



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **LUMINATO UNVEILS 2009 MUSIC PROGRAM**

**TORONTO (March 10, 2009)** – Luminato, Toronto Festival of Arts and Creativity, proudly announces its 2009 music program. Featuring a number of world and Canadian premieres, Luminato honours the art of the guitar and the power of music. Kicking off the 10-day celebration, Canadian icon Randy Bachman rocks out at Yonge-Dundas Square during **Luminato First Night**. As part of Luminato, New York Guitar Festival founder David Spelman co-curates the largest Guitar Festival in Canada. Luminato's Guitar Festival features: **Three Girls and their Buddy**; **Goran Bregovic**; **The Traveling Blues**; and **The Canadian Songbook: A Tribute to Neil Young's Live at Massey Hall**. Plus, Luminato attempts to break a Guinness World Record in **The Great Canadian Tune**. Now in its third year, Luminato is an annual celebration of the arts where Toronto's stages, streets, and public spaces are infused with theatre, dance, classical and contemporary music, film, literature, visual arts, and design. Luminato brings a world of creativity to the city for ten days **June 5-14, 2009**. Tickets for Luminato events go on sale April 16.

"Luminato's music program presents a fusion of the best in global music with performances for all tastes and audiences," says Janice Price, Luminato's CEO. "From South America to the Balkans to the United States and Canada, Luminato showcases a world of music in Toronto and reminds us of the critical role that music plays in our everyday lives."

"Luminato's music program travels the globe without ever leaving Toronto," says Chris Lorway, Luminato's Artistic Director. "Our programming team really enjoyed finding the intersection between music and other genres. As a result, we've compiled an exciting program that includes theatre, film, and photography – all of which have music as their inspiration."

### **Luminato's Guitar Festival line up:**

Luminato's Guitar Festival is Canada's largest celebration of the guitar. Co-curated by the New York Guitar Festival's David Spelman, signature programs and performers transcend genres and pay tribute to the creativity and inspiration drawn from the guitar.

### ***Three Girls and Their Buddy***

Emmylou Harris, Patty Griffin, Shawn Colvin, and Buddy Miller help kick off Luminato's opening night with a special show at the legendary Massey Hall. These four incredibly talented musicians have been collaborating with one another for years and now come to Luminato for an intimate performance. This is a rare opportunity to see these celebrated American songwriters together on one stage. ***Three Girls and Their Buddy*** is produced in association with Massey Hall.

**Friday, June 5 at Massey Hall**

**\$59.50-79.50**

### ***The Traveling Blues***

Luminato's ***The Traveling Blues*** showcases the rich history and compelling sound of Blues music from the dusty streets of Africa to the deep heart of the American South. A soulful and cathartic expression of one's self, blues' influence is intimate yet widespread. ***The Traveling Blues*** at Toronto's Metro Square features headliner Taj Mahal along with: Fiona Boyes; Kevin Breit & Harry Manx; Mamadou Diabate; Alpha Yaya Diallo; Alvin Youngblood Heart; Madagascar Slim/Tri-Continental; and Michael Pickett.

**Saturday, June 6 at Metro Square**

**FREE**

### ***The Great Canadian Tune***

Luminato attempts to break the Guinness World Record for Largest Guitar Ensemble as Yonge-Dundas Square hosts a jam session with guitarists playing ten of the greatest Canadian tunes. The current record is held by Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany where 1,802 guitarists assembled to perform Deep Purple's "Smoke On The Water." In the weeks leading up to the Festival, audiences are asked to log on to [luminato.com](http://luminato.com) to place their votes for ***The Great Canadian Tune***. ***The Great Canadian Tune*** is presented by OLG.

**Saturday, June 6 at Yonge-Dundas Square**

**FREE**

"**OLG Presents Music** is all about inspiring performances and supporting communities," says Kelly McDougald, Chief Executive Officer of OLG. "We're excited to return to Luminato, where there is something for everyone and music is at the core of it all."

### ***The World of Slide Guitar***

Embodying a rich musical history, the slide guitar has been played using metal pipes, batteries, spoons, and even broken bottles. Luminato celebrates ***The World of Slide Guitar*** with an all-day concert at Yonge-Dundas Square featuring headliners The Derek Trucks Band along with: Debashish Bhattacharya; Kevin Breit and FolkAlarm; The Campbell Brothers; Jerry Douglas; Sonny Landreth with Cindy Cashdollar; Daniel Lanois featuring Brian Blade; and Don Rooke. ***The World of Slide Guitar*** is presented by OLG.

**Sunday, June 7**

**Yonge-Dundas Square**

**FREE**

***The Canadian Songbook: A Tribute to Neil Young's Live at Massey Hall***

Building upon the success of last year's ***The Canadian Songbook***, Luminato takes its celebration of the guitar to Massey Hall for a tribute to legendary Canadian rock 'n' roller Neil Young. Luminato's ***The Canadian Songbook: A Tribute to Neil Young's Live at Massey Hall*** assembles a line up of 18 bands, singer-songwriters, and guitarists to perform original arrangements of all 18 songs from Young's recently-released historic and influential 1971 concert. Performers include: Holly Cole; Jason Collett (Broken Social Scene); Cowboy Junkies; Bill Frisell Trio; Issa (formerly Jane Siberry); Stevie Jackson (Belle & Sebastian); Colin Linden; Harry Manx; Danny Michel; Steven Page; Carol Pope; Roxanne Potvin; Sarah Slean; and musical director Kevin Breit. ***The Canadian Songbook: A Tribute to Neil Young's Live at Massey Hall*** is presented by National Bank Financial Group.

**Wednesday, June 10 at Massey Hall**

**\$59.50-79.50**

"Luminato brings creativity to Toronto in a manner that no other festival has done, and it has an important cultural and economic impact on our city," says Camillo di Prata, Executive Vice President & Managing Director, Head of Corporate & Investment Banking, National Bank Financial Group. "Creativity, a unique perspective and impact, all results that **National Bank Financial Group** works hard to provide to our clients. We are very proud to continue our sponsorship of Luminato for the third consecutive year!"

***Goran Bregovic***

One of the Balkans' iconic composers and musicians, Bregovic and his Wedding and Funeral Orchestra take over Yonge-Dundas Square on June 12. The raucous night of Eastern European music features a Serbian gypsy brass band, string ensemble, all-male tuxedo-clad choir, and two Bulgarian sisters singing back up. Born in Yugoslavia, Bregovic fuses dance tunes of a Roma brass band with traditional Eastern European choral music, all with a modern rock 'n' roll edge.

**Friday, June 12 at Yonge-Dundas Square**

**FREE**

***National Bank Yorkville Festival – Brazilian Guitar Marathon***

Luminato's ***National Bank Yorkville Festival – Brazilian Guitar Marathon*** is a day-long exploration of the guitar's rich history in Brazil – from Jazz and Samba to Bossa Nova and Chorinho. Village of Yorkville Park hosts a stellar line-up of Brazil's most distinctive guitar masters, including: Grammy Award®-winners Sérgio and Odair Assad, often hailed as the best classic guitar duo in the world; virtuoso Celso Machado; Badi Assad (sister of Sérgio and Odair); Romero Lubambo; and seven-string sensation Yamandú Costa making his Toronto debut. ***National Bank Yorkville Festival – Brazilian Guitar Marathon*** is presented in association with the Bloor-Yorkville BIA.

**Saturday, June 13 at Village of Yorkville Park**

**FREE**

**Luminato's 2009 music line up also includes:**

***Luminato First Night***

Luminato takes over Yonge-Dundas Square on Opening Night with a free performance by one of music's most eclectic and prolific performers. Randy Bachman of The Guess Who and Bachman Turner Overdrive (BTO) kicks things off as Luminato welcomes the Canadian guitar legend for a free outdoor Opening Night concert.

**Friday, June 5 at Yonge-Dundas Square**

**FREE**

### **Artist Lounge**

Located at the Hard Rock Cafe at Yonge-Dundas Square, Luminato's **Artist Lounge** will be the place for the Toronto arts community and general public to gather each evening during the Festival to hear some great music and spontaneous jam sessions. Hosted by NOW Magazine's 2007 Best Blues Artist Raoul Bhaneja and his band, The Big Time, the **Artist Lounge** will be a late night watering hole for Festival artists and those in the know.

**Friday, June 5 – Friday, June 12 at Hard Rock Cafe**

**FREE**

### **Light On Your Feet**

Back again after a spectacular launch last year, **Light On Your Feet** brings dancing to the streets as Yonge-Dundas Square plays host to five evenings of free dance lessons and concerts featuring music to make you move from all over the world. Hosted by Vince Parrell, **Light on Your Feet** features salsa, produced in association with Salsa Festival Group (June 6), country (June 7), Bollywood, produced in association with Masala! Mehndi! Masti! (June 8), disco (June 9), and big band/swing (June 10). **Light On Your Feet** is presented by OLG.

**Saturday, June 6 – Wednesday, June 10 at Yonge-Dundas Square**

**FREE**

### **The Children's Crusade – World Premiere**

Co-produced by Luminato and Soundstreams and co-commissioned by Luminato, **The Children's Crusade** is a dynamic, full-length opera from composer R. Murray Schafer and directed by Tim Albery. Its innovative performance space allows for the movement of audience and cast from scene to scene throughout the found space of an industrial warehouse. With over 100 performers, **The Children's Crusade**, inspired by the actual events of the Children's Crusade in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, features the Canadian Children's Opera Company and Toronto Consort.

**Friday, June 5, Saturday, June 6, Monday, June 8 – Thursday, June 11 at 153 Dufferin Street**

**\$40**

### **A Poe Cabaret: Dream Within A Dream – World Premiere**

Lorenzo Savoini directs and designs Luminato's evening of cabaret featuring four different pieces of music inspired by Edgar Allan Poe. **A Poe Cabaret: Dream Within a Dream** includes: a new piece commissioned by Luminato from composer Mike Ross performed with Patricia O'Callaghan; a reading of *The Raven* by CBC's Tom Allen with a new underscore commissioned by Luminato from Alexina Louie; librettist Mark Campbell and composer Lance Horne's contemporary opera, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, makes its Canadian debut with tenor Sean Clark; and Andre Caplet's *Conte Fantastique* based on *The Masque of Red Death* is performed by the Penderecki String Quartet and TSO harpist Lori Gemmel. Mike Ross hosts this licensed cabaret event at Buddies In Bad Times Theatre.

**Monday, June 8 – Wednesday, June 10 at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre**

**\$45**

### ***Tales of The Uncanny***

Richard Oswald's 1919 silent German film *Unheimliche Geschichten*, or ***Tales of The Uncanny***, makes its Canadian debut at Yonge-Dundas Square. Berlin artist and electronic musician Robert Lippok performs a live musical score of the gothic film alongside two top Canadian indie bands. Curated by North by Northeast and presented in partnership with the Goethe-Institut Toronto, ***Tales of The Uncanny*** is the story of an old bookstore where literary characters such as Death and the Devil come alive to read stories about themselves.

**Thursday, June 11 at Yonge-Dundas Square**

**FREE**

### ***Addicted to Bad Ideas: Peter Lorre's 20<sup>th</sup> Century* – Canadian Premiere**

Luminato presents the Canadian premiere of ***Addicted to Bad Ideas: Peter Lorre's 20<sup>th</sup> Century***, a hybrid punk-rock opera multi-media theatre event, as Brooklyn punk legends World/Inferno Friendship Society and visionary director Jay Scheib profile the ultimate modern archetype of alienation. An unapologetic study of Lorre's enigmatic existence as one of cinema's premier villains through to his pitiless drug-infused fall from grace is compellingly told through furious song cycles and frenetic energy.

**Friday, June 12 at Phoenix Concert Theatre**

**\$35**

### **ABOUT LUMINATO**

For 10 extraordinary days in June, Toronto's stages, streets, and public spaces are illuminated with arts and creativity. Luminato is an annual multidisciplinary celebration of theatre, dance, classical and contemporary music, film, literature, visual arts, design and more.

For more information, visit [luminato.com](http://luminato.com). Tickets will be available beginning April 16 through all Ticketmaster outlets (call 416-872-1111 or visit [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)).

Luminato gratefully acknowledges the generous support and vision of its Luminaries, SuperNova donors, and Patron Passholders; corporate sponsors, particularly our presenting sponsor, L'Oréal; our dedicated government partners, especially the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada; and many other partners and supporters.

**Luminaries:** The Founding Luminaries were among the Festival's first supporters. These visionary arts patrons and civic-builders stepped forward to help found Luminato, and will be recognized for their commitment in perpetuity.

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This list represents commitments as of March 5, 2009. Additional 2009 sponsors, government partners, and individual donors will be announced shortly.

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