Tafelmusik Unveils Phase Two of Venue Revitalization Project

with

THE CANALS OF VENICE

Davide Monti, Violinist & Guest Director
Alessandro Bressanello, Narrator

Toronto, September 30, 2014 ... Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra makes its highly-anticipated return to Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall October 9 to 12, following the completion of Phase Two of an ambitious $3.2 million project to revitalize its home performance venue. Italian violinist Davide Monti is Tafelmusik’s guest director for The Canals of Venice, featuring Italian actor Alessandro Bressanello, who will inhabit the role of a singing gondolier and will perform in Venetian dialect. The Canals of Venice includes music by Albinoni, Marcello, Galluppi, and Vivaldi, and will be repeated on Oct. 14 at George Weston Recital Hall.

“Throughout this programme, the music of Venice will resonate in the ears of the listeners,” says Davide Monti. “The Canals of Venice mixes popular tradition, performed in the style of the Italian Commedia dell’Arte, with the atmosphere of the 'noble' compositions. The aim is to help the audience enjoy the energy and freshness of the Venetian composers. Antonio Vivaldi is at the top of this list with his clear efficiency in the simplicity of forms. We hope to leave audiences with a taste of this salty and exciting Venice.”

Phase Two of Tafelmusik's Venue Revitalization Project encompasses many improvements, including an enlarged, light-filled lobby space with a high ceiling that imparts a sense of openness; structural improvements to the heritage building; a new wheelchair ramp into Jeanne Lamon hall; a refurbished and wheelchair accessible box office; and new stage lighting. These changes, in addition to the dramatic improvement to Jeanne Lamon Hall in 2013, make Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre a sought-after concert destination.

The renovation represents the culmination of ten years of collective visioning and planning for the revitalization of this 1889 heritage building, and Tafelmusik is very grateful to Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre,
ERA Architects and Clifford Restoration. The revitalization project has been generously supported by a $1 million lead gift from the Hon. Henry N.R. Jackman. The capital campaign has received a matching contribution of $820,000 from The Cultural Spaces Canada Fund of the Government of Canada, and most recently, Phase Two of the project received $100,000 in matching funds from the City of Toronto’s Culture Build Investment Program. Individual donors have contributed a total of more than $1,179,000 to date.

Guest violinist Davide Monti is "a virtuoso instrumentalist of the highest level" (La Nacion, Buenos Aires), and a much sought-after director, soloist, concertmaster, and chamber musician. With degrees from the Conservatories of Parma and Verona, Monti has been leader/soloist with the European Baroque Orchestra, Il Tempio Armonico, Accademia Arcadia Australia, and Ensemble Elyma, and performs regularly as Arparla with harpist Maria Cleary. His prize-winning recordings include his version of Vivaldi’s Four Seasons, which has been reviewed as "definitely one of the best versions of the decade." Monti focuses on the art of improvisation: the experience of extemporaneous communication parallels other art forms, such as jazz, theatre, dance, and fencing. He has led classes on improvisation in the context of historically informed practices in Europe, Canada, Asia, and Australia.

Alessandro Bressanello specializes in the theatre of the Commedia dell'Arte and has led Commedia masterclasses in Italy and abroad. He worked as a musician in the 1960s before devoting himself to the theatre. In 1976 he founded Tag: Teatro Alla Giustizia in Mestre, which he headed until its transformation into the Tag Club. From 1980 to 1990 he was President of the cooperative Tag Theatre, where he worked as actor and director, producing numerous shows that toured the world. When the cooperative closed in 1992, he joined other Venetian artists to found Teatro Nuovo, and in 1995 founded his own company, Produzioni Teatrali Veneziane. He has also worked at the Carnival of Venice and in the organization of major street events.

**Dates + Times:**

**Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall**

Thu Oct 9, Fri Oct 10, Sat Oct 11 at 8pm  
Sun Oct 12 at 3:30pm

**George Weston Recital Hall**

Tue Oct 14 at 8pm

**Ticket Prices:**

**TSP:** Regular: $37 - $89 | **65+:** $29 - $79 | **35 & Under:** $15 - $79  

**GWRH:** Regular: $36 - $77 | **65+:** $29 - $69 | **35 & Under:** $15 - $69

**Venue:**

Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall, 427 Bloor St. West, Toronto  
George Weston Recital Hall, Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St.

**Box Office:**

Trinity-St. Paul’s 416.964.6337 [www.tafelmusik.org](http://www.tafelmusik.org)  
**George Weston Recital Hall Box Office:** 1.855.985.2787
**Website/Social Media:**  
[www.tafelmusik.org](http://www.tafelmusik.org)  
[Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/tafelmusik.org) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/tafelmusik)  
[YouTube](http://www.youtube.com/Tafelmusik1979) | [Instagram](https://instagram.com/tafelmusikbocc)

**Full programme:**

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_Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, founded in 1979, is one of the world’s leading period performance ensembles. The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir, under the direction of Ivars Taurins, was formed in 1981 to complement the Orchestra. The orchestra performs more than 50 concerts each year at home in Toronto, and travels extensively around the world. The choir and orchestra’s multi-platform recording label Tafelmusik Media was launched in January 2012, along with the Watch and Listen site, Tafelmusik's digital concert hall. Tafelmusik’s rich discography of more than 80 CDs have been recorded on the Sony Classical, CBC Records, Analekta and Tafelmusik Media labels. Since 1991, Tafelmusik has received ten JUNO Awards and a Grammy Award nomination. Tafelmusik is the Baroque Orchestra-in-Residence at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto and operates its annual artist training programmes, Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute and Tafelmusik Winter Institute. Tafelmusik has been led by Jeanne Lamon since 1981. In June 2014, Ms. Lamon stepped down as Music Director, and is continuing as Tafelmusik’s Chief Artistic Advisor until her successor is appointed._
Tafelmusik gratefully acknowledges the support of its partners in government:

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