



McGill



**Schulich School of Music
École de musique Schulich**

**Schulich School of Music of McGill University
Concerts and Publicity**

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

**Autour du clavier d'autrefois: The Legacy of Kenneth Gilbert
Conference and Concerts
June 15-17, 2012**

For immediate release

Montreal, May 22, 2012 -- The Schulich School of Music will host an international conference and three keyboard recitals celebrating Kenneth Gilbert, the world-famous harpsichordist and scholar and the founder of McGill's Early Music Program. Activities begin on **Friday June 15, 2012**. This is the keynote event of the *Schulich Year of Early Music*, and Kenneth Gilbert will be in attendance. All events are open to the public.

Concert tickets can be purchased at the door, at the box office until June 1, 2012 or reserved through the conference website: www.music.mcgill.ca/kgc.

The conference, titled *Autour du clavier d'autrefois: The Legacy of Kenneth Gilbert*, celebrates Gilbert's career achievements, his influence on early music scholarship and performance, and his unique pioneering spirit, discernment and passion for the early keyboard that have made him an international personality of the world of art and culture. McGill University's Schulich School of Music, where Kenneth Gilbert is Adjunct Professor, is the venue which will feature public performances on instruments from the Kenneth Gilbert collection, scholarly papers and panel discussions on such issues as early music editions, early keyboard building, historical performance practice, harpsichord and organ repertoires and performance styles, lecture-recitals and informal talks as well as tributes in music and words from students, disciples, and colleagues. Complete conference details can be found at www.music.mcgill.ca/kgc.

Harpichord and Organ Concerts at Redpath Hall on the McGill Main Campus:

June 15, 8:00 p.m.: **Davitt Moroney** and **Olivier Baumont** \$25/\$15 students

June 16, 8:00 p.m.: **David Ponsford** and **Luc Beauséjour** \$25/ \$15 students or \$40/\$30 students with reception

June 17, 12:30 p.m.: **Hank Knox** \$15/\$10 students

About Kenneth Gilbert:

Perhaps more than any other leading figure in the field of early keyboard music, Kenneth Gilbert has engaged with both scholarship and performance with equal success. He has made over 50 recordings of international keyboard repertoire that spans the Renaissance to the Enlightenment; he has written numerous articles and reviews; he has edited new publications of music that constitute a treasure for generations of early music scholars and performers; and he has profoundly influenced, through his teaching, many of the top harpsichordists in the world.

Gilbert's pioneering work with that *prima materia* of early keyboard music, the historical keyboard, is paramount among this long list of achievements. His design and his supervision of the installation of a Beckerath mechanical action organ in a Montreal church in 1959, and his performances on that instrument revolutionized organ building in Canada and in North America. After 1965 he devoted most of his energies to the harpsichord and constituted a collection of some of the most famous original instruments in the world.

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