



## THE 2015 FESTIVAL A SUCCESS: OVER 3100 SPECTATORS AT THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

Montréal, October 27, 2015 – The Canadian International Organ (CIOC) Festival, presented by National Bank, closed on Sunday October 25: from **October 4 to 25, 2015**, **over 3100 spectators** attended eleven events, **a significant increase from the last Festival in 2013** which welcomed 1634 spectators. Such success can be attributed to a greater number of events being presented this year, some of which were sold out, as well as the collaboration with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, the *Festival des couleurs de l'orgue français* and McGill University.

### 2015 FESTIVAL

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The Festival allowed music lovers and people attending their first organ concert to come together during **recitals with internationally known organists**, such as Réjean Poirier (Québec), Shen Yuan (China) and Jean Guillou (France), as well as the three CIOC Laureates from past editions (Frédéric Champion, Christian Lane and David Baskeyfield). **An organ crawl on October 17** gave many the chance to get a closer to 3 downtown Montreal organs, and a **masterclass** with Jean Guillou and four McGill and Conservatoire students on October 18 allowed the public to appreciate the work between teacher and student.

### CREATION OF THE SPINELLI PRIZE

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The highlight of the 2015 Festival was the **CIOC Gala Concert on Friday October 16** at the Notre-Dame Basilica, tribute to CIOC Co-Founder and business man Noël Spinelli. During the concert, the CIOC announced the **creation of the Spinelli Prize**, to be awarded during the next Competition, scheduled to take place in October 2017. This \$5000 prize will be awarded by the jury for the best performance of a work in one of the three Competition rounds.

### THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION

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The Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC) is an organization devoted to the promotion of organ music in Quebec and Canada through discovery activities for the general public, concerts, and an annual festival in Montréal in October during which a competition, directed by the eminent Canadian organist John Grew, is held every third year.  
[www.ciocm.org](http://www.ciocm.org)

The Canadian International Organ Competition would like to thank its main sponsor National Bank, as well as its collaborators : RBC, Spinelli, Power Corporation of Canada, La Presse+, Casavant Frères and Conseil des arts de Montréal.

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Source : Canadian International Organ Competition

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