



amici
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

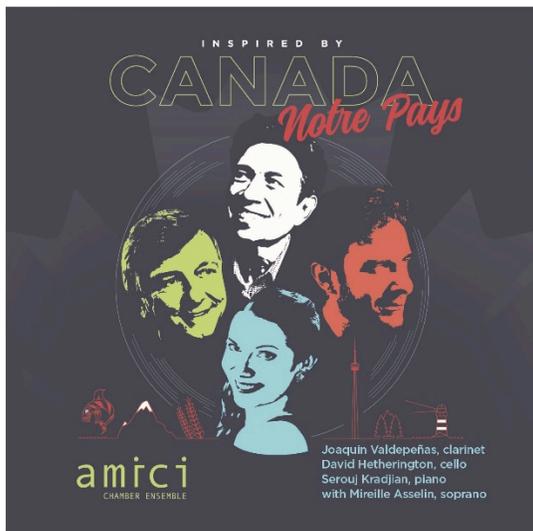
Media Contact: Kaija Corlazzoli
416-871-4275 kaija@amiciensemble.com

MARQUIS RECORDS AND AMICI CHAMBER ENSEMBLE RELEASE *Inspired by Canada/ Notre Pays*

TORONTO, November 12, 2017— Marquis Records and Amici Chamber Ensemble are proud to release Amici's newest recording *Inspired by Canada/ Notre Pays*.

Featuring Canadian soprano Mireille Asselin performing an eclectic mix of musical gems which capture the spirit of Canada, including hits by the best ambassadors of Canadian song such as Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell and Claude Léveillé, in new arrangements by Serouj Kradjian.

"We realized that a lot of the material we were drawn to was Canadian - and what better time than during Canada 150 to delve into a project that was more focused on our own musical heritage? We spent hours at the library digging through the stacks, listening to old recordings of chansonniers and folksingers, probing our own memories for important musical touchstones, and in the studio comparing notes and hashing out ideas. In the end, we distilled our list down to the material that spoke to us the most both musically and emotionally. The end result really feels like a labour of love!" – Mireille Asselin



**WHAT: NEW ALBUM: Inspired by
Canada/ Notre Pays**

WHEN: Amici: November 12, 2017
Online download and streaming:
November 24, 2017
In-stores: February 19, 2018

CAT# MARQUIS 81485
UPC 774718148520



"Something that was especially rewarding about the development and recording process was re-discovering how transformative a good arrangement of a piece of music can be! What Serouj has done with these songs is truly remarkable. My two favourite's on the disc have to be his take of Joni Mitchell's "A Case of You" (with a sort of neo-classical/baroque twist which is so rhythmic and fun!) and his medley of Québec folksongs, the "Chants du Québec". He's truly turned old standards into something brand new and exciting. We both would just burst into giggles after performing the Québec selections.. it's so vibrant and silly and charming."—*Mireille Asselin*

Track Listing

1. The World is Waiting for the Sunrise (M - Ernest Seitz, L - Gene Lockhart)
2. Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen)
3. Le Vieux Piano (M - Claude Léveillé, L - Henri Contet)
4. A Case of You (Joni Mitchell)
5. Un Canadien Errant (Antoine Gérin-Lajoie)
6. Red River Valley (Trad.)
7. Chants du Québec (Serouj Kradjian)
8. Maple Leaf Forever Rag (Scott Joplin / Serouj Kradjian)
9. Huron Carol/Sacrae Familiae (Jean de Brébeuf / Charles-Amador Martin)
10. Underground Railroad Songs (Trad.)
11. Morrison's Jig (Trad.)
12. Inspired by Newfoundland (Serouj Kradjian)
13. Lettre de Louis Riel (Trad.)
14. Mrs. Maqi Denny's Lullaby (Trad.)
15. Ma Cabane au Canada (M - Loulou Gasté, L - Mireille Brosey)
16. 49th Parallel: Prelude (Ralph Vaughan Williams)

About Amici's guest artist: Canadian soprano **Mireille Asselin** is an accomplished opera, concert and recital singer and has appeared with many of North America's major opera companies, orchestras and festivals as well as internationally. She is also an acknowledged champion of contemporary music and a respected interpreter of early music. She has been on the roster of the Metropolitan Opera since 2013 and is a graduate of The Royal Conservatory of Music and Yale University. Visit <http://www.mireilleasselin.com>

About Amici Chamber Ensemble: The Amici Chamber Ensemble is celebrating its 30th anniversary as one of Canada's finest and most distinguished music ensembles. Artistic Directors clarinetist Joaquin Valdepeñas, cellist David Hetherington and pianist Serouj Kradjian invite some of the finest musicians to join them in innovative and eclectic programming, celebrating friendship through music. Visit www.amiciensemble.com

Joaquín Valdepeñas is regarded as one of the most distinguished clarinetists of his generation. Active soloist, chamber musician, and conductor, he has performed at festivals and concerts series throughout the world.

David Hetherington is a cellist performing as a soloist and chamber musician around the world. He is also a prolific music teacher and coach nationally. He is said to play his 1695 cello made by Giovanni Grancino of Milan "with rare delicacy and clarity".

Pianist and composer **Serouj Kradjian** is hailed as a "keyboard acrobat" of "crystal virtuosity" by the press. His prowess in breaking boundaries as soloist, chamber musician as well as composer and arranger has been praised across North America and Europe.

Amici wishes to recognize the generous support of The Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts and OLG.

www.marquisclassics.com

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