



THE HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION

NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11, 2009

**The Hnatyshyn Foundation launches *Bravissima*  
a unique online auction celebrating Canadian artists  
and raising funds to support emerging Canadian artists**

**Ottawa** – Oscar Peterson’s Tuxedo, a private piano lesson with internationally acclaimed Canadian piano virtuoso Angela Hewitt, a presentation box containing three small paintings by Canada’s unofficial poet laureate Leonard Cohen, a ten day stay in the windswept Oceanside cottage of artist Mary Pratt, tea and a film screening with former prima ballerina Veronica Tennant– are we piquing your interest yet? These unique collectibles are only some of the items on offer through the inaugural Hnatyshyn Foundation online auction at [www.bravissima.ca](http://www.bravissima.ca).

***Bravissima***, which will begin to take bids **at 6:00 p.m. on September 14, 2009**, and links directly to eBay, will offer arts lovers, fans and collectors around the globe the opportunity to bid on a selection of one-of-a-kind, must-have memorabilia and experiences. The **online auction ends at 9:00 p.m. EST on Thursday, September 24, 2009**, and will be celebrated at a Salon evening featuring an intimate concert by renowned Canadian Jazz musician Oliver Jones and his trio, hosted by MC Julie Nesrallah, Canadian Mezzo-soprano and host of *Tempo* on CBC Radio 2. Guests will have an opportunity to bid on a small selection of exclusive silent auction items. Tickets for the Salon evening, which takes place in Ottawa at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club, can be purchased for \$100 by calling 613.233.0108, or by email at [bravissima@rjhf.com](mailto:bravissima@rjhf.com)

All auction items may be previewed online as of Friday, September 11, 2009 at [www.bravissima.ca](http://www.bravissima.ca)

The Hnatyshyn Foundation, a private charity established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada's twenty-fourth Governor General, began awarding grants in 2005. Each year the Developing Artists Grants program provides eight \$10,000 scholarships to exceptional young Canadians in post-secondary performing arts training programs. The Foundation also awards two annual prizes for excellence in Canadian visual arts: \$25,000 for a mid-career artist and \$15,000 for a mid-career curator of contemporary visual art.

Proceeds from ***Bravissima*** will allow the Foundation to continue to invest in Canada’s youth, support the development of our world-class artists of tomorrow and foster contemporary art and Canadian culture. For more information about the Hnatyshyn Foundation, please visit [www.rjhf.com](http://www.rjhf.com).

-30-

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