



**The Toronto Jazz Orchestra and Idioteque present
The Radiohead Jazz Project**
Sunday, December 11, 2011, 7:30 pm
The Rex Hotel, 194 Queen Street West

For immediate release – Toronto, November 22, 2011: The Toronto Jazz Orchestra and Idioteque, Toronto's top Radiohead tribute band, are pleased to announce the Radiohead Jazz Project, Sunday December 11, 2011, 7:30 pm at The Rex Hotel. The evening will feature two sets by the Toronto Jazz Orchestra with guest vocalist Alex Samaras, followed by an extended set by Idioteque.

"Radiohead has been one of the world's most important and influential alternative rock bands for nearly 20 years," said Toronto Jazz Orchestra Artistic Director Josh Grossman. "In the past few years, their music has been embraced by a number of jazz musicians including Brad Mehldau, The Bad Plus and Robert Glasper, among others. We're excited to take on the challenge of presenting 12 new big band arrangements of Radiohead tunes, and are especially pleased to be teaming up with Idioteque."

The evening begins at 7:30 pm with two sets by the **Toronto Jazz Orchestra**. Ten of the 12 arrangements on the program were co-commissioned by the Frankfurt Radio Bigband and the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music (Wisconsin), and have been created by acclaimed writers Florian Ross, Sherisse Rogers, Fred Sturm, James Miley, Bob Washut, Patty Darling, Steve Owen, Dan Gailey and Dan Cavanagh. The two additional pieces have been contributed (one each) by Toronto-based writers Chris Hunt and Christian Overton. Emerging vocal heavyweight Alex Samaras will join the ensemble on most of the arrangements.

At 10:30 pm local Radiohead tribute band **Idioteque** takes to the stage for an extended set of note-for-note reproductions of songs taken from Radiohead's eight studio albums. Featuring some of Toronto's top young jazz musicians, the band performs with impressive artistry and technical mastery. Idioteque is Don Scott (vocals, guitar), Jessica Stuart (guitar, vocals), Harley Card (guitar), Teri Parker (keyboards), Matt Fong (bass) and Ernesto Cervini (drums, vocals).

The **Toronto Jazz Orchestra** (TJO) was formed in 1998 by Artistic Director and Conductor Josh Grossman and is made up of some of the top emerging jazz talent in Toronto. The TJO performs regularly at the Rex Hotel, has released three CDs and has performed with nationally and internationally acclaimed guest artists such as Phil Nimmons, Ingrid Jensen, Kevin Turcotte, Seamus Blake, Geoffrey Keezer and Kurt Elling. The Radiohead Jazz Project is part of the ensemble's annual tradition of dedicating one performance to the "music of" an influential ensemble or composer. Previous presentations have included the music of Phil Nimmons, the Stan Kenton Orchestra, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Duke Ellington and *West Side Story*, as well as genre-specific presentations including Afro-Cuban and Funk.

Alex Samaras is quickly becoming one of Canada's leading vocalists in the jazz and new music scenes. Alex studied vocal performance in the jazz program at the University of Toronto and at the Banff Center's Creative Music Program; he also spent time working in New York City with contemporary arts icon Meredith Monk and her vocal ensemble. He performs locally with the Sondheim Jazz Project, is part of Bram Gielen's *Biggish Kids* which was a hit at the 2010 Summerworks Festival, and was selected for the Young Centre Emerging Artists Program under the mentorship of Gregory Oh. Alex teaches privately and has lead improvisational theater workshops and music/voice master classes across Canada and the United States.

For more information on the Toronto Jazz Orchestra and the December 11th performance please call (416) 899-5299, email thetjo@mnsi.net or visit www.thetjo.com.

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10:30 pm Idioteque
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\$9 cover**