

Schulich School of Music of McGill University
Concerts and Publicity

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PRESS RELEASE

The Schulich School of Music celebrates a decade of success with a Gala Evening featuring **Canadian Brass, Anton Kuerti, Jens Lindemann,** and the **Cecilia String Quartet**

For immediate release

Montreal, October 14, 2010 – On Saturday, October 30, 2010, in Pollack Concert Hall at 8:00 p.m., the Schulich School of Music of McGill University celebrates ten years of extraordinary growth and transformation under the visionary leadership of Dean Don McLean with a gala concert featuring the McGill Symphony Orchestra, McGill Jazz Orchestra I, and Opera McGill along with eminent guest soloists including the **Canadian Brass**, pianist **Anton Kuerti**, trumpet player **Jens Lindemann**, and the **Cecilia String Quartet**.

Showcasing many of our outstanding student and alumni performers, the concert will feature jazz, opera, chamber, baroque, orchestral, and contemporary music performances in works by Sibelius, Schumann, Puccini, and Carmichael, and others.

Tickets at the \$100 concert only, the \$250 concert and post-concert reception, and the \$500 dinner, concert and post-concert reception tiers are available by contacting laudatoria.music@mcgill.ca or by calling 514.398.2865. Complete information is available at www.music.mcgill.ca/laudatoria

All proceeds from the evening will go towards the Schulich School of Music's **Multi Media Room**, a landmark facility that *"is the musical equivalent of a particle accelerator for physics, a wind tunnel for aeronautical engineering, or a MRI machine for medicine."* (Don McLean)

Event information: www.music.mcgill.ca/laudatoria

Program information:

McGill Symphony Orchestra, Alexis Hauser, director

Jean Sibelius

Finlandia

Anton Kuerti, piano

Robert Schumann

Novelettes Op. 21 (excerpts)

Cecilia String Quartet and Anton Kuerti

Robert Schumann

Piano Quintet (1st mvt.)

Canadian Brass

Don Gillis

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Samuel Scheidt

Galliard Battaglia

Luther Henderson

The Saints Hallelujah

Jens Lindemann, trumpet

Claude Debussy

La Fille aux cheveux de lin

Georges Enesco

Légende

Opera McGill, Patrick Hansen, director

Giacomo Puccini

Quando m'en vo plus (La Bohème)

McGill Jazz Orchestra I and Jens Lindemann, Gordon Foote, director

Carmichael/Parish

Stardust (arr. by Tommy Newson)

W.C. Handy

St. Louis Blues (arr. by Bill Holman)

Artist Information:

Don McLean: Over a decade of extraordinary vision and perseverance, outgoing Dean Don McLean redefined the Schulich School of Music of McGill University, which is regularly cited as one of the top ten music faculties in the world. Supported by a phenomenal team, McLean brought the New Music Building to completion, creating worldclass performance and research facilities in a faculty that fosters extraordinarily successful programs and transformative interdisciplinary research in music performance, research and creation. Under his leadership, the number of graduate applicants doubled, the number of concerts went from 425 in 1999-2000 to over 700 in 2009-2010, and over 19 million dollars in research funding came through the school's doors.

Canadian Brass "...world's leading brass ensemble." (Washington Post)

Five tremendous brass musicians — each a virtuoso in his own right — form the legendary Canadian Brass. With an international reputation as one of the most popular brass ensembles today, Canadian Brass has truly earned the distinction of "the world's most famous brass group." **McGill connections: Keith Dyrda (McGill BMus, 2011)** joined the Canadian Brass in April 2010. At just 21-years of age and still completing his studies in performance at McGill University's Schulich School of Music in Montreal, Keith Dyrda has already become a prominent presence in the performance scene in Canada, including a recent performance of the Tomasi Trombone Concerto with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. **Jeff Nelson (McGill BMus, 1994):** As a performer, Jeff is best known as the hornist of the world famous Canadian Brass, with whom he continues to perform concerts all over the world. Keith Lockhart, conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra, also offered "*Jeff Nelson is an extraordinarily sophisticated artist on the horn. A subtle wonderfully controlled and very musically satisfying account of the Brahms Horn Trio.*"

Jens Lindemann (McGill BMus, 1988) Jens Lindemann is hailed as one of the most celebrated soloists in his instrument's history and was recently named "International Brass Personality of the Year" (Brass Herald). His career has ranged from appearing internationally as an orchestral soloist, being featured at the 2010 Olympics for an audience of 3 billion people, performing at London's 'Last Night of the Proms', recording with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir to playing lead trumpet with the renowned Canadian Brass and a solo Command Performance for the Queen of England. Jens has also won major awards ranging from Grammy and Juno nominations to winning the prestigious Echo Klassik in Germany as well as receiving an honorary doctorate.

Anton Kuerti (Honorary Doctorate in Music, McGill, 2004) "*One of the truly great pianists of this century...*" (CD Review, London) Anton Kuerti is one of today's most recorded artists, having put on disc all the Beethoven Concertos and Sonatas, the Schubert Sonatas, the Brahms Concertos and works by many other composers. His recordings are heard almost daily on the CBC. Soon to be released is a CD of works for piano and orchestra by Schumann, and a world premiere release of works for violin and piano by Czerny.

Cecilia Quartet (McGill Graduate Diploma in Music, 2010) "...*tremendously coherent ensemble whose astounding complicity, tuning, ideas, and focus capture the audience.*" (Claude Gingras, La Presse, Montréal). First Prize winners of the 2010 Banff International String Quartet Competition (BISQC) and Second Prize winners of the 2008 Osaka International Chamber Music Competition, the Cecilia Quartet is one of Canada's most exciting young ensembles today.

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