



CLAIRE GUIMOND NAMED ARTISTIC DIRECTOR EMERITUS OF ARION BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

We are proud to announce the nomination of **Claire Guimond** as *Artistic Director Emeritus* of Arion Baroque Orchestra, in recognition of her extraordinary career as well as for her gracious and abiding presence in the pursuit of Arion's activities. In addition, a fund in perpetuity toward the development of Arion's artistic activities has been created through the Mécénat Musica Program of the Foundation of Greater Montréal and will be named the **Claire Guimond Fund**.

Flutist Claire Guimond is a founding member of Arion Baroque Orchestra and was its Artistic Director from 1981 to 2020. During this time, she brought to Montreal world-class conductors and soloists specializing in early music to lead the orchestra and share their expertise. With Arion, both as a soloist and orchestral player, she has performed in North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Claire has recorded more than 40 internationally distributed CDs, including nearly 30 with Arion. Many concerts and recordings in which Claire participated as a flutist or Artistic Director have received awards – Diapason d'Or, Prix Opus, Juno Award, Félix Prize, International Handel Recording Prize, to name a few. Claire Guimond was artistic director of the Lamèque International Baroque Music Festival from 2000 to 2005.

In October 2019, Claire Guimond was awarded the Betty Webster Award by Orchestras Canada for her sustained and significant contribution over a number of years to the Canadian orchestral community, with an emphasis on leadership, education and volunteerism. In January 2020, the Conseil québécois de la musique awarded Claire the Opus Prize for Artistic Director of the year. This award marks a final high-level season crowning more than three decades of remarkable work. The jury members mentioned that with her clear artistic vision, supported by an unrelenting determination, Claire Guimond leaves an invaluable legacy to her orchestra and her team.