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MONTREAL MUSICAL
INSTRUMENT SHOW



Press release
For immediate distribution

The 2nd Montreal Guitar Show:
Guitarmania:
12 concerts by exceptional guitarists!
Tickets go on sale Saturday at noon

Montreal, Wednesday, February 27, 2008 — For its **second edition**, the **Montreal Guitar Show** has stepped up its programming considerably with ***Guitarmania***, an **all-new concert series** featuring such well known guitarists as **Jim Hall**, **Martin Taylor** and **Pierre Bensusan** performing in the intimacy of **Place des Arts' Cinquième Salle**. The largest guitar show in Canada—held this year **from June 27 to 29**, during the **first weekend of the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal**—is also doing more to help us discover the world of the guitar by increasing the number of free workshops with some of the top specialists in the field. **Concert tickets go on sale this Saturday, March 1, at noon.**

With the same passion as Montrealers and visitors who came out in force to the inaugural edition of the Montreal Guitar Show, organizers of this year's event set out to broaden their exploration of the guitar in all its forms. The result: the 2008 edition plays host to a who's who of guitar specialists from all disciplines, including renowned musicians, guest speakers, master luthiers, authors, etc.

On stage, we'll have a chance to see and hear virtuosos working in all musical styles, from fingerpicking to jazz, manouche and classical: Frenchman **Pierre Bensusan**, who leaves audiences spellbound with his mastery of world music, jazz and folk; **Antoine Dufour**, rising young Canadian acoustic guitar and fingerstyle whiz; **Jim Hall**, a bona fide jazz guitar giant; **Michel Haumont**, another extraordinary French musician who cites John Renbourn, Chet Atkins and Marcel Dadi among his influences, playing alongside fellow countryman **Jean-Félix Lalanne**, a supremely gifted and eclectic guitarist whose playing has been likened to "the beating of butterfly wings;" guitarist **John Jorgenson**, one of the pioneers of Gypsy swing in the United States; dazzling American guitarist **Andy McKee**, who's been known to play one-handed and to use his instrument as a rhythm box; Montreal-born **Erik Mongrain**, a talented self-taught composer-performer and lap-tapping specialist whose idols are Michael Hedges and Montrealer **Don Ross**, the fingerpicking master and first repeat winner of the US National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship; Talented Montreal guitarist **Jordan Officer**, who performs with Susie Arioli and has also collaborated with Thomas Hellman and Richard Séguin; the Welsh fingerpicking prodigy **Gareth Pearson**; the amazing Hawaiian **Jake Shimabukuro**, nicknamed the "Jimi Hendrix" of the ukulele; and **Martin Taylor**, described by Pat Metheny as "one of the most awesome solo guitar players in the history of the instrument!"

All of these artists will also give a workshop as well as meet their fans at the Show. Additional workshops will be given by leading guitar experts, among them world-class luthiers such as **Rick Davis**, **William "Grit" Laskin**, **Tom Ribbecke**, **Jeff Traugott**, **Rick Turner** and **Ervin Somogyi**, as well as **Tim Brookes**, author of the bestselling *Guitar: An American Life*, **Jeff Doctorow**, a major collector of luthier guitars—Doctorow owns one of two *Pikasso* guitars by Linda Manzer, the other belonging to Pat Metheny!—and **Georges Gruhn**, author, collector and leading vintage guitar expert.

Above all the Montreal Guitar Show remains—much to the delight of aficionados—the ideal place to admire, try and purchase the most beautiful guitars handmade by some of the world's finest artisans. Some 100 exceptional guitar luthiers are expected to gather at the **Hyatt Regency Montréal** for this event.

A taste of things to come ...

Pierre Bensusan

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEbeHavDDDc> ; <http://www.myspace.com/pierrebensusan>

Antoine Dufour

<http://www.myspace.com/antoinedufour> ; <http://youtube.com/watch?v=0qTnkbcKyFg>

Jim Hall

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jh9r1td3hlc>

Michel Haumont / Jean-Félix Lalanne

<http://vids.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=vids.individual&VideoID=9846903> ;
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=cmzw0SvabSs>

John Jorgenson

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=6Tm5kl1AXw> ; <http://www.myspace.com/johnjorgensonquintet>

Andy McKee

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tn1d5DmdMqY> ; <http://www.myspace.com/andymckee2>

Erik Mongrain

<http://www.myspace.com/erikrain> ; <http://youtube.com/user/erikmongrain>

Jordan Officer

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=vYVjKEONdxg&feature=related> ; <http://www.myspace.com/jordanofficer>

Gareth Pearson

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9Vj4R04UZA> ; <http://www.myspace.com/garethpearson>

Don Ross

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip111IXjDSs> ; <http://www.myspace.com/donross>

Jake Shimabukuro

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Gm1xk41jkQ> ; <http://www.myspace.com/officialjakeshimabukuro>

Martin Taylor

<http://www.myspace.com/martintaylormusic> ; <http://youtube.com/watch?v=JrJ7Gq394hk>

Tickets go on sale Saturday, March 1 at noon.

Tickets for these **Montreal Guitar Show** concerts go on sale **Saturday, March 1**, at noon, at the **Metropolis** ticket office (59 Ste-Catherine Street East), **Place des Arts** (175 Ste-Catherine Street West – 514 842-2112 or pda.qc.ca), and at **Admission** (admission.com or 514 790-1245). Diehard guitar fans will want to treat themselves to one of the attractive packages offered (information at montrealguitarshow.com):

- \$180 to attend every show in the *Guitarmania* series (plus taxes, service charges and venue fees)
- \$90 to attend two shows per time slot (2 for each time slot: 6 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., for a total of 6 shows) (plus taxes, service charges and venue fees)

The **Montreal Guitar Show**, presented in collaboration with the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal**, would like to acknowledge the support of its partners: the **Government of Canada**, the **Government of Quebec**, **Tourisme Montréal**, the magazines *Acoustic Guitar*, *Fingerstyle* and *Guitarist Acoustic*, as well as **Official Luthiers Forum** (OLF), **Acoustic Voice** (AV), laguitare.com, guitarscanada.com and the **Canadian Guitar Festival**.

Subscribe to the **Spectra Newsletter** to get the early scoop on all the latest information concerning the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, the SIMM and the Montreal Guitar Show. For more information, please contact the Info-Jazz Bell line at **514 871-1881** or toll free at **1 888 515-0515**, or visit montrealjazzfest.com.

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Source:

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Information (public): Website: montrealguitarshow.com ; Info-Jazz Bell Line — 514-871-1881 or toll-free at 1-888-515-0515