

THÉÂTRE OUTREMONT

A historical show to celebrate the reopening of the Théâtre Outremont :

" L'Outremont des beaux jours "

will be filmed for Radio-Canada, on April 3

Montreal, Wednesday, March 21, 2001 - The reopening of the Théâtre Outremont will take place on **Tuesday, April 3**. To mark the occasion, many of the artists who took part in the glory days of the legendary Bernard Avenue theatre, will be performing. The public is invited to attend the show entitled " **L'Outremont des beaux jours** "; the Outremont of the good old days, which will be filmed for television by **Amérimage-Spectra**. A one hour version of " L'Outremont des beaux jours " will air on **Sunday, April 8, at 9 p.m., on Radio-Canada**. Later **this fall, the uncut 90 minutes version of the show will be broadcast on La Télé des Arts**.

" L'Outremont des beaux jours " conceived by **André Ménard** and directed by his brother, **Sylvain Ménard**, will be hosted by **Clémence Desrochers**. In a way, this show is a nod to the glorious era of the 70's, when the Théâtre Outremont was a true cradle of a budding distinct musical genre; that of the nouvelle chanson quebecoise. Far from being fraught with nostalgia, the show's concept is rooted in today's joyful memories and in connivance, in which the biggest names in humour and song will mingle.

Clémence will be welcoming **Paul Piché, Claude Meunier, Michel Rivard, Angèle Dubeau, Richard Séguin, Daniel Lemire, Marie Michèle Desrosiers, Louise Forestier** and **Yves Jacques** (Slick & The Outlags), to name but a few. They will be there to bridge the theatre's glorious past to its promising future. Through various contests, some **400 lucky winners will be given free tickets** to attend this historical taping.

Spectra and l'Outremont: a Rekindling...

L'Équipe Spectra's founders, **Alain Simard** and **André Ménard**, have crossed paths many times behind the walls of the Théâtre Outremont. In fact, 25 years ago, Alain was producing jazz and blues shows there (**Productions Kosmos** with Jean Bertrand) and André was producing shows featuring Quebecois artists (**Les Productions Beau bec** with Paul Dupont-Hébert). A year later, from their association came **Spectra Scène**, which has now become **L'Équipe Spectra**, and which begot the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal**, and the **FrancoFolies de Montréal** and more recently the **Montreal High Lights Festival**.

Ms. **Michèle Neveu**, who at that time was working at the theatre's ticket office, decided to join the two new partners in their adventure. She now manages all of L'Équipe Spectra's venues, such as the **Métropolis**, the **Olympia**, the **Spectrum de Montréal** and now the **Théâtre Outremont!** By successfully running these major entertainment venues, L'Équipe Spectra showed that it was indeed possible to self finance venues in Quebec while providing quality cultural productions.

This has surely been one of the decisive factors in the city of Outremont's choosing to entrust **L'Équipe Spectra with the task of managing the Théâtre Outremont for the next 20 years**. L'Équipe Spectra has committed itself to the managing of this venue and to meet the costs for maintenance, personnel; and this without benefiting from additional business subsidies. For over 8 years now, L'Équipe Spectra has been deeply involved in this project. They have worked in close and constant collaboration with architects, consultants, with all levels of government and also with the municipal services of the City of Outremont. Of all those involved in this project, we should not be surprised to find L'Équipe Spectra standing tall, proud to see this gem of our cultural heritage having been restored to life.

L'Équipe Spectra plans to cover all aspects of the performing arts. The group's scheduled events at the Théâtre Outremont will include **song, dance, theatre, music** and of course **film screenings**. The community vocation aspect of the Théâtre Outremont will be preserved by the **city of Outremont** who for 50 or so evenings a year will use the venue, which will continue to be under Spectra management.

On Sunday, April 8, at 9 p.m. within the framework of **Radio-Canada's les Beaux dimanches**, all of Quebec will be able to enjoy the show: "**L'Outremont des beaux jours**". This will mark a brand new stage in the life of the Théâtre Outremont, which will finally take back its rightful place in Quebec's cultural scene. More than simply another venue, the Théâtre Outremont has found itself again living as a true institution in the field of the performing arts benefiting Montrealers and Quebecers alike.