

GABRIEL THIBAUDEAU

SPOKESPERSON for the “Maison des enfants” / Renovation Project of the Manoir Ellice



“As a pianist, composer, orchestra leader and improviser, I have had the chance to travel around the world and be part of and collaborate in the production of works with children. And everywhere the same is true ... music and art in general are ways of bringing people together. It is known that through art, the child learns to become structured and acquires a spirit of critical thinking. It goes without saying that art also allows one to express all that is outside of rational thinking, thus allowing free reign to the emotionalism which is always heightened in young people.

Originally from Beauharnois, I was able to develop my talents, firstly with Sister Françoise Lippé at the Convent of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary in Beauharnois, and later at École Vincent d’Indy, at the Faculty of Music at the Université de Montréal and through working with masters in my field (Iannis Xenakis, Serge Garant, Michel Longtin, etc). Beyond the power of living their artistic discipline, to provide children with an opportunity to come into contact with truth and beauty from the age of 5 is a major social investment and an introduction to an indescribable world. The richness of a note from the clarinet, the pleasure of a sculpture, the dream of colors in a watercolor, the magic emanating from a movie screen, are moments which touch not only the soul, but can become a new approach to resiliency with children in poor areas.

It is within this context that, with no hesitation, I support the plan of the **Maison des enfants Marie-Rose de Beauharnois**. I am therefore appealing to you to help realize the dream to renovate the **Manoir** so that “**Maison des enfants**” has the expansion necessary for the numerous activities offered to the children and can also become a cultural space accessible to the entire community. This new location will concretely contribute to the revitalization of the city, my city. The children, the adults and all the citizens can benefit from the cultural services in this future site.

In the name of these hundred or so children of today, and of generations to come, I thank you for your generosity! A concrete gift on your part will have a definite impact on the future of your community, our community. Let us act now!

In solidarity with the children of
Beauharnois,

Gabriel Thibaudéau