

NEWS RELEASE



1911-2011 | Wilfrid Laurier University

For Immediate Release
Jan. 11, 2012 | 003-12

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Renowned pianist Marc-André Hamelin to play free concert at Laurier

WATERLOO – Celebrated Canadian pianist and composer Marc-André Hamelin will perform at Wilfrid Laurier University's Maureen Forrester Recital Hall Saturday, Jan. 21 at 8 p.m.

"Hamelin's 2012 tour dates include appearances in Seattle, Copenhagen, Singapore, Hong Kong, Chicago and New York City at Carnegie Hall, but his first concert of the new year is at Laurier," said Glen Carruthers, dean of Laurier's Faculty of Music. "We're very grateful to Martin Wealth Management for making this concert possible and to Marc-André Hamelin for taking time between engagements to present this solo recital."

Hamelin was born in Montreal, Quebec. He began to play the piano at the age of five, studying at École Vincent d'Indy in Montreal and then at Temple University in Philadelphia. In 1985 he won the Carnegie Hall International Competition for American Music. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Knight of the National Order of Quebec, and he won the 2008 Juno Award for Classical Album of the Year: Solo or Chamber Ensemble. Hamelin is also featured in book *The Composer-Pianists: Hamelin and the Eight* (Amadeus Press).

"Marc-André Hamelin is a pianistic icon like no other and his recitals are in a class of their own," said Carruthers. "I'm especially pleased that he has chosen to play, in addition to some monuments of the piano repertoire like the Liszt Sonata, five of his own incredible studies for piano. I couldn't be happier that we're able to present this concert for our students and for the community."

Saturday's concert features the following program:

Berg: Piano Sonata, Op.1 (1907-8)
Liszt: Piano Sonata in B minor (1853)
Debussy: Préludes, book 2 (excerpts) (1911-13)
La puerta del vino
Les fées sont d'exquises danseuses
Les tierces alternées
Feux d'artifice
Hamelin: Etudes, No.8 No.2 No.7 No.11 No.12

The concert is free and open to the public.