

TUYAUX *et* *Saxo*



Sophie Poulin de Courval, saxophone
Jacques Boucher, organ

Saxophone and organ is an unusual sound combination.

However, composers who have written for this unique mix have opened up a whole new world of sound colours.

The *Tuyaux et saxo en couleurs* program features some of these new works, but also works originally written for other instruments which, when performed by saxophone and organ, shed new light on the composer's intentions.

Each concert is an invitation to travel into a new, but accessible musical universe and, in addition, highlights the quality of the organ present in your community.

The instruments can feature in workshops for school students on the day of the concert.





Tuyaux et Saxo

Saxophonist Sophie Poulin de Courval and organist Jacques Boucher have been working together since 2003—after a “matchmaker”, in the form of a concert organizer and friend of both performers, brought them together for the opening concert of the 10th annual painting symposium in Kamouraska. Thanks to this initial experience, they realized they not only enjoyed playing together, but also had a shared interest in extending their palette of sounds, inspired by the setting for their first concert.

Both musicians are aware and proud of the rich artistic heritage of their spiritual home, the Kamouraska region of Québec, where they perform regularly at various locations. Like missionaries entrusted with the safekeeping of the area’s heritage, they recorded their first and second CDs, released in 2012, on five different organs in the area from Cap Saint-Ignace to Rivière-du-Loup.

Since 2003, wishing to share all the potential of the unusual sound mix created by the colours of the saxophone and organ, they have performed in Québec, New Brunswick, Roumania, USA and France at a growing number of concert venues.

Concerts in Québec since 2003

Many concerts ; Paspébiac, Montréal, Rivière-du-Loup, Saint-Pacôme, Saint-Joseph-de-Kamouraska, Saint-Pascal, Saint-Gabriel-Lalemant, Rivière-du-Loup, Drummondville, Trois-Rivières, Sainte-Marie de Beauce, Paspébiac, Trois-Pistoles, Sherbrooke, Matane, Amos, Lachine, Québec, Bic, Jonquière.

Concerts in USA 2014 and 2016

Concert tour: Lewinston, Bangor, Brunswick

Concerts in France 2013-2014-2015

Concert tour: Courtenay, Sizun, Sées, Montpellier, Gap, Saint-Claude, Nevers, Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre, Mortagne, Valence, Bourg-en-Bresse, Dol-de-Bretagne, Strasbourg, Paris, Cosne-sur-Loire, Decise.

Concerts in Roumania 2014

Concert tour : Timisoara, Arad, Resita

Concerts in New-Brunswick 2006-2012

Edmundston, Tracadie-Shela

Concert-workshop, “Les journées de la culture”, Saint-Pacôme, 2013

Awards

Award from the artists’ and artisans’ fund, Kamouraska regional county municipality, 2012-2013-2015

Recordings



“**Tuyaux et saxo en couleurs**”, released by Société métropolitaine du disque, Espace XXI
Organs of Cap Saint-Ignace, La Pocatière, Saint-Pacôme, Saint-Pascal, Rivière-du-Loup, 2012



“**Œuvres pour saxophone et orgue**”, released by Société métropolitaine du disque, Espace XXI
Organ of Cap Saint-Ignace, 2012



« **Rogatio** » released by Société métropolitaine du disque, Espace XXI
Organ of the chapelle du collège de Sainte-Anne-de-La Pocatière, 2016



« **Promenade en Kamouraska** » released by Société de musique XXI
Cd book, Organ of Saint-Pacôme, 2015

Jacques Boucher, organist

Jacques Boucher is widely considered to be one of the key players in the Canadian organ world. A musician and broadcaster, he has produced over 1,500 radio recitals with more than a hundred Québec organists. He has also directed over two hundred recordings, including the collection *Les orgues anciens du Québec*, which won the Grand prix du disque - Canada. As an artistic director, he has also designed several thematic series devoted not only to organ music, but also to chamber music composed by French organists.



As a performer, Jacques Boucher has made more than 40 recordings released on the REM, BND, RICHE LIEU, ECLECTRA, ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, XXI and FONOVOK, Espace XXI, labels featuring symphonic works for organ, reflecting his active performing career. He has given concerts in most of the major cathedrals and churches in Québec, and also in Canada, Europe, in Equator, in Bermuda, in Mexico, and the United States. In October 2017 he gave a concert at Notre-Dame de Paris.

In August 1996, he gave a recital in Chartres Cathedral and then participated as a jury member in the Chartres international organ competition. In February 1997, Jacques Boucher performed on the organ in Radio-France's Olivier Messiaen Studio, as part of the prestigious series *Une heure d'orgue à Radio-France*. Jacques Boucher was a radio producer at Radio-Canada from 1972 to 1997 and director of musical programming from 1984 to 1987. From 1991 to 1995 he also chaired the music committee of the association of French-language public radio networks, bringing together representatives from Belgium, Canada, France and Switzerland.

Since 1984, Jacques Boucher has been the titular organist of the Saint-Jean-Baptiste church in Montréal, which contains Opus 615 of the organ building firm Casavant Frères. He is at the centre of the church's dynamic, high-quality musical life, and recently played an active role in the restoration of the organ. He is currently principal organist of the Sanctuaire du Saint-Sacrement in Montreal Jacques Boucher studied the organ with Antoine Bouchard at the Laval University School of Music in Québec City, and went on to study with French musician Antoine Reboulot. He has received bursaries from the Québec council of arts and letters. He is playing with the violinist Anne Robert, the saxophonist Sophie Poulin de Courval and the soprano Désirée Tillé

With musicologist Odile Thibault he wrote the biographies of Canadian singer Joseph Rouleau and of French organist Antoine Reboulot. Jacques Boucher is hosting an organ recital every week on Radio VM network.

From 1998 to 2001, Jacques Boucher was General and Artistic Director of Jeunesses Musicales of Canada. From 2006 to 2010 Jacques Boucher was dean of the Faculty of Music of Université de Montréal.

Sophie Poulin de Courval, saxophonist



Well-known for her dynamism, good humour, and the originality of her various projects, Sophie Poulin de Courval has been working with numerous artists and musicians over the years. Through chamber music, she feels that her musical expression reaches its best and that she can communicate her sensitivity with others. As a chamber musician, she has performed a wide range of repertoire and appearances have included concert tours in Canada, United-States, Romania, and France.

Poulin de Courval studied in the Québec conservatory system, working with teachers Jean Bouchard and Pierre Bourque. She also took part in masterclasses given by Eugène Rousseau and Jean-Yves Fourmeau, and in private classes with Pierrick Leman. Since then, she has attended several training sessions on improvisation, jazz and arts management. She has received grants from the *Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec* (CALQ), the *Fonds jeunesse des caisses Desjardins*, and the *Fonds des artistes et artisans de la MRC du Kamouraska*.

During her studies, Sophie Poulin de Courval was a member of several chamber groups. Her musical talents were recognized in 1988 and 1990 when she was awarded the First Prize in chamber music by the Québec Federation of Stage Bands. She appeared as a member of the saxophone quartets Multisax and Quatre vents in over sixty concerts, including performances in three world saxophone conventions in Pesaro (Italy), Montréal (Canada), and Strasbourg (France), respectively, as well as the chamber music competition organized by the French musicians' union where she was asked to be the spokeswoman of JLV sounds company, a French ligature manufacturer.

In 1997, she became the academic director and then the general director of the Music School at the Collège de Sainte-Anne-de -La-Pocatière, for a seven-year term. Sophie Poulin de Courval has also been the titular saxophone teacher at the Alain-Caron's Music Academy for over fifteen years, acting as the academic director in 2007-2008 and helping to organize a range of events. In collaboration with clarinetist Rino Bélanger, she started a workshop called «La musique, c'est scientifique» that gives participants an active demonstration of the link that exists between music and sciences.

Deeply involved in her community, Sophie Poulin de Courval has been a member of the initial regional committee for the Kamouraska regional county municipality, where she is still an active participant. Since 2005, she has been giving music appreciation lectures prior to each classical concert featured at the *Centre culturel de Rivière-du-loup* in order to introduce to the public the pieces that are performed.

Curious and stimulated by other art forms, she has produced an record book in partnership with organist Jacques Boucher, painter Miguel Forest, photographer Caroline Bolieu, writer Odile Thibault , and composer Dominique Joubert depicting the beauty of the Kamouraska landscape. Among other recordings, Sophie Poulin de Courval features on four CDs and one video recording with organist Jacques Boucher, recorded on different organs in eastern Québec. Recently, they were invited to perform on a seven concerts tour in France where critics consistently praised on their rich palette of sounds.

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