

Homage series n° 6 All Ears / All Play

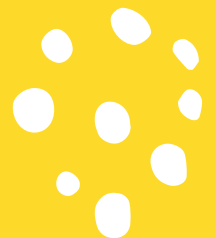


# From Valencia to Bali with José Evangelista !



## Teacher's guide

Music appreciation, performance and creation activities  
for primary and secondary levels





Document prepared by the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec (SMCQ) as part of the Homage Series (2017-2018) dedicated to José Evangelista.

**From Valencia to Bali with José Evangelista**

Design of activities: Claire Cavanagh (Educational projects officer, SMCQ) and Hélène Lévesque (CSDM music educational consultant)

Translation: Peggy Niloff

Editing and co-ordination: Claire Cavanagh

Layout: Noémie Pascal

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**Homage Series / José Evangelista**

Artistic Director: Walter Boudreau

General Director: Aïda Aoun

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**Commission  
scolaire  
de Montréal**

300, boul. de Maisonneuve Est, Montréal (Québec), H2X 3X6  
Telephone: 514-843-9305 | Fax: 514-843-3167 | [smcq@smcq.qc.ca](mailto:smcq@smcq.qc.ca)  
[smcq.qc.ca](http://smcq.qc.ca)

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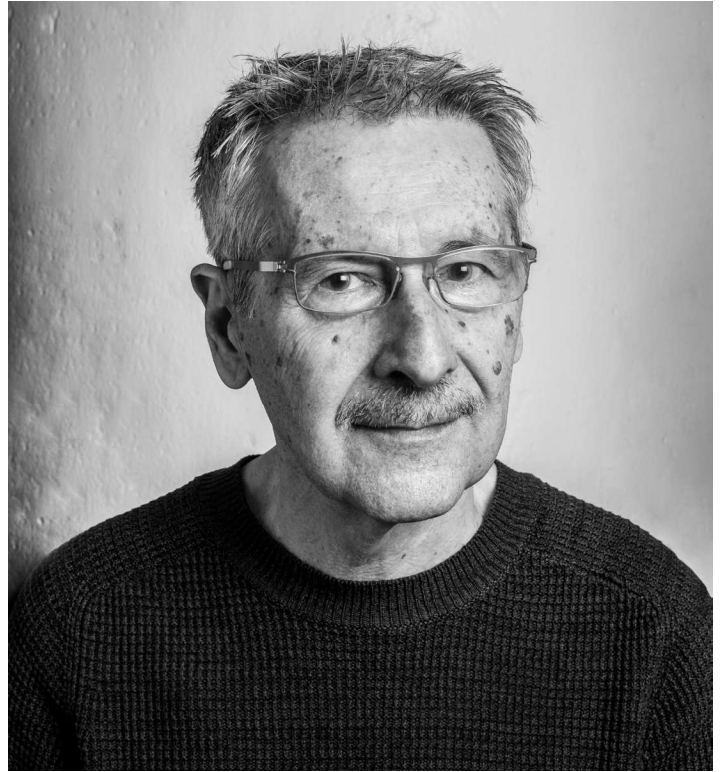
### \* Notes:

The activities are suited for primary and secondary levels unless otherwise specified above.  
Reproducible forms are included following each activity.

## The Homage Series and the All Ears/All Play project

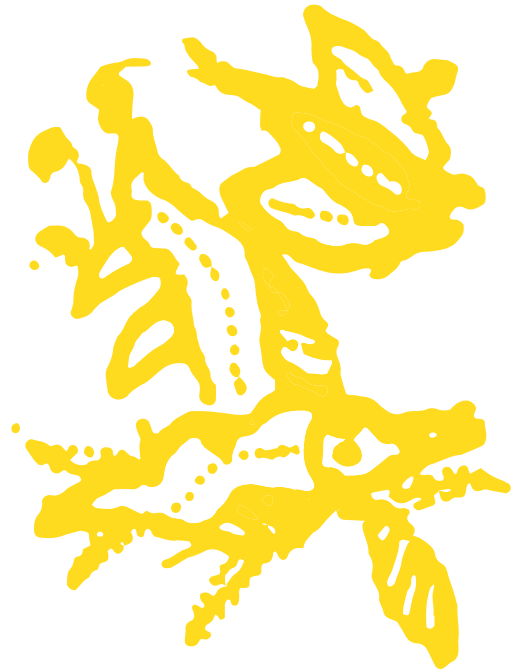
A biennial event organized by the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec (SMCQ,) the Homage Series creates a veritable artistic convergence surrounding a remarkable composer, underscoring their contribution and lauding them as a “national treasure.” An appeal is made to ensembles and experienced artists from all music genres: early music, classical and contemporary, who participate by integrating some of the featured composer’s works into their programming. This year, more than 40 concerts and 250 activities will take place throughout the country to honour José Evangelista!

Teachers and their students are invited to participate in the Homage Series via the All Ears/All Play project, especially designed for young people. Teachers can bring an awareness of José Evangelista and his works via music performance, creation and critical analysis activities presented in this Guide. Reproducible forms facilitate the classroom activities. Several of the presented works provide contextual choices to challenge/interpret sociocultural issues, including cultural references.



### All Ears/All Play in the community

The Société de musique contemporaine du Québec (SMCQ) has undertaken specific initiatives to sensitize local media to the All Ears/All Play project. Some 40,000 students participated in the last edition featuring composer John Rea, and several articles were published in media outlets. Young people find it exciting when they note that an important event which they are involved in gets media coverage.



# Biography of José Evangelista

by Christian O'Leary

## Spain

José Evangelista was born in 1943 in Valencia. "My mother played music. Like my sister and older brothers, I would sit next to her at the piano listening to her play Debussy, Schubert, Scarlatti, etc. When I was 6 years old I began to study piano. I would read composers' biographies, saying to myself that I would very much like to do the same thing." At age 16, José Evangelista begins studies in harmony and orchestration with Vicente Asencio (1908-1979), a composer who teaches at the Valencia Conservatory. Between ages 17 and 20, José writes his first compositions and receives advice from Ernesto Halffter (1905-1989), a pupil of Manuel de Falla. In parallel, the young José will follow scientific studies in physics and computing. With a Bachelor's degree in physics he obtains a grant from CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research) in Geneva, Switzerland. He also obtains a diploma in composition from the Valencia Conservatory and marries Matilde Asencio, his professor's daughter. Their son Gabriel is born in 1982 and David in 1988. "Gabriel is an arranger and keyboard player in a Latin music group, while David is interested in heavy metal," he notes with a smile and a touch of pride.

## Discovery of World Musics

It is during his studies in sciences in Madrid that Evangelista discovers Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992) with "Three Small Liturgies" during a concert directed by Cristobal Halffter. In 1965, he discovers the music of Bali which will profoundly affect his own music. "Even if I remain highly sensitive to the music of the 20th century classical tradition (Ravel, Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Debussy, etc.), the music of Indonesia set me thinking. It was a determining factor, because I always had a curiosity for other references, and it is this that developed my interest in world musics." In 1976, he deepens his intrigue with this music during his first trip to Java and Bali with his friend, composer John Rea. Adding Burma (Myanmar) to his itinerary, in 1980, 1992 and 2001, he will go on a several trips to study the Javanese gamelan

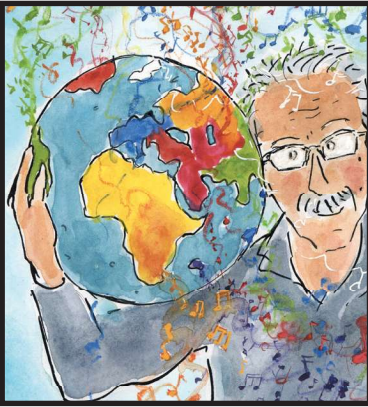
and Western music composition. Other equally inspirational trips will be added in 2006 and 2009 to France, New Zealand and Shanghai for creations, conferences or university tutorials.

## Canada

Equipped with his diplomas in composition, physics and computing, he immigrates to Canada in 1969. "The mathematical approach of my job, my childhood memories and my very close links with universities little by little led me to resume my music studies." A few months later, he left his post in Ottawa and settled down with his family in Montreal to resume in-depth music composition studies with André Prévost at the Université de Montréal. There he completed his Master's degree. In 1984, studying with Bruce Mather at McGill University, he attains his Phd. This progress results in his working with other emergent artists in contemporary music such as Claude Vivier, Lorraine Vaillancourt, Walter Boudreau, Michel Gonnevillie and Jean Laurendeau. Between 1974 and 2009 he is a professor at the Université de Montréal, and is appointed emeritus professor in 2010. Among his pupils, we find Simon Bertrand, Analía Llugdar, Samy Moussa, Alejandra Oggers and Ana Sokolović. He is also a founding member of several concert societies including Événements du Neuf with Claude Vivier, John Rea and Lorraine Vaillancourt, Traditions du Monde with Ramon Pelinski, John Rea and his wife, Matilde Asencio. Finally, in 1987 he creates "l'Atelier de gamelan balinais" (Balinese gamelan workshop) at the Université de Montréal, thanks to a gift of two gamelan ensembles from the Government of Indonesia! José Evangelista won several prizes and received numerous commissions, in particular from L'itinéraire (Paris), the Kronos Quartet (San Francisco), Groupe vocal de France, the SMCQ, Radio-Canada and Radio-Canada and Chants Libres. From 1987 until 1994 he was a member of the SMCQ Artistic Committee and composer-in-residence at the Montreal Symphony Orchestra between 1993 and 1995. His works have been played in Canada, the United States, Europe, Asia and Australia by ensembles such as the Ensemble Modern (Frankfurt), Nieuw Ensemble (Amsterdam), Music Projects (London), the Orchestre philharmonique de Radio-France, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, I Musici de Montréal and the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne.

## An educational kit

The SMCQ provides various tools especially designed within the All Ears/All Play framework, enabling you to introduce your students to the life and music of José Evangelista. This guide includes some suggestions, but teachers are free to develop classroom activities based on inspiration or to adapt suggested activities tailored to their student's needs.



### José Evangelista Comic Book

José Evangelista's life conveyed through words and images by illustrator Élisabeth Eudes-Pascal and youth author Marie Décarry.



### Video clips

Through four thematic clips, José Evangelista recounts his fascinating life's work to young and old alike. He takes us through his childhood, his vision of composition and his interaction with other artists.



### Music scores for kids

Primary school students can sing along with *Quatre petites pièces*, composed especially for them by José Evangelista.

Secondary school students can perform *Airs d'Espagne*, a work for wind orchestra, commissioned by the SMCQ and the Centre de musique canadienne au Québec especially for the Homage Series. *Airs d'Espagne* is available from the CMC for a modest fee by writing to :

[atelier@centremusique.ca](mailto:atelier@centremusique.ca)



### Educational activities

The Teacher's Guide suggests critical analysis, performance and creation activities based on musical excerpts carefully selected for different age groups.



### Musical excerpts

Audio excerpts from José Evangelista's works are offered in conjunction with educational activities for primary and secondary level students. Learning track at slower tempos are also included.