

Tafelmusik
Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Tafelmusik's Jeanne Lamon to Receive 2007 Betty Webster Award from Orchestras Canada

Toronto (Canada) ...Tafelmusik is thrilled to announce that **Music Director Jeanne Lamon** is one of the recipients of the **2007 Betty Webster Award**, "in recognition of her 25 years of leadership of Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, the profile she has brought to Canada internationally through live performance, recording and teaching, and for the inspiration and insights she generously shares as a teacher and leader." The prestigious Betty Webster Awards are given annually by Orchestras Canada to celebrate outstanding contributions to Canadian orchestras. Ms. Lamon will receive her award at a special presentation at one of Tafelmusik's season-opening concerts in September 2007. The other recipients in 2007 are the National Youth Orchestra of Canada for sustained national contribution and musician Norman Nelson of Sooke BC for his distinguished regional contribution.

Jeanne Lamon was nominated by **Lynn Haight**, former President of Tafelmusik's Board of Directors. "Jeanne is an outstanding music director and leader, and her drive to continually evolve Tafelmusik in the 21st century is inspiring. She is a worthy recipient for Orchestras Canada's Betty Webster Award and I'm very happy for her," says Ms. Haight.

Music Director since 1981, Ms. Lamon celebrates the 25th anniversary of her tenure at Tafelmusik in the 2006/2007 season. The anniversary season has brought a trio of awards: earlier this month Ms. Lamon received an **Honorary Doctorate from Mount Saint Vincent University** for her contribution to music in Canada and to the development of Canada's young musicians, and in October 2006 she received the **Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition** for her contribution to musical life in Toronto.

The Betty Webster Award was established in 2002 to honour Orchestras Canada's founding Executive Director. The Award is a tribute to Betty Webster's many years of service and her extraordinary contributions to the health and vitality of Canada's orchestral community. Throughout her tenure, Betty's unwavering energy was focused on strengthening Canadian orchestras. In Ms. Webster's honour, "the Betties" will be presented each year to a maximum of three individuals or organizations who have made a sustained and significant contribution over a number of years to the Canadian orchestral community, with an emphasis on leadership, education and volunteerism.

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Music Director of Tafelmusik since 1981, violinist Jeanne Lamon has been praised by critics in Europe and North America for her strong musical leadership. In addition to performing with and directing Tafelmusik, Ms. Lamon regularly guest directs symphony orchestras in North America and abroad. Upcoming and recent engagements include the Detroit Symphony, l'Orchestre Métropolitain (Montreal), Les Violons du Roy, the Victoria Symphony and Symphony Nova Scotia. Jeanne has won numerous awards for her work with Tafelmusik, including the Prix Alliance from the Alliance Française, the 1997 M. Joan Chalmers Award for Artistic Direction, an honorary Doctorate of Letters from York University, and the prestigious Molson Prize from the Canada Council for the Arts. In 2000, Jeanne was appointed a

member of the Order of Canada in recognition of her work with Tafelmusik. In 2003 she was named "Musician of the Year" by her peers at the Toronto Musicians' Association. Recent accolades include the Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition for her contribution to Toronto's musical life, and an honorary Doctorate from Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Ms. Lamon teaches at the University of Toronto and at the Glenn Gould Professional School of The Royal Conservatory of Music.

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