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The National Battlefields
Commission

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand **The 19th musical season takes flight June 11**

Québec, May 31, 2011 – The National Battlefields Commission is proud to launch its 19th summer season of free shows on the Plains of Abraham. Starting next June 11, the new musical program of the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand will take flight, with the promise of 30 evenings rich in emotion and song. In fact, from June 11 to July 3 and from July 21 to August 21, many-coloured songs, sounds and rhythms will stir the Bandstand, located just east of the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec. An enchanting site that combines music and nature in an exceptional setting.



Guy Dussault at the microphone and Jean-François Lambert conducting the *Abraham Band* are back to host the two shows that are called *Bandstand Varieties*. Backed by the in-house orchestra, the guest singers will soon gather around the piano to offer an exclusive performance which music lovers will find unforgettable. Giorgia Fumanti, Corneliu Montano and Jeanick Fournier will gather on the stage for a stopover, and paint a glowing picture of lyrical art. During the second show, Jean Ravel, Véronique Claveau and Moran will take over and give a brilliant performance marked with intimacy.

A program suited for nature

From Thursday to Sunday, jazz, blues, world-beat music and popular songs will converge upon this unique outdoor stage, a true oasis of greenery in the midst of the city. This year the Bandstand will take a break during the Festival d'été de Québec because this is a very busy period in the city and to avoid having too many cultural events offered at the same time.

The first bandstand rendezvous, with Audrey Gagnon, will charm spectators on June 11. This former *Star Académie* participant will be the first in a string of well-known, talented artists following one another during the summer days. After giving the festive honours to LaTourelle Orkestra, Les Batinses will in turn delight the crowd. As for blues and jazz, they will provide a spirited performance in the manner of Misses Satchmo and Adam Karch. The Bandstand will also pay tribute and applaud several musical icons: Eric Clapton, Édith Piaf, Johnny Cash and Dalida.

If operatic singing pleases greatly, it will certainly be a delight thanks to the performances of Trois3, Soraya Benitez and Sabrina Ferland. Lovers of the swing and the crooners will not be outdone with the performances of American Crooner and Frank Maranda And Swing Factory, which will close magnificently an exceptional season of concerts as entertaining as they are intoxicating. A superb collection of artists will meet the public from 8:00 p.m.

Because it is in our nature

Through environmental concern and in order to preserve this unique heritage for the benefit of future generations, this year the park takes an even greener turn. The public is urged to participate, every effort counts! That is why the National Battlefields Commission will print less brochures and invites those concerned to consult the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand program online. More detailed photos and descriptions of artists can be viewed from June 1, at www.theplainsofabraham.ca.

On show nights, to get here the spectators can walk, take the bus, car pool or, for \$7, park near the Bandstand. A parking attendant will be waiting for motorists at the green tent from 6:00 p.m. during the week and 5:00 p.m. on week-ends. To enter take the Wolfe-Montcalm Avenue opposite the Museum and head towards the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand.

This is new! Follow the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand on

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Edwin Bélanger

Built during 1991-1992 and inaugurated in 1993, the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand was named after a personality closely involved in the musical life of the Québec City region. A violinist, viola player, band leader, arranger, composer and teacher, Captain Edwin Bélanger led an extensive and rich career. Born in Montmagny on November 18, 1910 and deceased on January 14, 2005, Edwin Bélanger presided over the destinies of major orchestras such as the Cercle Philharmonique de Québec (which he founded in 1935 and directed for 7 years), the Orchestre Symphonique de Québec (1942-51) and La Musique du Royal 22^e Régiment (1937-61), which acquired a fine international notoriety under his leadership.



www.theplainsofabraham.ca

(under the thumbnail "Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand" in the "Activities/Exhibits" section)

Ligne info-spectacles : 418 648-4050

(weekly concerts)

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