



25th Grand Prix du Conseil des arts de Montréal **OUTSTANDING FINALISTS** Benefactors Sponsor the Categories

Montréal, January 20th, 2010 – The Chair of the Conseil des arts de Montréal, **Louise Roy**, announced today the names of the finalists for the 25th Grand Prix 2009 du Conseil des arts. The members of the Conseil reviewed the outstanding artistic achievements of 2009 and selected the organizations that had made the greatest contribution to their discipline in the fields of digital art, visual arts, film, dance, literature, music, new artistic practices, and theatre.

This announcement was made at the Maison du Conseil des arts de Montréal (Édifice Gaston-Miron) during an event hosted by **Marie-Christine Trottier**, to celebrate the Grand Prix's quarter century anniversary, in the presence of **Helen Fotopulos**, member of the Executive Committee of the Ville de Montréal, responsible for culture and women's issues, and **Sylvain Lafrance**, Executive Vice-President of Radio-Canada, official partner of the 25th Grand Prix.

Thanks to **Radio-Canada's** collaboration, 24 one-minute videos will be produced, in homage to the 24 winners of the Grand Prix since its inception in 1985, as well as a video to present this year's finalists. These short videos, created by **Yannick B. Gélinas**, will be regularly broadcasted on the web between now and the annual Grand Prix luncheon, to be held on March 23rd, 2010. **ARTV**, also a partner of this anniversary edition, will run the videos on its network in March.

The winner of the Grand Prix will receive a \$25,000 bursary. As for the other finalists, they will each receive a \$5,000 bursary, with most of the amount being offered by a generous Montreal benefactor. Indeed, in response to an appeal last year by philanthropist and Conseil des arts member, **Pierre R. Desmarais**, who was the first to sponsor a finalist (theatre category), four new benefactors followed his lead for this anniversary edition of the Grand Prix, by committing to make an annual donation of \$5,000 for the next three years : **Maurice Forget**, Fasken Martineau (visual arts); **René Malo**, Fondation René Malo (film); **Peter McAuslan**, McAuslan Brewery (literature); and **David Sela** (music).

Furthermore, the event also provided an opportunity to present a work of art, entitled "Œuvre de sable" by Montreal artist **Jocelyne Allouche**, to last year's Grand Prix winner. In the absence of Kent Nagano, the General Manager of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, **Madeleine Careau**, was present to accept a print of this work.

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The winner of the 25th Grand Prix will be announced at the annual Conseil des arts de Montréal's luncheon, to be held on Tuesday, March 23rd, 2010 at the Sheraton Centre in Montreal, which brings together the cultural, business and municipal sectors. During this luncheon, the names of the winners of the *Pratt & Whitney Canada Prizes (Les Elles de l'art and Nature de l'art)* and two other new prizes (*Prix de la relève – Caisse de la Culture* and the *Diversity Award*) will also be revealed.

The 2009 finalists for the 25th Grand Prix are the following:

Digital Arts

Tie: **Elektra (ACREQ*)** et **MUTEK**

Two organizations who have made Montreal the digital art capital of North America

Visual Arts

Oboro

For its 25th anniversary, marking its unique and exceptional contribution to the visual and digital arts sectors.
(sponsor: Maurice Forget, Fasken Martineau)

Film

Rencontres internationales du documentaire de Montréal

For the growth and exemplary development of this event.
(sponsor: René Malo, Fondation René Malo)

Dance

Regroupement québécois de la danse

For its 25th anniversary and the creation of the Grands Chantiers de la danse which culminated in the Second Estates General

Literature

Revue esse

For the magazine's excellent editorial content, graphic design and dynamism and its national and international reach.
(sponsor: Peter McAuslan, McAuslan Brewery)

Music

Ensemble Caprice

For its originality and innovation in the early music sector for the past 20 years.
(sponsor: David Sela)

New Artistic Practices

Les Filles électriques

For the 8th edition of the Festival Voix d'Amérique, a magnificent and astounding adventure into the realm of the written word

Theatre

Théâtre PaP

For its bold and daring creation, *Rouge gueule*.
(sponsor: Pierre R. Desmarais, Fondation Pierre Desmarais-Belvédère)

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* ACREQ : Association pour la création et la recherche électroacoustiques du Québec