



Release
For immediate release

The 13th edition of the MCMF from May 1st to 24, 2008

**The Montreal Chamber Music Festival
presents its eclectic and exciting programming for 2008**

Montreal, March 12, 2008 — The Montreal Chamber Music Festival launches its 13th edition on May 1st, 2008 at the historic St. James United Church in downtown Montreal. Details of the Festival's programming were released today in the presence of world-class performers including Anton Kuerti, Natalie Choquette and Florence K.

Fresh from having won the prestigious Governor General's Performing Arts Award for lifetime achievement today, internationally-renowned concert pianist, Anton Kuerti opens the Festival on May 1st performing works by Beethoven and Brahms in a program entitled *Passion Piano*.

The three-week Festival features close to 80 artists including renowned concert pianists Ignat Solzhenitsyn, Ivo Janssen and Simone Dinnerstein; violinists Rachel Barton Pine and Jonathan Crow, and two of Canada's jazz greats, Ranee Lee and Oliver Jones. As well, Les Violons du Roy will celebrate Quebec City's 400 Anniversary and Israel's famed Jerusalem Chamber Music Festival; and the Czech Republic's Janáček Trio will make their Canadian premieres. A highly original program on May 17th combines an eclectic mix of styles presenting members of Arcade Fire: the band Bell Orchestre, hip-hop klezmer artist Josh Dolgin's group Socalled and Solid State Breakdance.

Festival Founder and Artistic Director Denis Brott points out, "The Festival embarks on its 13th edition with a passion for chamber music in its myriad forms. The Festival's choice of engaging repertoire and artistic excellence will provide festival-goers a unique and unforgettable musical experience".

The Festival takes place from May 1st to 24th at the recently-restored St. James United Church, located on Sainte-Catherine St. West in the heart of the Quartier des spectacles.

The Montreal Chamber Music Festival, the only one of its kind in this city, has won internationally recognition for the quality of its programming and its commitment to making the magic of chamber music accessible to all.

— 30 —

For information:

Katherine Roux Groleau, CASACOM
514-286-2145, extension 228