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**ROBERT CHARLEBOIS, SPOKESPERSON FOR THE 2017 CONCOURS MUSICAL  
INTERNATIONAL DE MONTRÉAL**

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**Montreal, Tuesday, March 16, 2017** – The CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) is extremely pleased to announce that Montreal-born Robert Charlebois, a major Quebec star across all francophone cultures, will be the spokesperson for its 2017 Piano edition taking place from May 2 to 12.

Author, composer, musician, and performer Robert Charlebois launched his career in the mid-'60s, carving out his own special place on Quebec's music scene and influencing an entire generation of musicians. Following in the footsteps of his compatriots Gilles Vigneault and Félix Leclerc, he has established himself as one of the key figures of French Chanson in Québec and abroad. A fan of classical music, Charlebois collaborated for the first time with a symphonic orchestra in 1971 at Place des arts for a concert with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal led by Leon Bernier. Since then, he has never turned down opportunities to play with an orchestra.

"In this year which marks both our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Montreal's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are delighted that Robert Charlebois, who has sung Montréal on stages around the world, has agreed to be our spokesperson," said Christiane LeBlanc, CMIM executive and artistic director.

"I am thrilled to be joining forces with the CMIM. Hats off to these young virtuoso pianists who have to present two recital rounds before performing the final round with none other than our national treasure the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal. I am inviting you all to come out and encourage each and every one of those talented competitors and do your part to contribute to the development and promotion of today's finest young pianists," declared Robert Charlebois.

The CMIM recently revealed the identities of the 24 competitors, 6 women and 18 men from 15 countries, selected to compete in its piano edition from May 2 to 12. The CMIM seeks to discover and support exceptional young singers, violinists, and pianists from around the world, while raising awareness for classical music in a competition setting. The CMIM is the only international competition in North America to be held annually, presenting three disciplines (voice, violin, piano) in a three-year rotation.

**INFORMATION AND BOX OFFICE**

- Finals and gala concert - The Place des Arts box office: [placedesarts.com](http://placedesarts.com) | 514 842-2112 | 1 866 842-2112.
- First and semi-final rounds - Bourgie Concert Hall, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts: [mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts](http://mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts) | 514 285-2000, option 4.

More details at: [concoursmontreal.ca](http://concoursmontreal.ca)  
Facebook/Twitter/Instagram: @CMIMontreal

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Source:  
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