

## Evening of Negro Spirituals

### By Les Chantres Musiciens

Montréal, April 26, 2005 – Les Chantres Musiciens, men’s choir whose members all come from the well-known group les Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal, is presenting a programme of Gospel music. **May 26 at the Chapelle Historique du Bon Pasteur** and **June 14 at the Lion d’Or**, they will sing a lively selection of Negro Spiritual melodies. For some of their pieces, the choir will be joined by soloists Benoît Le Blanc (barytone) and Hérold Constant (tenor). These two concerts, under the direction of **Gilbert Patenaude**, offer a unique opportunity for all music lovers to discover this genre and this choral formation.



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Negro Spirituals originate from African slaves in the Southern United States. Torn from their country, their culture, their people and their language, they birthed a new style of singing in order to express their new life and to feed their hope of finding freedom. They transformed their oppression into a method of communication which contributed to their social cohesion and today brings us a sound that neighbours Gospel music and is infused with the history of its people.

Le chœur Les Chantres Musiciens is reputed for its excellence, which is confirmed by its great success in national competitions (Radio-Canada) and in concerts in other countries. Their most recent tour, Summer 2003, allowed them to perform throughout Germany and France, namely at the Mosel music festival (Mosel Feswochen). The rarity of such a choral formation has allowed the Chantres Musiciens to explore unfamiliar repertoire: in 2000, they recorded an album entirely devoted to works by Camille Saint-Saëns for men’s a capella voices (ATMA). They also participated in the most recent album from soprano Natalie Choquette, Aeterna (Isba), as well as many author albums.

Unforgettable evenings worth discovering, this spring.

For more information:

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