

## CMIMF FUNDRAISING EVENT A SUCCESS!

On October 27, 2016, the Concours musical international de Montréal Foundation held its annual benefit event at the Oval room of the Ritz-Carlton Montreal. Presided over by Dr. Sharon Azrieli, the glamorous *Sous les palmiers* evening helped raise \$176,150!



Hosted by Marie-Claude Lavallée, the evening brought together some 250 guests, among which many personalities from the business world and the arts scene. A live auction, ably conducted by Iégor de Saint-Hippolyte, offered great vintages in exceptional sizes and varied packages ranging from a two-night stay in New York including a gourmet dinner, tickets to the Met, and Ruinart Afternoon Tea, a dream cruise on Crystal Cruises, the number one luxury cruise line, and a one week stay in a Paris condo which included roundtrip Air Canada business tickets. There was also an interactive silent auction featuring exceptional wines, concert and festival tickets, and other luxury products, as well as a draw for a Kaufmann de Suisse exquisite bracelet and a painting by artist Marc Séguin.







Guests were also treated to musical interludes, starting with 11-year old pianist prodigy from Toronto JJ Bui, winner of CBC-Radio-Canada's Piano Hero Competition, who wowed everyone with his performance. CMIM 2015 Third Prize winner soprano France Bellemare also charmed the audience with an inspired operatic piece from Puccini's *La bohème*. And CMIMF board member Richard Lupien showcased his improvisation skills to announce the improvisation concert next April – a prelude to the 2017 piano edition taking place from May 2 to 12.



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Photos: Brent Calis Photography