

# Valérie Milot

Valérie Milot is a musician and entrepreneur who walks an unconventional career path. Championing her instrument into the spotlight, she reinvents the harp and its clichés, putting forth its powerful sound and astonishing colours.

A sought-after soloist, Valérie regularly performs a rich solo repertoire with prestigious orchestras (Les Violons du Roy, Orchestre symphonique de Québec, Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal) and with reputed conductors (Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Bernard Labadie, Nicolas Ellis, Mathieu Lussier, Jean-François Rivest, amongst others). An active musician online, her YouTube channel boasts over three million views.

2022 marks the addition of two albums to an already vast catalogue: *Canzone di Notte*, featuring a duo with the coloratura soprano Marianne Lambert (Fidelio) and *Transfiguration*, a collaboration with the cellist Stéphane Tétreault (ATMA Classique), as well as participating in many recordings and chamber music concerts.

Following in the footsteps of the avant-garde project Orbis (2016-2020), *Transfiguration* is an equally ambitious production, uniting both music and visual arts in a singular experience. Its tour will officially commence in the spring of 2022, following a premiere at Bourgie Hall in Montreal.

Proactive and passionate, Valérie founds Anémone 47 in 2016, an organization which enables the production of one-of-a-kind concerts for touring in Quebec and abroad. Valérie also possesses her own music publication company, as well as overseeing a diverse array of production activities.

Valérie is regularly invited to sit on juries at several reputed music competitions and often hosts conferences, sharing her broad experience as a musician and producer. She also was chosen as the artistic director of the *Future Stars' Grand Premiere*, the Fondation de la Place des Arts' annual benefit event, for the 2021 and 2022 editions.

An eager pedagogue, Valérie is a professor of harp and chamber music at the Montreal Conservatory of Music. She is also the instigator of the *Harpennig* series, featuring concerts and workshops aiming to increase the discoverability of the harp and its various facets.

Widely recognised by her peers and by the public, her path is interspersed with numerous awards. In 2008, she unanimously receives her Prix avec Grande Distinction upon completion of her studies at the Montreal Conservatory of Music, under the guidance of Caroline Lizotte. Immediately thereafter, she is awarded the Prix d'Europe, the first harpist to win the prize in almost a century. This esteemed award allows her to further her studies with Rita Costanzi in New York. Her accomplishments continue thereafter: she is named Révélation Radio-Canada, along with being awarded the Prix d'interprétation at the Concours International de harpe de la Cité des Arts de Paris, the Opus Award for the Découverte de l'année, the Création arts de la scène Prize at the Arts Excellence de Culture Mauricie Gala, as well as multiple nominations at the ADISQ Gala.

Valérie plays on an "Apollonia" harp by Salvi, graciously loaned to her by the Canimex company of Drummondville and belonging to the patron of the arts Roger Dubois.

# Stéphane Tétreault

In addition to innumerable awards and honours, Stéphane Tétreault is the recipient of the prestigious 2019 Virginia Parker Prize from the Canada Council for the Arts. He is also the laureate of the Prix Opus for “Performer of the Year” for the 2020-21 season, awarded by the Conseil québécois de la musique and accompanied by a Canada Council grant.

Chosen as the first ever Soloist-in-Residence of the Orchestre Métropolitain, he performed alongside Yannick Nézet-Séguin during the 2014-2015 season. In 2016, Stéphane made his debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Nézet-Séguin and performed at the prestigious Gstaad Menuhin Festival in Switzerland. During the 2017-2018 season, he took part in the Orchestre Métropolitain’s first European tour with Maestro Nézet-Séguin and made his debut with the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

Stéphane has performed with violinist and conductor Maxim Vengerov and pianists Alexandre Tharaud, Jan Lisiecki, Louis Lortie, Roger Vignoles, Marc-André Hamelin, and John Lenehan and has worked with conductors Michael Tilson Thomas, Paul McCreech, John Storgårds, Rune Bergmann, Kensho Watanabe and Tung-Chieh Chuang amongst many other. He has participated in several masterclasses, notably with cellists Gautier Capuçon and Frans Helmerson.

His debut CD recorded with the Quebec Symphony Orchestra and conductor Fabien Gabel was chosen as “Editor’s Choice” in the March 2013 issue of Gramophone Magazine. His second album with pianist Marie-Ève Scarfone featuring works from Haydn, Schubert and Brahms was chosen as Gramophone Magazine’s “Critics’ Choice 2016” and recognized as one of the best albums of the year. In 2017, Stéphane partnered with harpist Valérie Milot and violinist Antoine Bareil for a third album dedicated to Trios for Violin, Cello and Harp. All three of his albums received nominations at the ADISQ Gala.

Stéphane was a student of the late cellist and conductor Yuli Turovsky for more than 10 years. He holds a master’s degree in Music Performance from the University of Montreal.

Stéphane plays the 1707 “Countess of Stainlein, Ex-Paganini” Stradivarius cello, on generous loan by Mrs. Sophie Desmarais

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