

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eight cellists share the stage as acclaimed Belgian cello octet Ô-CELLI performs in Halifax October 29th

Halifax, Nova Scotia (October 17, 2017): Based in Brussels, the eight musicians comprising Ô-CELLI are each members of major European orchestras such as the Symphony of the Théâtre Royal Brussels, the Opéra national de Paris, and the Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège. The impressive energy of their unique and often flamboyant octet arrangements has won them praise across Europe. For their Halifax debut, the ensemble will give new light, energy, and intimacy to works by Giuseppe Verdi, Igor Stravinsky, Arturo Marquez, Astor Piazzolla, and Nino Rota.

Ô-CELLI, under the leadership of Sébastien Walnier, principal cellist of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, and acclaimed chamber musician Alexandre Beauvoir, was brought to life by the shared passion of eight top cellists from Belgium, Germany, and France. “Ô-CELLI’s eight cellos together produce a remarkably rich mixture of sound,” says Cecilia Concerts Executive Director Gregory Morris. “We are delighted to be debuting this distinctive ensemble to a Halifax audience.

The unique concert, co-presented by Cecilia Concerts and Alliance Française Halifax, takes place Sunday, October 29 2pm at the Lilian Piercey Concert Hall within the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, 6199 Chebucto Road in Halifax. The concert will open with a performance featuring twelve local violin students, aged nine to thirteen years, from the Scotia Suzuki School of Music. They will perform Vivaldi’s Violin Concerto in A minor, Opus 3, No. 6, 1st Movement.

Tickets for Ô-CELLI are available online (\$30 Adult, \$20 Senior, \$15 Student, \$10 Child) at ceciliaconcerts.ca, by phone at 902-423-0143, and also at the door. The event will be followed by a Belgian Waffle reception. The concert is organized with the support of Wallonia Brussels International.

About Cecilia Concerts

Cecilia Concerts presents local, national and international classical music in a series of concerts throughout the year. For 29 years, they have presented the best in classical music experiences for Halifax audiences in a welcoming atmosphere, and at accessible ticket prices. The organization has supported and presented works by many emerging and established musicians over the years including: Grammy Award-winning soprano Suzie LeBlanc, tenor Ben Heppner, Violinist Philippe Djokic and pianist Lynn Stodola; Pianist/Composer/Conductor Dinuk Wijeratne; Composer/Musician/Broadcaster Peter Togni; Composer/Pianist Peter Allen; flautist Marina Piccinini, Grammy Award-winning composer Paul Halley; YAS Quartet with violinist Artem Kolesov; and opera/musical theatre star Rebecca Caine.

Cecilia Concerts operates with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Arts Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Support4Culture, the city of Halifax, ArtsVest – Business for the Arts, and Music Nova Scotia. 2017/18 Season Sponsors include Scotiabank, Premier Suites Atlantic, Jules Chamberlain of Red Door Realty and The Craig Foundation. Cecilia Concerts 2017/18 Musician-In-Residence Program supporters are RBC and Backun Musical Services. Cecilia Concerts operates also with the support of many generous donors and partners.

About Alliance Française Halifax

Alliance Française Halifax works to promote French Culture. They act to develop the teaching and learning of French, and encourage communication between francophones, francophile and all Canadians, through a modern cultural and education program.

About Scotia Suzuki School of Music

Scotia Suzuki School of Music faculty members are skilled and dedicated teachers who continue to be involved with teacher training, workshops, and institutes, continuing their training to help them in their teaching practices. All teachers are members of and have been credited accredited by the Suzuki Association of the Americas. The Scotia Suzuki School of Music is located in the Lebanese Cultural Center at 6141 Chebucto Road, Halifax.

About Wallonie-Bruxelles International

Wallonie-Bruxelles International is the agency in charge of International Relations for Wallonia-Brussels. It is the instrument of international policy of Wallonia, Wallonia-Brussels Federation and the French Community Commission. Under agreements with 70 countries and regions, WBI supports creators and entrepreneurs of the Wallonia-Brussels region.

For further information or to book an artist interview or media appearance (French or English) please contact:

Greg Morris

Executive Director

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For high-resolution artist photography please visit: ceciliaconcerts.ca/media