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## **ZARIN MEHTA SUCCEEDS ANDRÉ BOURBEAU AS CMIM JURY PRESIDENT**

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**Montréal, Thursday, April 26, 2018** – The CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) announces that Zarin Mehta succeeds the late André Bourbeau as president of its jury for the upcoming Voice edition taking place from May 29 to June 7, 2018.

Born in Mumbai, Mr. Mehta was educated as a chartered accountant in London, England. After a successful business career, Mehta joined the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal's Board of Directors, and in 1981 became Managing Director of the Orchestra. Under his enlightened administration, the OSM experienced unprecedented financial stability and gained national and international recognition. After close to a decade with the Orchestra, Mr. Mehta was named Executive Director of the Ravinia Festival, the summer home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, later becoming its President and CEO. In 2000, he was appointed Executive Director, and later President, of the New York Philharmonic which he served until his retirement in 2012. Mr. Mehta has been awarded several academic distinctions including honorary doctorates from Roosevelt University in Chicago and the Université de Montréal. He was appointed a member of the Order of Canada in 1986.

“The Concours musical international de Montréal is a world-class event that has launched the careers of some extremely talented instrumentalists and singers. When I was approached, I saw this as an opportunity to pursue my lifelong interest in nurturing young talent. I am deeply honored to preside over such an eminent jury for a competition of this caliber,” declares Zarin Mehta.

CMIM Executive and Artistic Director Christiane LeBlanc says, “Zarin Mehta is among the world's leading performing arts administrators; his life-long artistic experience and his unwavering support for emerging artists made him an obvious choice as president of the jury. We are delighted to welcome him into the CMIM family.”

### **NEW JURY MEMBER**

The CMIM also announces that American-born Richard Rodzinski joins the 2018 jury. Prior to running six editions of the Cliburn Competition and one edition of the Tchaikovsky International Competition, Richard Rodzinski served as artistic administrator at the San Francisco Opera and the Metropolitan Opera. He will be joining fellow jurors Edith Bers, Ben Heppner, Soile Isokoski, Warren Jones, François Le Roux, Dame Felicity Lott, Joseph Rouleau, and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

### **MASTERCLASSES AND PRE-CONCERT TALKS**

In partnership with Opéra de Montréal, the CMIM will present masterclasses featuring four of its jury members, all starting at 1 pm at Bourgie Hall:

- May 31 with baritone François Le Roux who will present a conference on the interpretation of French Art Song as a prelude to the masterclass
- June 2 with soprano Dame Kiri te Kanawa, preceded by a short documentary
- June 4 with collaborative pianist Warren Jones
- June 5 with soprano Soile Isokoski

Admission to the masterclasses is free.

Prior to each evening of the Aria semifinals, Jean-Pierre Primiani, Director of development at Opéra de Montréal, will host pre-concert talks with jury members Ben Heppner on June 4 and Dame Felicity Lott on June 5. Both at 6:45 p.m. in Foyer Allegro (Maison symphonique), upon presentation of a ticket for the following concert.

**BOX OFFICE**

**ART SONG & ARIA FIRST ROUND MAY 29-30-31**

**ART SONG SEMIFINAL JUNE 1**

**ART SONG FINAL JUNE 3**

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BOURGIE HALL, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts  
514 285-2000, option 4  
[mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts-other-organizations/cmim](http://mbam.qc.ca/en/concerts-other-organizations/cmim)

**ARIA SEMIFINAL JUNE 4-5**

**ARIA FINALS/GALA JUNE 7**

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MAISON SYMPHONIQUE  
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[placedesarts.com/en/producer/concours-musical-international-de-montréal](http://placedesarts.com/en/producer/concours-musical-international-de-montréal)

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**ABOUT THE CMIM**

The mission of the CMIM (Concours musical international de Montréal) is to discover and support exceptional young singers, violinists and pianists from around the world while raising awareness for classical music. The CMIM is the only international competition in North America to be held annually, presenting three disciplines in a three-year rotation. Since its first edition dedicated to voice in 2002, 3,350 hopefuls have entered the competition and some 450 have performed in Montreal.

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

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**Source:**

Dina Barghout  
Director of Sponsorships, Marketing and Communications  
514 845-4108, extension 236 | Mobile: + 1 514 233-3510  
[dbarghout@concoursmontreal.ca](mailto:dbarghout@concoursmontreal.ca)

**Media Relations:**

Brigitte Chabot Communications  
Stéphanie Culakowa  
[stephanie@bchabotcom.ca](mailto:stephanie@bchabotcom.ca)  
514 861-7870 Ext: 223  
+1 514-245-1417