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**For Immediate Release**

**GSI Musique Releases Animated Video for “Harmonium” from *Histoires sans paroles – Harmonium Symphonique***

— This video is the second animated short film from the album *Histoires sans paroles – Harmonium Symphonique*, an orchestral re-interpretation of the music of influential 1970s Montreal-based progressive rock act Harmonium —

— View the video at <https://youtu.be/XpzGZl96rJw>—

Los Angeles, CA, November 23, 2021 – Following the release earlier this year of the acclaimed animated video for “Vert,” GSI Musique is proud to present the [music video for the song “Harmonium,”](https://youtu.be/XpzGZl96rJw) the second animated clip created for the album *Histoires sans paroles – Harmonium symphonique*, a symphonic re-interpretation of the music of influential 1970s Montreal-based progressive rock act Harmonium. Co-produced by Harmonium founder Serge Fiori and arranger and orchestral conductor Simon Leclerc, this double album has met with exceptional popular and critical acclaim, as evidenced by its Platinum Certification in Canada and the recent Félix award in the Album of the Year – Reinterpretation category.

The video demystifies the iconic Minstrel character featured on the 1974 *Harmonium* album cover, breathing life into it for the first time. At the heart of the visual creation inspired by the colorful and psychedelic world of progressive rock lies the fusion of instruments that constitute the Minstrel: his harp, which serves as his backbone, his triangles, which mark the rhythm of his steps, his violin, and his harmonium, which replaces his heart.

“For me, this piece [Harmonium] highlights the importance of silence in the music-making and lyric-writing process, but above all in our daily quest for happiness,” explains Serge Fiori.

Produced by GSI Musique, the music video was designed and directed by Marcella Grimaux (Noisy Head Studio) and Gabriel Poirier-Galarneau (Champagne Club Sandwich). Vincent Hurtu illustrated and animated the video. Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/XpzGZl96rJw>.

Additionally, it was recently announced that the *Histoires sans paroles* *– Harmonium symphonique* album will be brought to the stage for the first time May 24, 2022, exclusively at the Cogeco Amphitheatre in Trois-Rivières, Quebec. Performed by the Orchestre symphonique de Trois-Rivières, this spectacular stage show will pay tribute to Harmonium’s exceptional musical legacy. More than 100 artists will perform together on stage to recreate the album’s enthralling world by means of a musical, aural and visual extravaganza. Marcella Grimaux (Noisy Head Studio), under the artistic direction of Nicolas Lemieux, will oversee the concert’s visual design, scenography and staging. Tickets, starting at $87.78 (plus tax), are now on sale at <https://www.amphitheatrecogeco.com/en/>, at the J.-Antonio Thompson Hall ticket office and at 819-380-9797 or 1-866-416-9797, Monday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST.

**More about the album:**

Legendary 1970s Montreal-based progressive rock act Harmonium, led by musical visionary Serge Fiori, is one of the most influential bands in Quebec music history, and their success reached across North America as the sound of progressive rock came to characterize the 1970s music scene. Over the course of just three years in its 70s run, Harmonium released three distinct albums: the self-titled *Harmonium*, its follow-up *Si On Avait Besoin d'Une Cinquième Saison*, and the band’s swan-song *L'Heptade*. In 2015, *Rolling Stone* magazine listed the album *Si On Avait Besoin d’Une Cinquième Saison* at number 36 of the Best 50 Progressive Rock Albums of all time and declared it “the pinnacle of the whole Folk-Prog movement.” In 2007, all three of Harmonium's studio albums were named among the 100 greatest Canadian albums of all time in Bob Mersereau's book *The Top 100* *Canadian Albums*.

The new album *Histoires sans paroles – Harmonium Symphonique* presents the band’s repertoire revisited and orchestrated by talented music arranger Simon Leclerc, who also co-produced the album with Serge Fiori under the artistic direction of GSI Musique President Nicolas Lemieux. A large ensemble featuring 68 musicians of the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal (OSM) performed on the album, conducted by Maestro Leclerc at Montreal’s Maison Symphonique. The album, within just seven weeks after its December release, was certified platinum in Canada with over 80,000 units sold, and is now surpassing 100,000 units sold. And staggeringly, this album has done the unthinkable: by going platinum the OLD way, sticking to physical units and downloads and not releasing the record to streaming services, and being available only via online orders through the album’s online portal, not being distributed in any brick and mortar stores (a first in Canada for such a major project). The project has maintained its unique momentum for many weeks, with further sales certifications imminent.

All formats can be purchased exclusively from <https://www.harmoniumsymphonic.com/>.

Photo file 1: HarmoniumSymphonique\_Harmonium\_Video\_Screencap.jpg

Photo caption 1: Screencap from the music video for the song “Harmonium,” the second animated clip created for the album *Histoires sans paroles – Harmonium symphonique*

**About Harmonium:**

Harmonium is one of the most influential bands in Quebec's and Canada's music history, and their success reached across North America as the sound of progressive rock came to characterize the 1970s music scene. The success of Harmonium’s three albums and the single *Pour Un Instant* resulted in an invitation to Los Angeles, where the National Film Board of Canada filmed the documentary *Harmonium en Californie*. In 2015, *Rolling Stone* magazine listed *Si On Avait Besoin d’Une Cinquième Saison* at number 36 of the Best 50 Progressive Rock Albums of all time and declared it the pinnacle of the whole Folk-Prog movement. In 2007, all three of Harmonium's studio albums were named among the 100 greatest Canadian albums of all time in Bob Mersereau's book *The Top 100* *Canadian Albums*. Serge Fiori’s songs became timeless, while most of them have reached the status of what could be seen as National Anthem. The influence these songs had on the sound of Quebec music was immense and still resonates.