



News release
For immediate distribution

A celebration of guitar in Club Soda! **The 2nd annual Montreal Guitar Grand Prix: amateurs, aces... and awards!**

Montreal, Monday, October 1, 2007 — This past weekend, **Savoy du Métropolis** and **Club Soda** were headquarters for genuine fans of guitar! The **2nd Montreal Guitar Grand Prix**, presented as part of the **MMMIS** (Montreal Musician and Musical Instrument Show), welcomed aspiring guitar-slingers in a wide range of categories, offering them the priceless opportunity to showcase their skills from stages where major artists have shone. The contest, presented by **Godin Guitars** in collaboration with **Steve's Music Store** and **Couleur Jazz**, was open to **all guitarists, whatever their age or skill level**, and scored a hit with fans who trooped out to cheer on the participants. On Sunday night, our guitar weekend climaxed with performances from 12 finalists as well as a **free** show from the pros of the **Tellier-Lamoureux-Finaldi** trio.

Crowd members were even invited to join in as judges, awarding the **People's Choice Award** of the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal** to their favourite guitarist, **Lucas Haneman**. Here are the other prize-winners who impressed judges and fans alike:

Blues / rock guitar:

1st prize: Max Clark-Dent
2nd prize: Pascal Gaudreau
3rd prize: Denny Snyder

Classical guitar:

1st prize: Thierry Bégin-Lamontagne
2nd prize: Étienne Simard
3rd prize: Francis Brunet-Turcotte

Jazz guitar (archtop or gypsy):

1st prize: Dylan Perron
2nd prize: Lucas Haneman
3rd prize: Stephen Johnston

Acoustic guitar (fingerstyle and fingerpicking):

1st prize: Jean-Luc Thievent
2nd prize: Lucas Haneman
3rd prize: Ryan Luxenberg

Jury members, all professionals with a passion for guitar—**Jean-François Hamel**, **Érik Mongrain**, **Mike Gauthier**, **Dany Ranallo** and **Daniel Lemay** (*La Presse*) on the final jury, and **Fred Di Santo** of Godin Guitars and ace guitarists Jean-François Hamel and **Paul Audy** judging preliminary auditions—had the pleasure and duty to select the finest guitarists from an impressive roster of candidates performing their favourite originals or cover songs.

Along with living out their dreams onstage, participating guitarists were eligible to win **over \$20,000 in prizes** offered by **Godin Guitars** and **Steve's Music Store**, by our two official suppliers, **Marshall** amplifiers and **DigiTech** guitar effects, as well as by the **MMMIS**, the **Montreal Guitar Show** and the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal**.

The **MMMIS**, presented by **General Motors of Canada** as part of the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal**, is proud to help promote musicianship in the greater public through the **Montreal Guitar Grand Prix**, and to invite all guitar fans to the **next edition of the Montreal Guitar Grand Prix, September 27 and 28, 2008**, as part of the **Journées de la culture** program. For complete up-to-date information on the contest, please visit montrealguitargrandprix.com.

Source:

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