

## media release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Honens International Piano Competition Announces 2012 Juries and Collaborating Artists as Call for Pianists Begins

## Pianists may now apply for competition that awards world's largest prize

CALGARY, AB, April 6, 2011 – Canada's Honens International Piano Competition today announced the names of the jurors and collaborating musicians for its 2012 edition. As part of a series of enhancements that aims to redefine the world of music competitions for the 21st century, the composition of the 2012 juries includes those in the musical world, other than pianists, who play a role in a concert artist's career. While pianists remain central to the jury make-up, members also include an artist manager, a concert presenter, a festival producer, a conductor, a record executive and a string player. All jurors have extensive knowledge of the piano literature and are in tune with the qualities an artist must possess in order to build and sustain a career in today's musical world. The diversity of jury composition helps to identify musicians who are ready to professionalize their careers.

### ARTIST SELECTION PANEL: FIRST JURY

The Artist Selection Panel evaluates 50 videotaped recitals and candidate interviews from the Quarterfinals: International Audition Round. The Panel selects ten pianists to advance to the Competition Semifinals: Recital Round in Calgary.

William Aide	<i>Canada / Canada*</i>
Leila Getz	<i>Canada / Canada</i>
Charles Hamlen	<i>United States / United States</i>
Benedetto Lupo	<i>Italy / Italy</i>

### LAUREATE SELECTION PANEL: SECOND JURY

The Laureate Selection Panel selects the five finalists, the winner of the Raeburn Prize for Artist of Special Promise and the 2012 Honens Laureate from Competition performances in the Semifinals: Recital Round and Finals: Concerto Round.

Adrian Brendel	<i>United Kingdom / Germany</i>
Michael Haefliger	<i>Germany / Switzerland</i>
Aleksandar Madžar	<i>Serbia / Belgium</i>
HaeSun Paik	<i>South Korea / South Korea</i>
Jon Kimura Parker	<i>Canada / United States</i>
Michael Spring	<i>United Kingdom / United Kingdom</i>
Bramwell Tovey	<i>United Kingdom / Canada</i>

*\*indicates nationality / country of residence*

Honens has also intensified its requirements in collaborative performance for 2012. Solo performance, chamber music and collaboration with orchestra are equally essential for a 21<sup>st</sup> century concert pianist. These elements are therefore integral to Honens' search for the 'Complete Artist'.

The ten semifinalist pianists perform a selection of art song or lieder, a violin sonata and a cello sonata during the Recital Round. Five finalists advance to perform a concerto of their choice.

#### C O L L A B O R A T I N G   A R T I S T S

##### Semifinals: Recital Round

Isabel Bayrakdarian     *soprano*  
Johannes Moser         *cello*  
Geoff Nuttall            *violin*

##### Finals: Concerto Round

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra  
Roberto Minczuk *Music Director*

Pianists may apply to take part in the 2012 Honens International Piano Competition starting April 1, 2011 at honens.com. The application deadline is February 1, 2012. Competition Quarterfinals take place in cities around the world in Spring 2012, and Semifinals and Finals takes place in Calgary, October 17 to 26, 2012.

Honens International Piano Competition is a leader in discovering and launching the careers of young concert pianists. It searches for Complete Artists – 21<sup>st</sup> century musicians for 21<sup>st</sup> century audiences. The Competition awards \$100,000 (CAN) and a three-year artistic and career development program valued at a half million dollars to its Laureate – the largest prize of any international music competition of its kind.

The Seventh Honens International Piano Competition is presented by Nexen Inc.; Lead Sponsors include Enbridge Inc., Statoil and TransAlta Corporation; Supporting Sponsor: Macleod Dixon LLP. Other Competition sponsors include: ARC Financial, Bantrel Co., Canadian Natural Resources Limited, WAX Partnership Inc., Deluxe Design Group, ecentricarts inc. and Hôtel Le Germain Calgary. Honens also thanks corporate supporters TD Waterhouse, Mawer Investment Management Ltd, Masters Gallery, Gluskin Sheff + Associates Inc., and public and foundation partners Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Alberta Lottery Fund, Calgary Arts Development Authority / City of Calgary, The Calgary Foundation and the Rozsa Foundation.

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#### **Backgrounder Attached**

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