



For immediate release:
April 20, 2011

Tafelmusik's Season Finale
Italianissimo! Stefano Montanari, Guest Conductor
Tafelmusik Orchestra

Dates + Times: **Trinity-St. Paul's Centre**
Wed May 11 at 7pm, Thursday May 12 – Sat May 14 at 8PM
Sunday May 15 at 3:30PM
George Weston Recital Hall
Tuesday May 17 at 8pm – Part of Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Festival

Ticket Prices: \$33 - \$79
Face the Musik for ages 30 and under: starting at \$16
PWYC Friday for ages 30 and under: Friday May 13

Venues: Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor Street West
George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge Street (North York)

Box Office: Trinity-St. Paul's Centre: 416.964.6337 / www.tafelmusik.org
George Weston Recital Hall: 416.872-1111 / www.ticketmaster.ca

Website: www.tafelmusik.org/www.facebook.com/tafelmusik.org

Tafelmusik concludes its 2010/2011 season with a spectacular finale May 11 to 17, 2011. *Italianissimo!* features guest conductor **Stefano Montanari**, who galvanised audiences, critics and musicians alike with five sold-out performances of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* last season. Due to injury, Stefano Montanari is unable to play the violin for these performances and will change his role to conductor for this slightly revised programme of music by Italian classical composers. This engagement is in anticipation of his Canadian operatic conducting debut next season, when he will direct Tafelmusik in Opera Atelier's production of *Don Giovanni* by Mozart.

"In the past we have been thrilled by Stefano Montanari's virtuoso performances on the violin, and we are very excited to collaborate with him as conductor in repertoire that is his

specialty. His deep love and knowledge of Italian music from the classical period is something we look forward to sharing," says Music Director **Jeanne Lamont**.

In addition to being a phenomenal violinist, Montanari is a superb and sensitive communicator with audiences and fellow musicians and is in demand as a conductor all over Europe. Recent conducting engagements include concerts with Orchestra 1813 in Como and with Switzerland's Aargauer Chamber Orchestra; and opera conducting engagements including Donizetti's *Don Gregorio* for Teatro di Bergamo, and Mozart's *Nozze di Figaro* for I pomeriggi musicali di Milano. Last season he directed a pan-European collaboration at Bern University in Switzerland devoted to 19th century opera, with a particular focus on works by Donizetti. Montanari also collaborates regularly as leader and conductor with the renowned Concerto Köln, with whom he will make a world premiere recording featuring the violin concertos of Antonio Montanari for SONY.

Stefano Montanari has been first violinist with the Ravenna-based [Accademia Bizantina](#) since 1995 and has toured all over the world with that ensemble. He is also in demand for performances and recordings with some of the world's leading early music specialists, including **Christophe Rousset**, with whom he has recently recorded Bach's Sonatas for violin and obbligato harpsichord for Naïve; and with **Kammerorchester Basel**.

Montanari has recorded for Denon, Opus 111, Erato, Virgin, Astrée, Decca, Oiseau Lyre, and Naïve, among other labels. His recording of Corelli's Violin Sonatas op. 5 received international recognition, including a Diapason d'Or. His debut conducting recording, *Handel: Between Heaven and Earth* with French soprano **Sandrine Piau** was recently released on the Naïve label and was awarded the MIDEM prize for best baroque recording featuring a vocalist of 2010.

In addition to a busy performing and recording schedule, Montanari teaches at the International Music Academy of Milan, and the Dall'Abaco Conservatory of Verona.

Tafelmusik's **Allen Wheat** will give a pre-concert lecture on Tues May 17, 7:15 - 7:45pm — which is FREE for concert ticket-holders. The lecture takes place in the Gallery Theatre at Toronto Centre for the Arts.

Full programme includes:

Carlo Monza	"La tempesta di mare"
Niccolò Jomelli	Chaconne
Giovanni Battista Sammartini	Symphony in G Minor, J-C 57
Guiseppe Cambini	Sinfonia concertante for 2 violins & orchestra in D Minor
Francesco Durante	Concerto in A Major for strings, "La Pazzia"
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Symphony no. 13 in F Major, K. 112

Tafelmusik Season Presenting Sponsor:



Virtuoso Violin: Stefano Montanari Returns sponsored by:



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May 17 concert is part of:



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Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, led by Music Director Jeanne Lamon and founded in 1979, is one of the world's leading period performance ensembles. All members of the Orchestra are specialists in historical performance practice, and their collaboration results in a delightful transparency, vitality and richness of sound. Tafelmusik performs over 50 concerts a year at home in Toronto, tours extensively around the world, has released over 75 CDs and has received nine JUNO Awards. In 2005, Tafelmusik received a Grammy Award nomination. Tafelmusik is the Baroque Orchestra-in-Residence at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto and operates its annual Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute which attracts pre-professional and professional musicians from around the world. The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir, specializing in baroque performance practice and vocal technique, was formed in 1981 to complement the Orchestra. Tafelmusik made its sold-out Carnegie Hall debut in February, 2009. This season, Tafelmusik has embarked on major tours to Europe, Asia, Ontario and Western Canada and was featured in television broadcasts of Sing-Along Messiah on BRAVO!

For media information or to arrange an interview, please contact:
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