

OPUS PRIZE « Interprète de l'année 2010-2011 »
(performer of the year)



The result is spectacular. The ease with which they negotiate complexities to produce a purely musical result is astonishing....four amazing virtuosi.
Stephen Pedersen, Halifax Chronicle Herald

Known for their energy and bold innovation, the four members of Quasar – Marie-Chantal Leclair, Mathieu Leclair, André Leroux, Jean-Marc Bouchard – have been exploring the innumerable facets of musical creation since the group's founding in 1994. Their repertoire is vast in range, including chamber music, improvisation, musical theatre, and mixed music featuring live electronics. Five-time winners of the Québec Music Council's distinguished OPUS awards, Quasar presents an annual concert series in Montréal while performing extensively across Canada, the United States and Europe.

The quartet reserves pride of place for a group of esteemed Canadian and International composers with whom it has formed lasting partnerships. It aims to contribute to the enrichment of our musical heritage and to provide a platform for new music experimentation, exploration and production. Quasar has proudly commissioned over one-hundred works over the course of its twenty years of activity. During that time it has performed as a solo group with, among others, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

Member of *Le Vivier* and of the Canadian New Music Network, Quasar is supported by the *Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec*, the *Canada Council for the Arts*, the *Conseil des arts de Montréal*, the *Socan Foundation* and Vandoren.

Marie-Chantal Leclair : Artistic director, soprano saxophone – Mathieu Leclair : Alto saxophone
André Leroux : Tenor saxophone – Jean-Marc Bouchard : Baritone saxophone