

NEWS RELEASE

UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 13, 2009

WHAT: Fine Arts Center Presents I Musici de Montréal
Sunday, April 5, 3PM
Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
Tickets available at 545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS or online at
www.fineartscenter.com.

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Music Meets Art with I Music de Montréal at FAC Concert Hall

I Musici de Montréal has developed a well-deserved reputation as one of the world's finest chamber orchestras. Known for its gutsy, passionate music-making, I Musici de Montréal presents imaginative programs that draw on repertoire spanning the centuries. Celebrating 25 years, the orchestra is on tour in the United States and will make a stop at the UMass Fine Arts Center Concert Hall on Sunday, April 5 at 3PM. Performing an all-Russian program, the highlight will be Mussorgsky's famed *Pictures at an Exhibition* performed with animated projections of new paintings by Natasha Turovsky. The acclaimed new interpretations are accompanied by breathtaking imagery projected on a large screen on-stage. The evening's program also includes Alexander Borodine's *Notturmo* and Tchaikovsky's Sextet in D minor, op. 70, *Souvenirs de Florence*. There will be a pre-performance discussion by visual artist /violinist Natasha Turovsky at 2:15PM in the University Gallery.

Founded by cellist and conductor Yuli Turovsky, I Musici de Montréal is a chamber orchestra of 15 musicians that performs a vast repertoire extending from the Baroque to the Contemporary. The orchestra presents a busy schedule of over 100 concerts per season throughout the world, including three series in Montreal. This

extraordinary amount of activity places I Musici de Montréal among the most important touring orchestras in Canada. Since its beginnings, I Musici de Montréal has released more than 40 CDs for the Chandos and Analekta Record Labels that are distributed in more than 50 countries around the world.

These recordings have won the orchestra and Maestro Turovsky many awards, including a *Diapason d'Or* for their 1988 recording of Shostakovitch's *14th Symphony* and a 1992 Penguin Guide *Rosette* for their *Concerti grossi, opus 6* by Handel. I Musici de Montréal's recording of Handel has since become a reference recording of the highest standard. In December of 1998, the Conseil québécois de la musique gave two *Opus Awards* to the orchestra for Recording Event of the Year and Best Recording - contemporary music for a CD grouping works by Gorecki, Pärt and Schnittke. In August 2001, BBC Music Magazine named as their CD of the Month I Musici de Montréal's 40th CD, a recording of Miaskovsky, Schnittke and Denisov, naming it "Pickof the month". In 2007, the orchestra won the Opus Award for their latest record *Shostakovich's Circle* and was nominated for a Juno Award.

In 1999, I Musici de Montréal was awarded the *Grand Prix* by the Montreal Urban Community for their exceptional contribution to music presentation in and around Montreal. In 2004, the Orchestra and Maestro Turovsky received a uniquely special award for International performances presented by the Conseil québécois de la musique. This award saluted the 20th anniversary of the orchestra and the whole work that made the reputation of the orchestra throughout the years.

Under the dynamic and visionary direction of Maestro Yuli Turovsky who also performs as cello soloist with the orchestra, I Musici de Montréal has performed in some of the greatest halls in the world: New York's Lincoln Center, the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Germany, the Seiji Ozawa Hall in Tanglewood, the Tonhalle in Zürich, the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, the Kioi Hall in Tokyo and Philharmonie in Luxemburg, among others. Public enthusiasm and critical acclaim underlining the precision, cohesion and virtuosity of their performance as well as the brilliant and distinctive sound of the orchestra confirm I Musici de Montréal's importance on the world's musical stage.

Tickets for I Musici de Montréal are Tickets are \$35, \$30, and \$15; Five College/GCC students and youth 17 and under are \$15. Tickets are available at the Fine Arts Center Box Office, 545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS or online at www.fineartscenter.com.

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