



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 9, 2011

**All Tickets on Sale May 28 for MusicFest Vancouver's
Brilliant Eleventh Season
August 5 – 14, 2011**

Vancouver, BC – All tickets go on sale **Saturday, May 28** for **MusicFest Vancouver's** exciting eleventh season. The popular annual summer festival returns **August 5 – 14, 2011** with forty exciting live music performances and a lineup that includes some of Canada and the world's best classical, world music and jazz performers. Eight city venues will be filled with glorious music over the multi-genre festival's 10-day run.

The Festival launches with the **Odlum Brown Gala Opening Concert** featuring Canadian superstar **Sarah McLachlan with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** (August 5 @ the Orpheum). This concert is a collection of McLachlan's hits and favourite songs specifically chosen to be orchestrated by the artist, and is her first-ever appearance with the VSO. The combination of McLachlan's soaring voice backed up by the power of a full symphony orchestra makes this a "not to be missed" event. (Tickets went on sale for this concert only on May 7)

The next evening, the star-studded **BMO Main Stage Series** kicks off with a performance by England's high-energy *a cappella* vocal sensations, the **Swingle Singers** (August 6 @ the Chan Centre, UBC). Expect an updated sound that is still very much "Swingle."

August 8 at the Vogue, jazz violinist **Regina Carter and the Reverse Thread Project** perform a program fusing African melodies and rhythms in Carter's own distinctive style. Early Music Vancouver's production of **Henry Purcell's King Arthur** (August 10 @ The Chan Centre, UBC) features a large vocal and instrumental ensemble of top Canadian and international early music performers including sopranos **Suzie LeBlanc** and **Ellen Hargis**. The story centres on Arthur's quest to free his Queen from the clutches of the Saxon King Oswald. With battles between Britons and Saxons, and appearances by Cupid, Venus, Woden, Thor, and Freya, King Arthur is a feast of French dance rhythms and adventurous harmonies. This glorious production is under the direction of **Alexander Weimann**.

Vancouver Sings: A Celebration of CBC's 75th Anniversary, August 13 @ the Chan Centre, UBC) highlights the cream of Vancouver's renowned choirs, including **Elektra Women's Choir**, **musica intima vocal ensemble**, and the **Vancouver Chamber Choir**. The **BMO Main Stage Series** closes with **World at the Garden: From Cuba to Denmark** with performances by the **Ernán López-Nussa Trio** and **Touché Vocal Jazz** (August 14 @ VanDusen Botanical Garden).

Back by popular demand are the Festival's **Morning Chamber Music Concerts** at Christ Church Cathedral. Violinist **Benjamin Beilman**, an emerging superstar, performs with renowned pianist Arthur Rowe on August 8, France's **Trio Paul Klee** performs August 10, and Italian pianist **Mariangela Vacatello** with the **Vetta String Quartet** close the series on August 12.

MusicFest Vancouver's popular **Industrial Alliance Pacific Pre-Dinner Concerts** series offer hour-long performances at Christ Church Cathedral and include the **World Vision Korea Children's Choir** (August 5), soprano **Martha Guth** and pianist **Erika Switzer** in a recital called *Songs From Home* that features works by Vancouver composers (August 9), **Mariangela Vacatello** in a Liszt Anniversary Piano Recital (August 10), the **Borealis String Quartet** with jazz pianist **John Stetch** (August 11), and Denmark's **Touché Vocal Jazz Ensemble** (August 12).

The Festival is pleased to be partnering once again with **Early Music Vancouver** to present a stellar line up of performances for the **Early Music Concerts** at the UBC School of Music's Roy Barnett Recital Hall. **Love and Death in Vienna: Baroque Music from Austria** (August 5) features **Les Voix Baroques** under the direction of countertenor **Matthew White** and **Alexander Weimann**, and centres on Antonio's intriguing *Maria Maddalena*, a moving work of sacred text set to operatic music. On August 7, **La Douceur: Music from the Court of the Sun King** features **Wilbert Hazelzet** on flute and harpsichordist

Jacques Ogg in works by Couperin, Marais, and other composers from the French Baroque. Matthew White and Les Voix Baroques present **Bach and Before: German Solo Cantatas for Alto** (August 12), and the series closes August 14 with **Bach and Beyond: Baroque and Classical Chamber Music** performed by the faculty members of **Early Music Vancouver's Baroque Instrumental Programme**.

This year's **Jazz at the Rothstein Series presented by Marsh / Mercer** begins August 7 with **The Night Crawlers & Cory Weeds' Cellar Jazz Club All Stars** in a concert dedicated to the Hammond B3 organ, followed by Montreal's first lady of jazz, pianist **Lorraine Desmarais** and her trio (August 9). Norway's **Helge Lien Trio** returns for an evening of the best of Scandinavian jazz (August 11), and the series closes with the great Australian jazz pianist **Joe Chindamo** with special guests **Phil Dwyer** and **Jodi Prosnick** (August 13).

Jazz at the Cellar features jazz artists from Vancouver and around the world in an intimate restaurant setting. Pianist **Brad Turner** and **André Lachance** on bass, open the series August 5, with pianist **John Stetch** appearing August 6. **The Lorraine Desmarais** Trio perform August 8, **Helge Lien** (piano) and **Frode Berg** (bass) perform on August 10, and **Joe Chindamo** (piano) and **Jodi Prosnick** (bass) close this extremely popular series on August 12.

Christ Church Cathedral is also the site of the **Industrial Alliance Pacific MusicFest Flavours Series**. These full-length concerts offer a snapshot of the entire Festival, with performances by the renowned **Lafayette String Quartet** (August 7), France's **Trio Paul Klee** (August 9), Taiwan's **Chai Found Music Workshop Ensemble** (August 11), and Cuba's **Ernán López-Nussa Trio** (August 12).

Also at Christ Church Cathedral, MusicFest Vancouver is pleased to present two special days: **Accordion Day** (August 6) and **Discovery Day** August (13). **Accordion Day** spotlights the venerable squeezebox with performances by Canadians **Steve Normandin** and **Alexander Sevastian**, and the Dutch duo, **Toeac** (note: say "Two acc").

Discovery Day (August 13) is devoted to exposing new talent. Opening the day is a performance at noon by sitarist **Mohamed Assani** and tabla player **Cassius Khan**. Pianist and member of New York's Bang on a Can Allstars, **Vicky Chow** brings her laptop and extended techniques to the stage at 2pm, and closing the day at 4pm is the **Discovery Jazz Quintet**, featuring young players who have excelled at the jazz schools of Capilano University and the New England Conservatory.

Treehouse TV stars **Bobs & LoLo** headline **Music in the Garden: BMO Family Day**. This kid-friendly day also includes performances by **Will Stroet and the Backyard Band**, a drumming circle for children led by **Groove Masters Percussion**, and the **Tom Lee Musical Instruments Petting Zoo** – all happening on the Great Lawn of VanDusen Botanical Garden on August 14.

Full concert details and performers' video and audio samples will be on the festival's website at musicfestvancouver.ca as of May 26. Tickets for the Odlum Brown Gala Opening Concert featuring Sarah McLachlan with the VSO are on sale now through Ticketmaster. Tickets for other MusicFest concerts may also be purchased through **Ticketmaster** at **1.855.985.2787** or online at **Ticketmaster.ca**, with the following exceptions: The Early Music Concerts are available through earlymusic.bc.ca or by calling 604.732.1610. Admission to the Music in the Garden: BMO Family Day is included in the Garden's regular admission price (vandusengarden.org). Jazz at the Cellar tickets available exclusively through Cory Weed's Cellar Jazz Club, 604.738.1959.

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Media enquiries: Jodi Smith, MusicFest Vancouver publicist
Tel: 604.738.1959 Email: jodis@lightroom.ca