

**For Immediate Release**

March 17, 2004

**TAFELMUSIK'S JEANNE LAMON AWARDED  
'MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD'**

Tafelmusik is thrilled to announce that music director Jeanne Lamon has been honoured with the Toronto Musicians' Association **Musician of the Year Award**. This annual award recognizes a distinguished Canadian musician who has contributed significantly to the music profession during the year. The Toronto Musicians' Association will present the award to Ms. Lamon at Tafelmusik's *Handel's Royal Fireworks* concert on **Friday, April 2, 2004**.

"On behalf of all the musicians of Tafelmusik, I am proud to accept this honour," says **Jeanne Lamon**. "It is a great privilege to lead such a fine ensemble, and quite humbling to share this prestigious award with great artists Oscar Peterson and Peter DeSotto"

"In naming Jeanne Lamon as Musician of the Year, the Toronto Musicians' Association is honouring a truly extraordinary musician, a renowned baroque violinist and the Music Director of Tafelmusik," says **Jim Biros**, Senior Business Representative at the Toronto Musicians' Association. "Jeanne's remarkable leadership, artistic vision and passion for music has led to the creation of one of the world's paramount baroque orchestras and brought recognition to Toronto's vibrant musical community."

Music Director of Tafelmusik since 1981, **Jeanne Lamon** is critically acclaimed in Europe and North America for her virtuosity as a violinist and her strong musical leadership. Her solo recordings of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Bach *Violin Concertos* with Tafelmusik have been widely praised. Ms. Lamon has received numerous awards: recent honours include the Prix Alliance from the Alliance Française, and the 1997 M. Joan Chalmers Award for Artistic Direction. In 1994 Ms. Lamon received an honorary Doctorate of Letters degree from York University, and in 1999 she received the prestigious Molson Prize from the Canada Council for the Arts.

In 2000 Ms. Lamon was appointed a member of the Order of Canada in recognition of her exceptional achievements as Music Director of Tafelmusik. Ms. Lamon guest directs symphony orchestras regularly across Canada. Recent engagements include Symphony Nova Scotia, Victoria Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Orchestra London and Calgary Philharmonic. She teaches at the University of Toronto and the Royal Conservatory of Music.

The Toronto Musicians' Association **Musician of the Year Award** is unique in that the nominations and judging are done by fellow professional musicians. This is an annual presentation with the recipient's name being inscribed on an original work of art by sculptor Dina Torrans. The award represents current outstanding Canadian musical achievement and artistic excellence. By honouring a fellow musician each year, it is envisioned that the Musician of the Year Award will promote live music and the high standard of musicianship which exists in Toronto. Past recipients of the award include Peter DeSotto of Quartetto Gelato, Oscar Peterson, composer/conductor Alex Pauk, RUSH, and the Barenaked Ladies.

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*Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, led by Music Director Jeanne Lamon, 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. Founded in 1979, Tafelmusik performs 50 concerts a year at home in Toronto, tours extensively around the world, and has a discography of 68 award-winning CDs, including five that have won Juno awards for "Best Classical Album."*

***In 2003/2004, Tafelmusik celebrates their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.***

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