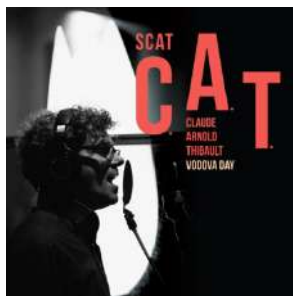


SCAT C.A.T.

CLAUDE ARNOLD THIBAUT



2023
PRESS KIT



***Vodova Day*, a new album by Scat C.A.T. to be launched on October 25th**

Montréal, September 14th, 2022. Claude Arnold Thibault alias Scat C.A.T. is proud to announce that *Vodova Day* will be launched on October 25th at 8:00 p.m. at Maison de la culture Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. This is his first album which follows a career as a musician and singer that started in the 70's and evolved towards jazz and scat specialization. His voice is one of the instruments in the band in the same way as a saxophone or a trumpet. His vocal improvisations show his deep knowledge of harmonic structure. He weaves his way through the chords as he interacts with the other musicians. "It's risky," he says, "but it's a great adrenaline rush." Curious and instinctive, he juggles with sounds. For him, scat is a way of expressing himself. For the audience, the experience is amazing, often playful, and communicated by an original, authentic and warmhearted artist. With wit and passion, Scat C.A.T. offers us this stunning album.

(Scat) "A way of singing in which the words are replaced by a series of onomatopoeia or syllables without meaning, which allows a freedom of improvisation comparable to that of a solo instrument."

Philippe Carles, André Clergeat and Jean-Louis Comolli – Dictionnaire du jazz

Born in Rimouski (Quebec, Canada), Claude Arnold Thibault (C.A.T.) is an accomplished musician. The tenth child in a family of 18 children (yes, you read that right), six of whom are professional musicians, he has been a bass player and vocalist in various musical groups for many years. He discovered the possibilities of the voice as a musical instrument while listening to Bobby McFerrin's song *Peace*, as McFerrin played with tone and used falsetto to imitate a trombone. This is what triggered his project to explore jazz singing. The project took shape as he listened to Chet Baker, whose improvisations, as rich as they are simple, quickly became an inexhaustible source of inspiration. C.A.T. learned by participating in many jam sessions. He performed in various jazz clubs in Montréal, Avignon, Florence and Bali, and participated in the Montréal International Jazz Festival, among others. Passionate about vocal jazz, he honed his improvisation skills by performing jazz standards, as do all jazz musicians. Scat became his specialty.

Pieces:

Just Friends (John Klenner, Sam M. Lewis). Arr. Jean Fréchette
When I Grow Too Old to Dream (Sigmund Romberg, Oscar Hammerstein II). Arr. Diana Krall
Love for Sale (Cole Porter). Arr. Scat C.A.T. based on Chet Baker
All of You (Cole Porter). Arr. Joe Sullivan
Someday My Prince Will Come (Frank Churchill, Frank Morey). Arr. Miles Davis
Nature Boy (Eden Ahbez). Arr. Laurence Hobgood
Autumn Leaves (Joseph Kosma, Johnny Mercer / Jacques Prévert). Arr. Christopher Smith based on Cannonball Adderley
Donna Lee (Miles Davis). Arr. Jerry Lopez
Polka Dots and Moonbeams (Jimmy Van Heusen, Johnny Burke). Arr. Cassandra Wilson
April in Paris (Vernon Duke, Yip Harburg). Arr. Laurence Hobgood
Stella by Starlight (Victor Young, Ned Washington). Arr. Félix Stüssi
Sippin' at Bell's (Miles Davis). Arr. Christopher Smith based on Chet Baker

Scat C.A.T. is accompanied on all pieces by Yvon Thibeault on drums. They are joined, as the case may be, by Chantale Thibeault on vocals, Félix Stüssi or John Sadowy on piano, Dave Watts or Frédéric Alarie on double bass, Serge Thibault or André Leroux on tenor saxophone, Serge Choinière or Jean-Luc Thibeault on trumpet, Jean-Luc Thibeault on flugelhorn.

Art Direction and Production Management: Scat C.A.T. Producer: Alain Bédard. Sound Recording, Mixing: George Doxas. Recording Studio: Boutique de son. Mastering: Marc Thériault, Le Lab Mastering. Vocal Coaching: Karen Young. Photography: David Afriat (cover), Randy Cole, Charlotte Desrosiers. Graphic Design: Roxanne Desrosiers. French Copy Editing: Luce Panneton. English Copy Editing: Denise Babin. Administration, Production Assistant: Anne-Marie Panneton. Distribution: Effendi.

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Press Material: <https://bit.ly/3LdXr9D>

Information and interview: IXION Communications, 514 495-8176, info@ixioncommunications.com



(Free translation from French)

Claude Thibault - Interviews - October 18, 2022

Claude Thibault chats with Claude Arnold Thibault aka Scat C.A.T. who launches *Vodova Day*



Yes, you read that right, I (Claude Thibault of this magazine) had the pleasure of chatting with my near namesake, vocalist Claude Arnold Thibault aka Scat C.A.T., who is launching the album *Vodova Day* this Tuesday, October 25 @ the Maison de la culture NDG. As I was present at a recording session for the album at George Doxas' Boutique du Son studio, I already knew a little...

(continued on the next two pages)



Claude Thibault: Hi Claude, congratulations on the new album you're launching this Friday. Finally, you've reached the finish line!

Scat C.A.T.: Thanks Claude! It took me a while, but better late than never.

Claude Thibault: Why, after all these years, are you launching this new album in the realm of scat?

Scat C.A.T.: It's the culmination of all my years as a musician. I've evolved as a musician-singer in a lot of different bands, jazz, rock, blues, conventions, I've done musical revues as a comedian-singer... and in the meantime, I've developed a passion for scat. I left the bass to devote myself to it, alongside my career as a music teacher. I've done shows all over the place - in bars and on big stages - but I'd never thought of making an album, because it's the stage that I love, the contact with the audience. It was the increasing number of my "demos" that made me think I should concentrate on making a professional album. A combination of circumstances meant that it was only this year that I found the perfect team, and took the plunge.

Claude Thibault: And why scat? What attracts you to this form of jazz?

Scat C.A.T.: First and foremost, I'm a musician. Singing and playing bass at the same time, that's what I've always done. But over time, the pleasure of singing became much greater than the pleasure of playing bass. Scat allows me to improvise and express myself as a musician. That's why it appeals to me so much.

Claude Thibault: What inspires your improvisations?

Scat C.A.T.: I draw my inspiration from musicians, who are the ones I listen to most often. Of course, there are singers I like, like Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby McFerrin, Al Jarreau and others, but I'm especially inspired by Chet Baker because he's a musician. My other inspirations for my solos are musicians who don't sing.

Claude Thibault: The music you listen to while driving?

Scat C.A.T.: Music by musicians. A lot of Chet Baker. Otherwise, John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Dexter Gordon... I'm a bit stubborn about my choices (laughs).

Claude Thibault: Why the name *Vodova Day*?

Scat C.A.T.: It's the fantastic idea of my partner Anne-Marie who, while listening to my scats, discovered that I used the onomatopoeia "dey" quite often. It reminded her of "day", a recurring theme in jazz album titles. When she put the bilingual lyrics of *Autumn Leaves* in the booklet, she amused herself by transcribing the scat I'd improvised, as if they were lyrics - so people could scat with me, or even do karaoke! - and in doing so, she found several interesting combinations with "day". We could have chosen Timulu Day or Fadada Day, but we thought *Vodova Day* sounded better (laughs).

Claude Thibault: You come from a big family with several musicians who are also on the album: Yvon Thibeault (drums), Chantale Thibeault (vocals), Serge Thibeault (tenor saxophone) and Jean-Luc Thibeault (trumpet/flugelhorn) - with such a family, could you become anything other than a musician?

Scat C.A.T.: I don't think so. As there were 18 of us, many of us had to be taken in by the Good Sisters of Charity. They were the ones who introduced us to music. I thank them for that, because music helped us a lot. Almost all my other brothers and sisters sing. It's thanks to the Good Sisters of Charity that there are six musicians in the family.

Claude Thibault: Who influenced who musically between your brothers and sister?

Scat C.A.T.: We all influenced each other. My brother Jean-Luc was the first to listen to jazz, followed by my brother Serge. Then I followed. I bought my first album of Cannonball Adderley and Miles Davis when I was 17-18, and then one thing led to another. My brother Jean-Luc wanted to start a band and he decided to include my brother Gaston on trumpet and me singing. But to do that, I also had to play bass. So I learned to play bass... because of or thanks to my brother Jean-Luc!

Claude Thibault: What else would you like to tell our readers about October 25?

Scat C.A.T.: Be there! It's going to be a great show, if you like scat. I'm surrounded by fabulous musicians: John Sadowy on piano, Frédéric Alarie on double bass, Vincent Ravary on drums, Ron Di Lauro on trumpet and André Leroux on tenor sax... You don't want to miss it!

Claude Arnold Thibault aka Scat C.A.T. launches *Vodova Day*

Maison de la culture NDG - 3755 Botrel, Montréal
Tuesday, October 25 @ 8 p.m.

Claude Arnold Thibault SCAT C.A.T. - vocals
André Leroux - tenor sax
Ron Di Lauro - trumpet
John Sadowy - piano
Frédéric Alarie - double bass
Vincent Ravary - drums

information - ticket office - facebook



Photo : Divulgation /Press

(free translation from Portuguese)

Jazz vocalist Scat C.A.T. promotes debut album with engaging "Love For Sale".

Luiz Athayde - 22 de maio de 2023 - Notícias - 0 Comentários

'Vodova Day' is available on streaming platforms

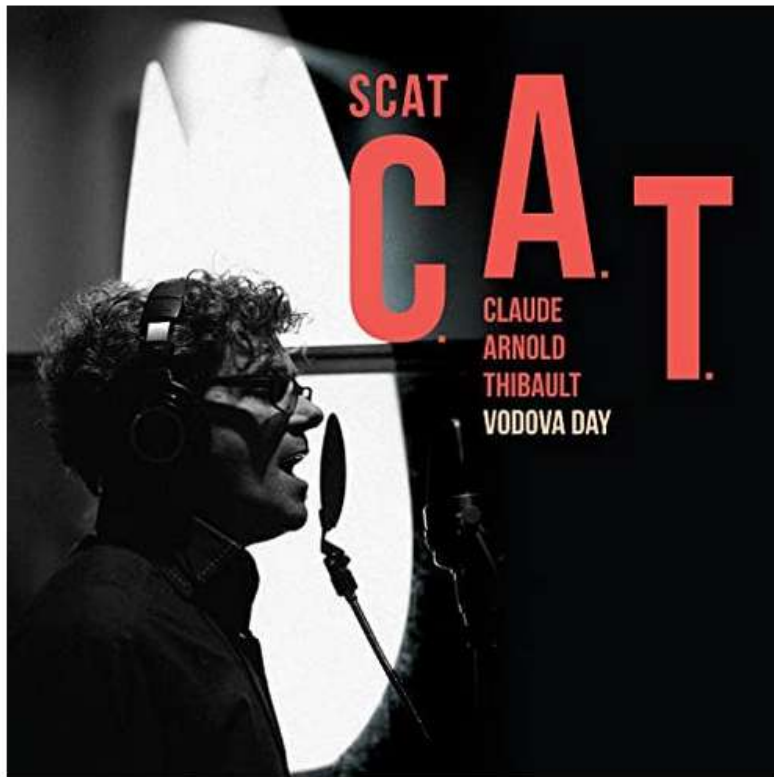
By Luiz Athayde

In a general and very layman's way, when one thinks of jazz voices, female names immediately come to mind. After all, how can one not be mesmerized by the thunderous **Nina Simone**, the powerful **Ella Fitzgerald**, and the incomparable **Bille Holiday**? Among many others obviously.

However, nothing stops a number of "mortals" from trying to make their own way on the underground circuit, which, for the happiness of music fans, is for everyone. I refer to **Scat C.A.T.** from Canada.

Born in Rimouski, Quebec, this is the nickname of **Claude Arnold Thibault**, a musician who uses his voice for various possibilities within this sphere. His prism of influences involves many

names, although the most glittering is that of **Chet Baker**; courtesy of his rich yet accessible improvisations.



Pochette de l'album 'Vodova Day' (divulgation)

Part of that inspiration spawned his debut album, *Vodova Day*, released in 2022 on an independent label. The production is signed by **Alain Bédard** (Effendi Records), while the sound engineering and mixing were the responsibility of **George Doxas**.

The album features high caliber musicians from the local scene, including several members of Claude's family - he is the tenth of 18 siblings, six of whom are professional musicians - especially on "Autumn Leaves / Les Feuilles Mortes". Incidentally, this is one of the highlights of the record.

In order to increase his impact, C.A.T. recorded his version of **Cole Porter's** "Love For Sale". Commenting on the track, the musician reveals that it was performed "in a jazz-funk style inspired by Chet Baker's version," and that "something happened on this take, the atmosphere was right and the magic just happened."

Indeed, it is another exciting moment on the album. It is a modern, urban and somewhat experimental vision of a 1940s jazz classic. It's even where his voice joins the instrumental section the tightest, sometimes enhanced by the charm of the French accent.

Check it out here: <https://youtu.be/pNKiaGzjHmY>

More **Scat C.A.T.** can be checked out by clicking on the links:

[Facebook](#) - [Spotify](#) - [Soundcloud](#) - [Deezer](#) - [Youtube](#)



(free translation from Portuguese)

Playlist "Beyond BR" #53 - Sounds of the world that reach us

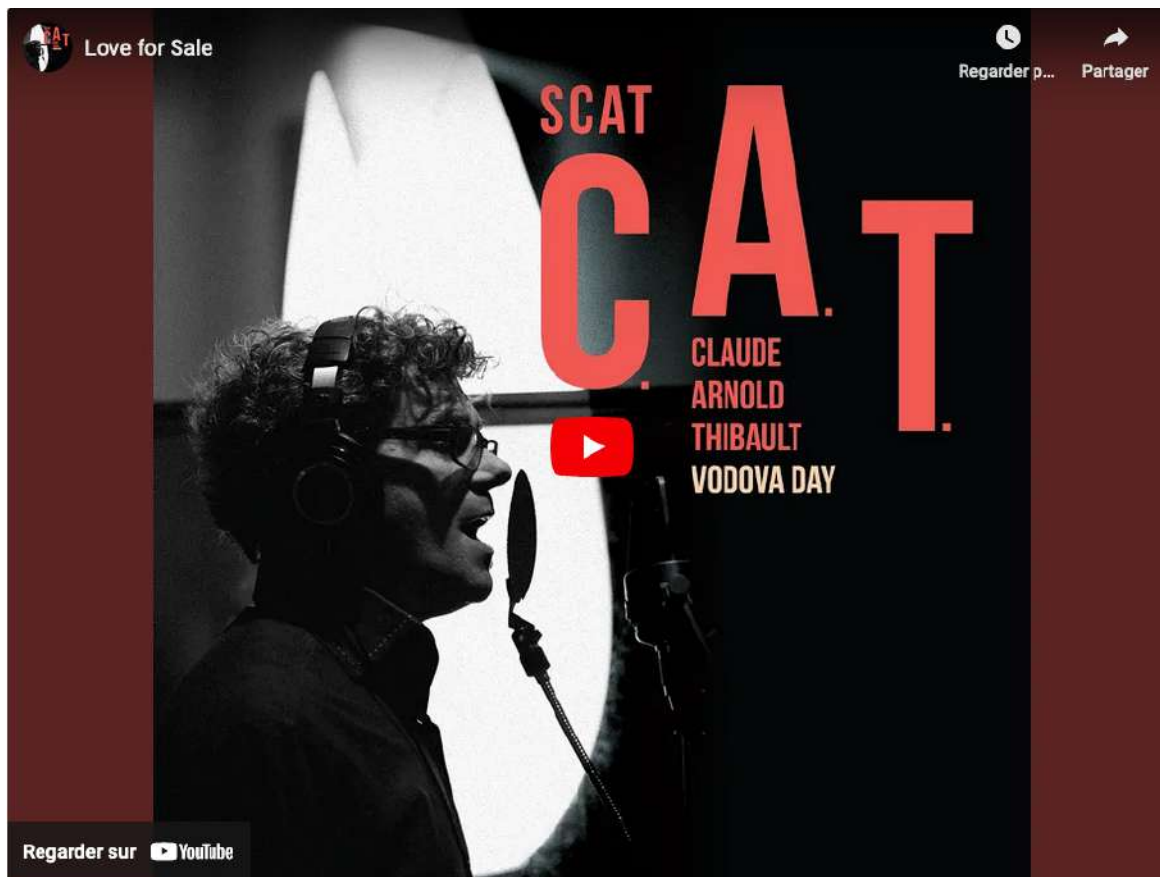
BY MATHEUS LUZI | 7 DE JUNHO DE 2023 | 0 COMENTÁRIOS | 7 DIAS ATRÁS

We are a national art magazine, yes! However, in respect to the countless and valuable suggestions we received from artists from all over the world, we created a playlist called "Beyond BR".

As a way to extend it, this publication was born on the site, which now reaches its 53rd edition. In this space we will address some of the most interesting releases of the playlist.

MINI INTERVIEWS

Scat C.A.T. - "Love for Sale" - Canada



- In short, what is this song?

This piece is an arrangement of a jazz standard by Cole Porter, originally written for a Broadway musical. My version is inspired by the great trumpeter Chet Baker's instrumental version. It has rarely been sung by men in the first person singular ("I"), which is what I do, like Elvis Costello and Seal, for example.

- What do the lyrics tell us?

The lyrics are a sort of "sales pitch" for someone offering their charms. I chose to sing only the first verse. I usually only sing one or two verses to leave more room for my scat improvisation. However, after the theme's bridge that I was scating, I felt that the musical punches would be better served by words than by sounds. Instead of using the English words for this part of the song, I decided to translate the idea freely into French, as it came to me. The result is: "Amour du jour, jeune amour pour toujours". I like it, it sounds great!

- Comment on the sound of the single, the references.

We created a mysterious atmosphere to recall dark, foggy streets. The challenge was to build the conversation between the musicians, and to create a progression in the intensity of the playing, a tension that would only release at the end of the bridge. We also played with the piece's structure and decided not to return to the theme after the piano solo. This recording is the second take we did. Something magical happened that time. All the musicians were in sync and the inspiration was there. I hope the audience feels it.

- Are there any interesting trivia or stories about this release?

My partner is my administrator, my first audience, my first fan, but also my fiercest critic. She laughed when I improvised myself as a lyricist for this song and decided to add the little sentence in French (she thinks I'm funny even when I try to be serious!). But I kept my idea and I think I was right. I'm a francophone and proud of my language, I play a very niched jazz, and I allow myself curiosities. It's fun for me, and I dare to think it sets me apart.

Comments from professionals

"*Love for Sale* is a jazz song that stands out for its peculiarly ambient, deep and meticulous sound. The voice plays a fundamental role as the soul of the music, elevating the instrumental to an exquisite and aligned performance. The combination of voice and instruments creates an involving and promising atmosphere. The track displays impressive originality, with rhythm clips and a constant crescendo, revealing the artists' ability to create an authentic and unique musical experience."

Rádio Armazém, Brazil, June 26, 2023

"*Love for Sale*: an everlasting style for a great vocal and instrumental interpretation that give life to a song that sounds classic and immortal and that makes you want to listen and feel it live."

FM 7 89.7, Chile, May 28, 2023 (translated from Spanish)

"A very traditional jazz touch, but which brings new elements to its arrangement. *Love for Sale*'s vocals are spectacular and the track is technically perfect, with great mixing and mastering."

Musica Brasileira Viva, Brazil, May 27, 2023

"*All of You* is a warm track, a pure jazz gem!"

La Belle Onde, France, April 2, 2023 (translated from French)

"Excellent work, a classic jazz piece played and sung in an excellent way, it is really a pleasure to listen to you. Professional musicians of the highest quality, perfect recording, and sung equally up to par, with great quality and technique as well as imagination and charisma. In short, only congratulations, you are really strong!"

Artisti Online, Italy, April 2, 2023

"*All of You*, a crooner type vocal jazz song that seems to come straight out of another era with its sweeping arrangements. The dynamic male vocal performance adds a lot of energy to this gently catchy track. A track that adds a dose of joy to any day!"

Boulimique de Musique, Canada, March 31, 2023

"*All of You* is an amazing jazz track. It's soft, enveloping and vibrant at the same time."

Bananas Music Branding, Brazil, March 30, 2023



Ron Murx

Playlist · Émirats arabes unis

July 27, 2023

Scat C.A.T.'s track "All Of You" is a mesmerizing jazz standard with a unique "new vintage" twist that sets it apart from the traditional renditions. As a jazz musician specialized in vocal improvisation and scat singing, Scat C.A.T. infuses this classic piece with his own artistic flair, making it a must-add to my playlist. Here are a few reasons why "All Of You" deserves a spot in my music collection and is worth sharing with my community and followers:

1. **Vocal Improvisation and Scat Singing Expertise:** Scat C.A.T.'s specialization in vocal improvisation and scat singing shines through in "All Of You." The track features captivating vocal artistry, with intricate and playful improvisations that breathe new life into the jazz standard. His skillful execution of scat singing adds a fresh and exciting element to the timeless piece.

2. **"New Vintage" Twist:** Stands out as a "new vintage" rendition, inspired by the classic jazz styles of the 40s, 50s, and 60s. Scat C.A.T.'s innovative twist infuses the track with a modern sensibility, appealing to both jazz purists and contemporary music enthusiasts. This blend of old and new creates a captivating listening experience that honors tradition while pushing boundaries.

3. **Timeless Appeal:** The timelessness of "All Of You" is enhanced by Scat C.A.T.'s artistic interpretation. His vocal prowess and the "new vintage" arrangement ensure that this jazz standard remains relevant and enjoyable across generations. Adding this track to your playlist ensures that your audience discovers a fresh perspective on a classic piece that stands the test of time.

4. **Jazz Community Appreciation:** By sharing "All Of You" with my community and followers, I am able to promote an appreciation for jazz music and vocal improvisation. Scat C.A.T.'s artistry exemplifies the creativity and spontaneity that jazz is celebrated for. Sharing this track fosters a sense of community among jazz enthusiasts and encourages others to explore the world of scat singing and jazz improvisation.

5. **Artistic Expression and Innovation:** "All Of You" showcases Scat C.A.T.'s artistic expression and innovative approach to jazz music. His ability to infuse the track with personal flair and creativity demonstrates the power of artistic interpretation.

By adding this track to my playlist, I am able to celebrate the richness and diversity of jazz music while supporting artists who push the boundaries of the genre. By adding "All Of You" by Scat C.A.T. to my playlist and sharing it with my community and followers, I am able to embrace a jazz standard with a timeless twist and celebrate the artistry of vocal improvisation and scat singing. This track's vocal expertise, "new vintage" appeal, timeless nature, community appreciation, and artistic innovation make it a valuable addition to any music collection.

Get ready to immerse yourself in the captivating sounds of Scat C.A.T. and let "All Of You" enchant your playlist and resonate with your listeners.



(Free translation from French)

MUSIC March 5, 2023

Jazz, Montréal's spiritual Mecca

When it comes to jazz, Montréal is a spiritual Mecca.

By Rachael Sirois Thomson

On January 20, 2023, Claude Thibault, founder of sortiesJAZZnights.com, gathered a congregation of some of the city's finest musicians in the Plateau to celebrate 20 years of promoting the art of jazz. Whether it's January or July, whether there's a storm or not (there was quite a storm!), when it comes to jazz, Montréal is there.

In the O Patro Vys venue, upstairs from the legendary Billy Kun on Mont-Royal where the event was held, there was a packed house of international and local talent, several veterans of the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal (FIJM) and, above all, an artistic community that felt like one big family, who wanted to be there and celebrate the art that weaves them together in Montréal's musical tapestry. Among those who have dedicated their lives to the great vocation of music, and who were present that evening to pay tribute to the founder, were some immense talents! Lorraine Desmarais, Charles Papasoff, Remi Bolduc, Sonia Johnston, Pierre Francois, Steve Amirault, Martin Auguste, Rachel Therrien, Stephen Johnston, Taurey Butler, Barbara Diab, Sienna Dahlen, and many others, not forgetting Claude Arnold Thibault SCAT C.A.T., who completely mesmerized the audience and his peers with his hallucinatory vocal mastery. (...)



Claude Thibault, Lorraine Desmarais, Coco Jazz, Rémi Bolduc, Glenda Rush, Claude Arnold Thibault (SCAT C.A.T.) Gary Tremblay



Music Diffusion

The *Vodova Day* album is available in stores and on most platforms including [QUB Musique](#), [Spotify](#), [Deezer](#), [Apple Music](#), [Amazon Music](#), [Youtube Music](#), [SoundCloud](#), etc.

On Spotify, Claude Arnold Thibault reaches regularly more than **5000 monthly listeners** and is present in **more than 250 playlists**.

Sample of radio shows that aired his music:

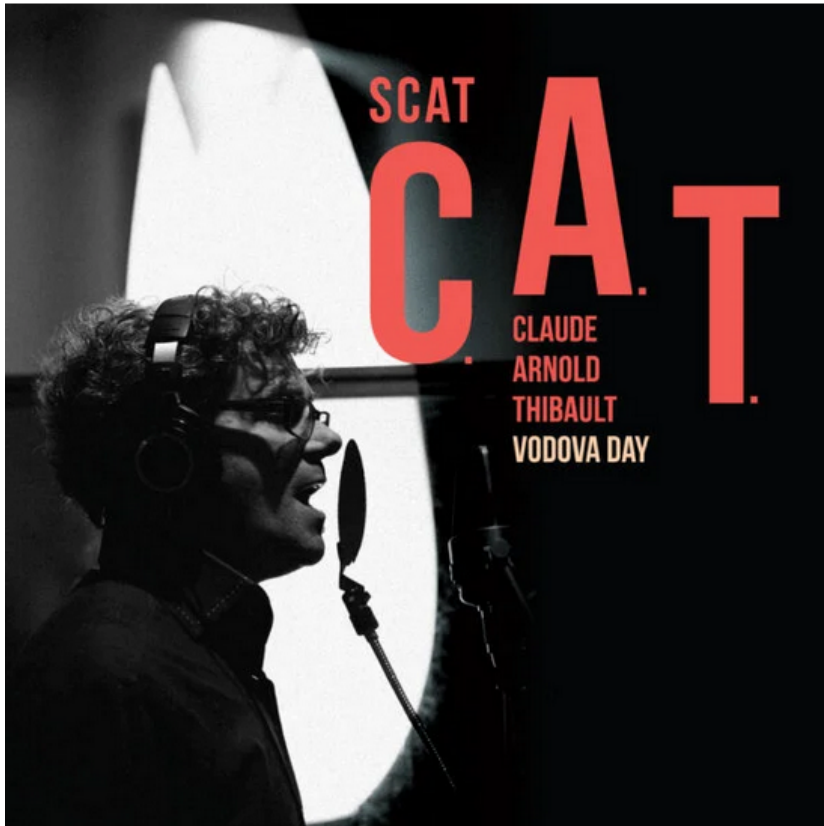
- **Limoubluez Web Radio – France:** on rotation for 2 months starting in June (Love For Sale) and in September (April in Paris), 2023. Both songs from the album *Vodova Day*.
- **Good Music Radio – UK:** on rotation for 6-8 weeks between July 20 and September 14, 2023 (web diffusion). *All of You* from the album *Vodova Day*.
- **Rádio Armazém – Brazil:** *Noitinha Groove* radio show, 79th edition, July 2, 2023 (web diffusion). *Love for Sale*, from the album *Vodova Day*.
- **Glacer FM – USA:** *The Mark & Wayne Show*, episode 1, June 30, 2023 (web diffusion). *Love for Sale*, from the album *Vodova Day*.
- **ICI Musique (Radio-Canada) – Montréal:** *Quand le jazz est là* hosted by Stanley Péan, March 5, 2023. *When I Grow Too Old to Dream*, from the album *Vodova Day*. November 21, 2022 *Sippin' at Bell's* (*Vodova Day*).
- **Coco Jazz – Montréal:** December 13, 2022 (web diffusion). *Nature Boy / Étrange Garçon*, from the album *Vodova Day*. October 11, 2022, *Love for Sale* (*Vodova Day*). August 28, 2016. *Ornithology*, demo version.
- **CKIA 88,3 – Québec:** *Jazz Bazar*, November 6, 2022. *Sippin' at Bell's*, from the album *Vodova Day*.
- **CIBL 101,5 – Montréal:** *Jazz actuel*, October 19, 2022. *Someday My Prince Will Come*, from the album *Vodova Day*.
- **Jazz Lounge Scotland:** September 25, 2016 (web diffusion). *Ornithology*, demo version.



(Free translation from French)

Christophe Rodriguez - Jazz Albums - September 13, 2023

Scat C.A.T. – *Vodova Day*



How happy I am with this *Vodova Day* in hand. I thought the scat era (Louis Armstrong, Joe Williams, David Lynx) had disappeared. I was wrong. Associated with the swing of its heyday, this particular genre, obviously associated with singing, regains some of its lustre with Claude Arnold Thibault or, if you prefer, SCAT C.A.T., who is in no way related to our publisher Claude Thibault.

Autumn Leaves – A subtle interpretation

Standards can be picked up by the shovelful, to paraphrase the poet Jacques Prévert in these pre-autumnal times, and you won't be disappointed. And speaking of *Autumn Leaves*, take a closer look at its subtle interpretation. Swing that envelops you, with trumpeter Jean-Luc Thibeault on chorus, a sort of Roy Eldridge emulator. And then we jump straight to the redoubtable *Donna Lee* composition. In the spirit of the Double Six and, of course, Manhattan Transfer, friend Claude Arnold Thibault generously opens the door to his musicians.

SCAT C.A.T. – A collection of classics to help you forget the bad news

Without missing a beat, tenor saxophonist André Leroux, who knows more than a thing or two about swing, steps into the breach with mad talent. As does pianist John Sadowy, who injects a few bars of Latin music (you little rascal). The joyful atmosphere of this recording evokes the work of Norma Granz and her accomplices at the Jazz The Philharmonic sessions. Unpretentious, just for fun, this collection of classics will make you forget all the bad news and orange cones.

Someday My Prince Will Come and Nature Boy – Étrange Garçon

And we could add the sublime rendition of *Someday My Prince Will Come*, as well as *Nature Boy - Étrange Garçon*, which was the workhorse of legendary singer/pianist Nat King Cole. In addition to the aforementioned brass players, we find Dave Watts on double bass and Yvon Thibeault on drums. It was a daring gamble, and one that paid off handsomely. Without wishing to compare themselves to anyone else.

Claude Arnold Thibault alias Scat C.A.T. : Vodova Day

Just Friends / When I Grow Too Old to Dream / Love for Sale / All of You / Someday My Prince Will Come / Nature Boy – Étrange garçon / Autumn Leaves – Les feuilles mortes / Donna Lee / Polka Dots and Moonbeams / April in Paris / Stella by Starlight / Sippin' at Bells

Claude Arnold Thibault SCAT C.A.T. - vocals

Chantale Thibeault - vocals (*Autumn Leaves - Les feuilles mortes*)

André Leroux - tenor sax

Serge Thibault - tenor sax (*Just Friends, All of You, Autumn Leaves - Les feuilles mortes*)

Jean-Luc Thibeault - trumpet and flugelhorn (all solos)

Serge Choinière - trumpet (*Just Friends, All of You, Autumn Leaves - Les feuilles mortes*)

Félix Stüssi - piano

John Sadowy - piano (*Love for Sale, Donna Lee, Sippin' at Bell's*)

Dave Watts - double bass

Frédéric Alarie - double bass and sound effects (*Love for Sale, All of You, Donna Lee, Sippin' at Bell's, Stella by Starlight*)

Yvon Thibeault - drums



Christophe Rodriguez

Under the fine pen of our most loyal columnist, discover the best jazz albums and books from Quebec and around the world. Christophe also writes a jazz column for Ted Audio, a classical column for ludwig.com and is the author of the book *Les grands noms du jazz*.

by JUSTIN BERNARD, MARC CHÉNARD, PIETRO FREIBURGER, PAUL E ROBINSON, ANDREA RUSH AND ZENITH WOLFE

Scat C.A.T.

Vodova Day
Self-produced
★★★★☆

If a record cover telegraphs its content, this is the one. Behind the Scat C.A.T. stage name is one Claude Arnold Thibault, a jazzman at heart. Full marks to him for his flawless diction;

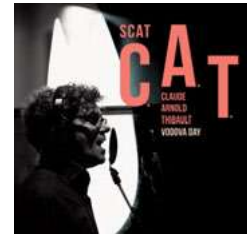


you don't miss a word. Next, he has recruited quite a team of sidemen, several being his own siblings, and a few established citizens of our community, pianists Felix Stüssi and John Sadoway, bassist Frédéric Alarie, and hornmen André Leroux and Ron Di Lauro making cameo solo appearances. Twelve jazz evergreens are heard in this hour-long album, the likes of *Just Friends*, *Love for Sale*, *April in Paris*, *Stella by Starlight*—even two Charlie Parker lines, *Donna Lee* and *Sippin' at Bells*, sung in pure scat manner. To his credit, he leaves plenty of solos to his sidemen—the pianists in particular; he himself scats out choruses of his own, but not on all numbers. Also pleasant are the sassy arrangements that echo the styles of the 1950s and 1960s, all played with gusto. That said, the very device of scat singing is a matter of taste; you either go for it or not. But for all of its qualities, listening to this album is like visiting an art museum—and as the filmmaker Éric Rohmer once pointedly opined, museums are places where you can learn about things that aren't done anymore. A perfect act for the Montreal jazz fest next summer. Wanna bet? **MC**

Scat C.A.T.

Vodova Day
Auto-production
★★★★☆

Si le titre d'un disque révèle son contenu, c'est bien celui-ci. Sous ce nom se dissimule Claude-Arnold Thibault, jazzman dans l'âme, chanteur dans la pure



tradition américaine. Sur un versant, il est doué d'une diction impeccable, on ne perd pas un mot; de plus, il s'est entouré d'une belle équipe dont quelques-uns de ses frères et sœurs ainsi que des pointures de chez nous tels les pianistes Felix Stüssi et John Sadoway, le bassiste Frédéric Alarie, même Ron Di Lauro et André Leroux, en solistes furtifs. Douze vieux saucissons du jazz défilent au cours de cette heure : *Just Friends*, *Love for Sale*, *April in Paris*, *Stella by Starlight*, même deux numéros de Charlie Parker, *Donna Lee* et *Sippin' at Bells*, chantés ici en scat pur. On salue le fait qu'il laisse de la place à des solos de ses musiciens, les pianistes en particulier, se donnant aussi quelques moments pour « scatter » les siens. Les arrangements, enfin, sont bien figolés et exécutés avec esprit par tout le monde, mais dans un registre qui nous renvoie aux années 1950-1960. Sur l'autre versant, il y a cet artifice du « scat singing » dont quelques-uns raffolent et qui en rebute d'autres. Mais en 2022, cette réalisation passe pour une espèce d'exposition muséale. Pour utiliser le bon mot de Rohmer : « Le musée, c'est l'endroit où l'on peut vérifier les choses qui ne sont plus à faire. » Un bon candidat pour notre festival de jazz d'été en tout cas. Parions-le. **MC**

Pour une **critique du spectacle Vodova Day** du 25 octobre 2022 à la Maison de la culture Notre-Dame-de-Grâce:

- Mylène Robillard, agente culturelle, 514 872-2162 ou mylene.robillard@montreal.ca

CULTURE

November 21, 2022

Annie Levasseur - alevasseur@lexismedia.ca

(Free translation from French)

A first solo album for Scat C.A.T.

JAZZ



Claude Arnold Thibault, known as Scat C.A.T., released his first solo album at the end of October. The Rimouski native, who uses his voice as a musical instrument, is proud to present *Vodova Day*.

The singer and musician's career began in the 70s. Over the years, it has evolved towards jazz, and the artist has specialized in scat, a form of vocal improvisation.

"This is a project I've been planning for a long time. I made this album for myself, for my own pleasure. There's a piece on the album in which four members of my family play with me. It was important for me to highlight this with my family. It's taking a turn I hadn't anticipated, which encourages and motivates me. I'm delighted to see that there's interest," says Scat C.A.T..

With this debut album, the artist takes jazz classics and adds his own personal touch, using his voice as if it were a musical instrument.

"I want to push scat improvisation. That's what should characterize me if it works. I want to emphasize that. I want the musician in me to come out in my vocal improvisations. For me, scat is a way of expressing myself. I don't anticipate the onomatopoeia," he says.

A native of Rimouski, Scat C.A.T. left the region for Montréal in 1977, at the age of 21. He has played bass with musician Jean Rabouin, and has participated on several occasions in Rimouski's Festi Jazz. This music enthusiast has long been a bassist and singer in various musical groups.

"I studied double bass and electric bass at the Université de Montréal. I paid for my studies by playing at conventions and private events. I always sang and played at the same time, but at some point the pleasure of singing took over. One thing led to another, and I branched out into voice," he says.

Parallel to his career as an artist, Claude Arnold Thibault taught music for 27 years in a Montréal high school. Now retired, he has decided to launch *Vodova Day*.

"I'd like to present it in jazz bars, in venues, and do a few festivals. I'd like to be invited back to the Rimouski Festi Jazz. It's my hometown and I've always kept a link with Rimouski. I still have family living there. The ties are unbreakable," he says.

The *Vodova Day* album is available on digital platforms.

Interviews

CIBL 101,5 – Montréal : *Jazz actuel* program, November 23, 2022 (45 minutes live). Interview with host Louis-Serge Houle and three live musical performances with musicians John Sadowy and Frédéric Alarie: *Four, Love for Sale, Stella by Starlight*.

Topic: Launch of the album *Vodova Day*.



Radio-Canada – Rimouski : *Info Réveil* radio show, November 16, 2022 (recorded), hosted by Éric Gagnon. Interview with reporter Éric Barrette - verbatim available..

Topic: Launch of the album *Vodova Day*.

Éric Gagnon: "His voice is beautiful!"

Éric Barrette: "It's true, a very, very nice discovery. (...) I'm pitching this idea: it seems to me that it would make a good concert at Rimouski's Festi Jazz..."



FLO 96,5 FM – Rimouski : *Jazz dans la nuit* program, November 7, 2022 (live). Interview with host Louis Brunet.

Topic: Launch of the album *Vodova Day*.

LE CULTUREL 2.0 en tandem, October 24, 2022. Interview with Winston McQuade and Sylvie Harvey, broadcast on Facebook, Vimeo and Youtube.

Topic: Launch of the album *Vodova Day* and show at the Maison de la culture NDG, October 25, 2022.



Interviews (continued)

Radio-Canada in Québec City: *Québec Express* radio show. Interview with reporter Catherine Lachausnée and live performance in studio with bassist Pierre Côté.

Topic: Scat C.A.T.'s show series at the bar l'Emprise of the Clarendon Hotel in Québec City.

CKRL-FM 89,1 – Québec city: *Pare-chocs* radio show. Interview with host Eric Dusseault and broadcast of an audio clip.

Topic: Scat C.A.T.'s show series at the bar l'Emprise of the Clarendon Hotel in Québec City.

Radio-Canada in Montréal: *Montréal ce soir* TV show. Interview with journalist Marie-Christine Trottier and live musical performance. An excerpt from Scat C.A.T.'s show at the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal was featured on the late night newscast as part of a retrospective of the day's best moments.

Topic: Scat C.A.T.'s participation at the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal.



CISM 89,3 – Montréal : *Les déjeuners-causeries* radio show. Interview with host Louise Lamarre.

Topic: Scat C.A.T.'s participation at the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal.

CJBR 89,1 – Radio-Canada in Rimouski : *Une femme en art* radio show. Interview with host Lyse Bonenfant.

Topic: Scat C.A.T.'s participation at Rimouski Festi Jazz.

Rimouski's 21st Festi Jazz - Successful launch by local musicians

"We're here tonight to please ourselves and to please you. I'm realizing a dream, and I'd like to thank so many of you for coming to share it with me," says trumpeter Jean-Luc Thibeault. The dream is to bring together on stage several members of his famous family and a number of musicians from the region, or originally from the region, almost all of whom, like him, attended the Conservatoire de musique du Québec in Rimouski. A fine show, with beautiful voices including those of Chantal and Claude [Arnold] Thibeault and long-time friend Jean Raboin. (...)

21^e Festi Jazz de Rimouski

Lancement réussi par des musiciens d'ici

Les organisateurs du 21^e Festi Jazz de Rimouski ont misé juste en confiant, pour une première fois, la soirée d'ouverture à des musiciens régionaux qui ont procuré de beaux moments de plaisir à un public ravi et enthousiaste.

MARIE DIANE VALLÉE

"Nous sommes ici, ce soir, pour se faire plaisir et pour vous faire plaisir. Je réalise un rêve et je vous remercie d'être si nombreux avec moi pour le partager", souligne le trompettiste, Jean-Luc Thibeault.

Le rêve étant de réunir sur scène plusieurs membres de sa célèbre famille et nombre de musiciens de la région, ou originaires de la région, qui ont presque tous, comme lui, fréquenté le Conservatoire de musique du Québec à Rimouski. Un beau spectacle, de belles voix dont celles de Chantal et de Claude Thibeault et d'un ami de longue date, Jean Raboin.

"J'ai eu beaucoup de plaisir, surtout avec ces musiciens extraordinaires. Ça fait quatre à cinq que je n'ai pas joué à Rimouski. J'adore la

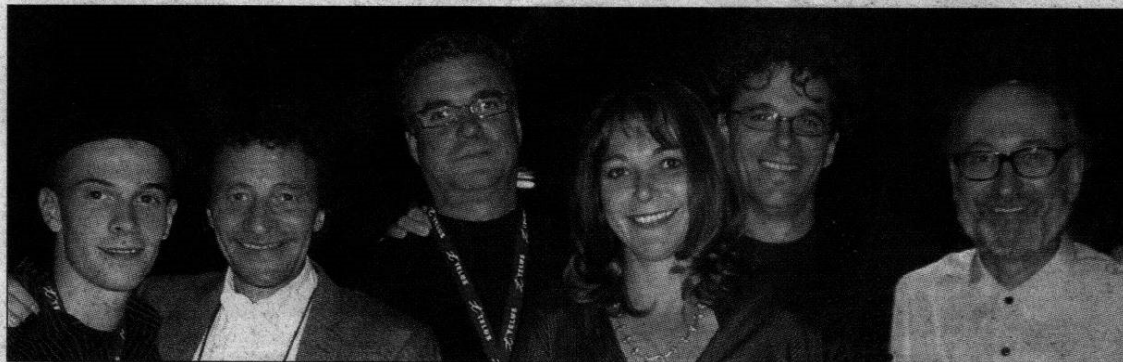
nouvelle Salle. C'est vraiment magnifique", dit M. Raboin qui confie ne plus faire vraiment de musique depuis quatre ans. "J'en fais un peu chez-moi, mais pas plus que ça. De la musique en public, je ne sais pas si je vais en refaire. Je ne sais pas. Mais je suis vraiment content de cette soirée", confie-t-il.

Héron d'Or 2006

Le Héron d'Or, décerné chaque année à un partenaire pour sa contribution au développement et à la longévité du Festi Jazz, a été remis au journaliste Laurent Le-

blond. Visiblement ému, le récipiendaire rappelle que la naissance du Festi Jazz fut "Le début d'une belle aventure qui m'a permis de voir et d'entendre des



grands du jazz qu'on n'aurait jamais eus à Rimouski. Plus près de nous, je ne peux passer sous silence les moments de bonheur que Martin Roussel nous procure".



De la famille Thibeault: Pierre-Luc et son père, Jean-Luc, Gaston, Chantale, Claude et Jean Raboin.

(Photo LE JOURNAL/ Marie D. Vallée)

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La Presse, newspaper, Arts and Entertainment section, June 10, 1998 - Scat C.A.T. is on the picture, center back because he was programmed in the Les Voix Nescafé (Nescafé Voices) series. Title: "A jazz orgy, nothing less - Three hundred free concerts from 2000 musicians from 25 countries".

Une orgie de jazz, rien de moins

Trois cents concerts gratuits de 2000 musiciens de 25 pays

ALAIN BRUNET

Du 1^{er} au 12 juillet, que faudra-t-il bouffer gratuitement à Montréal ? Un grand événement sous le signe du gospel, des pointes de blues, des musiques du monde à profusion, une série thématique axée sur le funk. Et, on s'en doute bien, une orgie de jazz.

Pour résumer ce qui fait la différence entre le Festival international de jazz de Montréal et les autres manifestations du genre, Alain Simard résumera les choses ainsi : « Ce Festival immense demeure à dimension humaine. En ce monde virtuel, il est fait pour les gens, pour les rapprocher de la place publique », a souligné le président du FIJM, hier au Métropolis, avant de laisser son collègue David Jobin dévoiler ce qui concrétise cette différence : la programmation extérieure du 19^e FIJM.

Ainsi donc, environ deux milliers de musiciens de 25 pays donneront plus de 300 concerts gratuits, de midi à minuit. Ils se répartiront en 25 séries, ils se présenteront sur neuf scènes.

« La série funk qui s'ajoute à celles du blues et des musiques du monde oriente davantage la programmation extérieure vers le party », fait observer David Jobin, qui a meublé la grille horaire de cette programmation gratuite, comme il l'a fait aux Francofolies. Voyons voir de plus près.

La scène Bleue Dry dévoilera notamment l'étonnante formation brésilienne Karnak, le tromboniste portoricain Jimmy Bosch, la Montréalaise Lorraine Klaasen et son Soweto Groove. Les Concerts Étoi-



En compagnie de David Jobin, à l'extrême-droite, plusieurs artistes montréalais ont pris place pour la traditionnelle photo de famille. On aperçoit entre autres le trompettiste Bill Mahar et la saxophoniste Jennifer Bell, du Altsys Jazz Orchestra (sans compter leur progéniture), l'harmoniste Jim Zeller et la chanteuse Lorraine Klaasen. Alain Simard est quelque part parmi eux.

PHOTO ROBERT MAILLOUX, La Presse

les du Maurier accueilleront entre autres l'Orchestre national de Barbès, big band français à forte coloration maghrébine. Les Après-midis du Maurier mettront en vedette Vic Vogel et son big band, Travis Knights, jeune sensation de la claquette montréalaise, sera des Hoopers de Ethel Bruneau et martèlera la Scène du Maurier.

L'élite du jazz russe, incarnée par la formation du saxophoniste Igor Brill, devrait aussi en épatier plus d'un, Place du Maurier. « Un test en vue d'une possible série russe l'an prochain », laisse échapper David Jobin.

L'excellent guitariste français

Claude Barthélémy sera des Rendez-vous du Maurier, tout comme la formation gagnante d'un trophée Juno, le Hugh Fraser / Jean Tousseint Quartet, sans compter les guitaristes montréalais Fortin et Léveillé et la chanteuse américaine Nina Storey à qui on prédit un effet boeuf au FIJM.

Le jazz vocal sera en évidence dans la série Les Voix Nescafé, avec, par exemple, la formation ontarienne The Tone Poets, ou une lauréate du concours Ma Première Place des Arts, Linda Racine.

Au chapitre de l'animation, de nouvelles fanfares s'ajoutent à la

légion de jazzmen ambulants (Streetmix, DixieBand, etc.) : on a « rafraîchi l'animation », pour reprendre les dires de David Jobin, en invitant la fanfare Cramique de Belgique (qu'on a déjà nommée Combo belge !) et la fanfare Ciorcalia de Roumanie, dont les rythmes complexes en étourdiront plus d'un.

Tradition oblige au FIJM, beaucoup de blues au programme. Les Spectacles Labatt Blues mettront en relief une nouvelle génération de la note bleue : le guitariste Bernard Allison, fils de feu Luther Allison, la chanteuse Shemekia Copeland, fille du regretté Johnny Copeland,

l'harmoniste et guitariste Bill Morganfield fera honneur au paternel, nul autre que Muddy Waters.

Les Shows Funky Bleue Dry donneront l'occasion à Simone, fille de Nina Simone, d'être la figure de proue de la formation Liquid Soul. En outre dans cette série, Co-Soul mettra en vedette la chanteuse Dessy DiLauro, anciennement de Bullfrog (et choriste chez Dubmatique).

Si l'aménagement physique de l'aire du Festival ne sera pas modifiée cette année, la fête extérieure présentera un visage différent. Le Parc des Festivals (angle de Maisonneuve et Bleury) deviendra le plancher de danse par excellence du FIJM, puisque la scène Bleue Dry y accueillera la série Tropiques Bleue Dry (19 h 30 à 21 h), suivie des Shows Funky Bleue Dry (22 h).

Les changements prévus à l'horaire impliquent aussi la série Rendez-vous du Maurier, qui démarreront à 18 h 30 au lieu de 19 h sur la scène Place du Maurier (coin Président-Kennedy et Jeanne-Mance) et réserveront une place de choix au jazz fusion. Les Révélation du Maurier se poursuivront sur la même scène à 21 h. Autre réforme au menu du 19^e FIJM, on a remis l'accès gratuit aux Spectacles Labatt Blues, présentés au Spectrum à minuit trente.

Par ailleurs, le commanditaire Tropicana partagera une scène avec la Société Radio-Canada (angle Président-Kennedy / de Maisonneuve) ; on y accueillera les Soirées Radio-Canada (20 h) et le Club Tropicana (22 h), séries consacrées aux formations d'ici. Autre scène nouvellement arrivée sur les lieux, la Terrasse du Casino de Montréal sera située en haut de l'esplanade de la Place des Arts ; on pourra y entendre du blues et du folk acoustiques lors des Brunnantes du Casino de Montréal (20 h).