-7870, ext. 223

Photos available upon request