

The logo for Tafelmusik, featuring the name in a stylized, cursive font.

Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir
Jeanne Lamon, Music Director

07-08 MEDIA RELEASE



October 2007:
For Immediate Release

Tafelmusik Embarks on Asian Tour: A Multicultural Celebration of the Four Seasons

Toronto (Canada) ... Just back from major festival tours in the USA and Germany, Tafelmusik will embark on an Asian tour with performances in Macau, Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Seoul from October 20 to October 31, 2007.

In China, Tafelmusik will be touring with its acclaimed *The Four Seasons: A Cycle of the Sun* concert programme. Featuring Chinese, South Asian, Inuit and European music traditions, this concert programme celebrates the dynamism and diversity of this contemporary age of globalization. In Korea, Tafelmusik will perform at the **Seoul Bach Festival** with internationally acclaimed baroque soprano **Emma Kirkby**.

In collaboration with Canada's international museum consultants **Lord Cultural Resources**, Tafelmusik will be launching its *Global Arts Initiative* with pilot projects at the Beijing Museum of Natural History on October 23rd, and the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum on October 27th. At these museum events, Tafelmusik will present educational outreach concerts integrating music and science presentations with their museum partners. In addition to the concert performances and museum outreach events, Tafelmusik musicians will be doing masterclasses at conservatories in Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai.

Programmed by Tafelmusik's bassist **Alison Mackay**, *The Four Seasons: A Cycle of the Sun* concert programme explores how diverse cultures in the 18th-century used music to depict seasonal transformations. In 2002, Tafelmusik performed *The Four Seasons: A Cycle of the Sun* in Toronto where "a packed house at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre roared with approval" (*The Toronto Star*). The orchestra will perform the *Spring*, *Summer* and *Autumn* concerti from **Antonio Vivaldi's** famous *The Four Seasons*, with soloists **Patricia Ahern**, **Julia Wedman** and **Christopher Verrette**. Interspersed between the concerti are pieces performed by musicians belonging to Chinese, South Asian, Inuit and European musical traditions: Chinese pipa player **Wen Zhao**, sarangi player **Aruna Narayan**, Inuit throat singers **Aqsarniit (Sylvia Cloutier and Sarah Beaulne)**, and lutenist **Lucas Harris**.

This cross-cultural celebration culminates in a collective performance of a specially commissioned work by Canadian composer **Mychael Danna**, who has used Vivaldi's *Winter* concerto as his inspiration. This piece features Music Director **Jeanne Lamon**, **Aruna Narayan**, **Wen Zhao** and Inuit throat singers **Sylvia Cloutier** and **Sarah Beaulne**. Mr. Danna is known for his film score work with directors Atom Egoyan (*The Sweet Hereafter*) and Ang Lee (*The Ice Storm*), and he recently received a Grammy Award nomination for his work on *Little Miss Sunshine*.

**Tafelmusik Announces CD & DVD Release on
Sony BMG's prestigious Deutsche Harmonia Mundi Label**

www.harmoniamundi.com

While on tour in Asia, Tafelmusik proudly celebrates the release of their latest recording, Vivaldi's *L'estro armonico* recorded by **Analekta**, Canada's largest independent classical music label, and licensed to

Sony BMG on their prestigious **Deutsche Harmonia Mundi** label for **Asian** and **European** distribution. This CD package also includes the DVD of *The Four Seasons Mosaic* film produced by Canada's **Media Headquarters**, which takes viewers on a world tour of European, Inuit, Chinese and South Asian music traditions through the reinvention of Antonio Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*.

TAFELMUSIK'S ASIAN TOUR CONCERT SCHEDULE:

Saturday, October 20, 2007 at 8:00PM
CONCERT: Macau International Music Festival
Dom Pedro V Theatre, Largo de Santo Agostinho, Macau

Sunday, October 21, 2007 at 8:00PM
CONCERT: Leisure & Cultural Services, Hong Kong
Concert Hall, Hong Kong City Hall

Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at 7:45PM
MUSEUM OUTREACH EVENT: Beijing Museum of Natural History

Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 7:30PM
CONCERT: Forbidden City Concert Hall, Beijing

Friday, October 26, 2007 at 7:00PM
MUSEUM OUTREACH EVENT: Shanghai Science Museum

Saturday, October 27, 2007 at 7:30PM
CONCERT: Shanghai Performing Arts Festival
Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre, Shanghai

Tuesday, October 30, 2007 at 7:30PM
CONCERT: Seoul Bach Festival
Sejong Chamber Music Hall, Seoul

Wednesday, October 31, 2007 at 7:30PM
CONCERT: Seoul Bach Festival
Sejong Chamber Music Hall, Seoul

The Asia tour is sponsored by **Sun Life Financial**. "In keeping with our commitment to excellence including Canadian performance excellence as presented on the world stage, Sun Life Financial is proud to sponsor Tafelmusik's Asia Tour and, in doing so, to share the enjoyment of Canada's acclaimed baroque orchestra with music lovers in our important international markets," says **Thomas Bogart**, Executive Vice-President and General Counsel at Sun Life Financial and a Vice-President of Tafelmusik's Board of Directors.

Music Director Jeanne Lamon states, "Going to China and Korea is a wonderful opportunity for Tafelmusik to perform and share our music with people across the world. This tour would not be possible without Sun Life's generous sponsorship and the support from Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade."

For more information on all of Tafelmusik's touring activities, please visit: www.tafelmusik.org/tour

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 is the Baroque Orchestra-in-Residence at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir, specializing in baroque performance practice and vocal technique, was formed in 1981 to complement the Orchestra. Tafelmusik performs over 50 concerts a year at home in Toronto, tours extensively around the world, and has received nine Juno Awards. In 2005, Tafelmusik received a Grammy Award nomination. In 2007-2008, Tafelmusik will embark on five major tours to three continents. This season Tafelmusik also celebrates the release of their 74th and 75th CDs, well as the DVD release of the critically acclaimed Four Seasons Mosaic documentary.

Tafelmusik's Asian tour is sponsored by:



Tafelmusik's Asian tour is supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.



Foreign Affairs and
International Trade Canada

Affaires étrangères et
Commerce international Canada

Canada

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