



For immediate release: August 26, 2010
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**Chalumeau featured in Tafelmusik's 2010-11 season launch concerts
with guest soloists Eric Hoeplich and Shannon Mercer**

Lyrical Baroque

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra

Directed by Jeanne Lamon

Featuring Eric Hoeplich, chalumeau and clarinet

Shannon Mercer, soprano

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- Dates + Times:** Trinity-St. Paul's Centre
Wednesday Sept 22 at 7pm
Thursday Sept 23 - Saturday Sept 25 at 8PM
Sunday Sept 26 at 3:30PM
- Ticket Prices:** Trinity-St. Paul's Centre: \$33 - \$79
Face the Musik for ages 30 and under: \$16, \$22 / PWYC Fridays:
Friday, Sept 24
- Venue:** Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor Street West
- Box Office:** Trinity-St. Paul's Centre: 416.964.6337 / www.tafelmusik.org
- Website:** www.tafelmusik.org / www.facebook.com/tafelmusik.org
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On the heels of successful European festival tours in Germany and Italy with conductors **Kent Nagano** and **Bruno Weil**, Tafelmusik launches its 2010-11 Toronto season from September 22 to 26 with *Lyrical Baroque*. This opening programme features guest soloist **Eric Hoeplich** on chalumeau (early clarinet) and clarinet. He is featured in a solo concerto by Fasch, and is joined by Toronto clarinetist **Colin Savage** in double concertos by Telemann and Vivaldi. *Lyrical Baroque* also features "breathtaking" soprano (*Halifax Chronicle Herald*) **Shannon Mercer**, who performs selections from Handel's *Il pastor fido* and Conti's cantata "*Fra queste umbose piante*".

A founding member and principal clarinet of Frans Brüggen's Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century, Eric Hoeplich has specialized in performing on the historical clarinet. His expertise as a musician, scholar and instrument-maker allows for a unique approach to the solo clarinet repertoire of the 18th and 19th centuries. Hoeplich made his Tafelmusik debut in 1991 performing the Mozart clarinet concerto with conductor Bruno Weil. An established writer, Hoeplich has written the definitive study on the clarinet, published by Yale University Press. He

teaches at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, the Paris Conservatoire and Indiana University.

Last April Hoeprich and B'Rock Belgian Baroque Orchestra gave the world premiere performance of *Nachspiele*, a 250th anniversary homage to Christoph Graupner by composer Pim Moorer.

Critically acclaimed by the international press for her musical artistry, soprano Shannon Mercer has been hailed as "one of Canada's most promising young sopranos" and a "Leader of Tomorrow" (*Maclean's*). A highlight of Mercer's coming season is the Canadian tour of Ana Sokolovic's *Love Songs*, a one-woman opera produced by The Queen of Puddings Music Theatre which was met with enthusiastic response at the world-renowned Holland Festival last June. Mercer's 2008 Tafelmusik appearance in Haydn's *The Creation* was noted for "her lovely lyric voice soaring beautifully through Haydn's demanding musical ornaments." (*Toronto Star*).

Programme includes:

J.F. Fasch	Orchestral suite in D Minor
Francesco Bartolomeo Conti	Cantata " <i>Fra queste umbrase piante</i> " (Shannon Mercer, soprano)
Georg Philipp Telemann	Concerto for 2 chalumeaux in D Minor (Eric Hoeprich & Colin Savage, chalumeaux)
Johann Fasch	Concerto for chalumeau in B-flat Major (Eric Hoeprich, chalumeau)
Handel	Suite of arias & dances from <i>Il pastor fido</i> (Shannon Mercer, soprano)
Vivaldi	Concerto for 2 oboes & 2 clarinets in C Major, RV.559 (John Abberger & Marco Cera oboes; Eric Hoeprich & Colin Savage, clarinets)

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Tafelmusik Season Presenting Sponsor:



Eric Hoeprich's engagement supported by Monica R. Armour

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Tafelmusik's Season Radio Sponsor is **The New CLASSICAL 96.3 FM**.
Tafelmusik's *Face the Musik* programme is supported by
TD Canada Trust Music.

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 embarks on major tours to Europe, Asia, Ontario and Western Canada and will be featured in a television broadcast of Sing-Along Messiah on BRAVO! Canada.

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

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