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CANADIAN MUSIC CENTRE
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SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

Bramwell Tovey awarded the Canadian League of Composers and Canadian Music Centre's 2013 Friends of Canadian Music Award

26 SEPTEMBER 2013 (Toronto) – The Canadian League of Composers (CLC) and the Canadian Music Centre (CMC) are pleased to announce Vancouver-based conductor, composer and pianist Bramwell Tovey as the recipient of the 2013 Friends of Canadian Music Award.

The annual Friends of Canadian Music Award is a joint venture between the CLC and the CMC honouring those who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to Canadian composers and their music. Each award is accompanied by a cash prize of \$2000. The award will be presented to Mr. Tovey on Monday, September 30 at the Orpheum Theatre for the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's *Opening Weekend, With Dame Evelyn Glennie*. Tickets for the concert are available at www.vancouversymphony.ca.

A national jury comprised of Emily Hall, Heather Pawsey, and Adam Sherkin, chaired by Jim Hiscott (non-voting), assessed the nominations. CMC Executive Director Elisabeth Bihl was present as an observer for the CMC. Juror Adam Sherkin notes: "Throughout his thirty years as conductor and composer in this country, Bramwell Tovey has proven an unwavering leader, mentor, commissioner, and tireless public advocate for the Canadian musical community both at home and abroad. His impressive commissioning of Canadian composers, his pioneering work in the creation of the Winnipeg New Music Festival, his ongoing nurturing of young Canadian talent and his continued mandate to develop and disseminate Canadian music at a world class level all make him an ideal and most deserving candidate for the Friends of Canadian Music Award in the year 2013."

ABOUT BRAMWELL TOVEY

A musician of striking versatility, GRAMMY® Award-winning conductor Bramwell Tovey is acknowledged around the world for his artistic depth and his warm, charismatic personality on the podium. Tovey's career as a conductor is uniquely enhanced by his work as a composer and pianist, lending him a remarkable musical perspective. His tenures as music director with the Vancouver Symphony, Luxembourg Philharmonic and Winnipeg Symphony Orchestras have been characterized by his expertise in operatic, choral, British and contemporary repertoire.

Mr. Tovey, who is entering his fourteenth season as Music Director of the Vancouver Symphony, also continues his association with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, and as founding host and conductor of the New York Philharmonic's Summertime Classics series at Avery Fisher Hall. In 2008, both orchestras co-commissioned him to write a new work, the well-received *Urban Runway*, subsequently programmed by a number of orchestras in the US and Canada. He was honoured with the Best Canadian Classical Composition Juno® Award in 2003 for his *Requiem for a Charred Skull*.



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Mr. Tovey has been awarded honorary degrees, including a Fellowship from the Royal Academy of Music in London, honorary Doctorates from the universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba, British Columbia, and Kwantlen University College, as well as a Royal Conservatory of Music Fellowship in Toronto. In 1999, he received the M. Joan Chalmers National Award for Artistic Direction, a Canadian prize awarded to artists for outstanding contributions in the performing arts. In 2013, he also received an honorary appointment as an "Officer of the Order of Canada" for his outstanding achievements as a conductor and composer, and for his commitment to promoting new Canadian music.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN LEAGUE OF COMPOSERS

The Canadian League of Composers (CLC) speaks for the interests of Canada's composers. Through promotion, advocacy, awards, mentorship, and professional development, the CLC works to strengthen the composition community in Canada. Visit www.composition.org for more information

ABOUT THE CANADIAN MUSIC CENTRE

The Canadian Music Centre exists to stimulate the awareness, appreciation and performance of Canadian new music by making the music of its Associate Composers available through the Centre's collection, information resources, and production and distribution services. Visit www.musiccentre.ca for more information.

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For further information, please contact:

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