



## MU DEDICATES A MURAL IN TRIBUTE TO OLIVER JONES *The Jazzman in Little Burgundy for his 80th birthday*

**Montreal, September 9, 2014** —Dr Oliver Jones started celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary (September 11th) early today by dedicating a spectacular new mural paying tribute to his incredible 75-years career next to his birthplace in Little Burgundy. For the occasion, Mr. Benoit Dorais, Mayor of Sud-Ouest Borough, Mr. Denis Quirion, General Manager of Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) and many city officials were in attendance to hear the jazz maestro play. Produced by the charitable non-profit MU, the mural is located at habitations Albert (intersection of Lionel-Groulx and Georges-Vanier), in the heart of Montreal's Jazz history. This new mural is the eight of an ambitious series initiated by MU in 2010 and celebrating Montreal's own cultural icons.



Both renowned portraitists, street artists Dan Buller and Five Eight had the privilege to use photos from Dr Jones personal archives. Situated two blocks away from the Oscar Peterson mural (MU 2011), next to the Jazzmen park and furthermore, a block away from Dr Jones' birthplace, the mural's location was the perfect setting to come alive, rooted in a very active and mobilized community.

"I'm so very honoured to be given this wonderful mural in my likeness - it means so much to me that it's in my old neighborhood. My hope is that it will help to motivate the young people of the community to reach for their goals. You can achieve what you want in life. Don't give up - you can make your dreams come true", says Dr Oliver Jones.

# PRESS RELEASE

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“First borough to adopt a framework of action for mural art, Sud-Ouest is proud to be yet associated with another great **MU** artwork. We strongly believe that this type of initiative contributes to both upgrade quality of life of its citizens, as much as stimulate urban and cultural development”, says Mr. Benoit Dorais, Mayor of Sud-Ouest borough.

“This mural paying tribute to Oliver Jones will certainly give pride to habitations Albert’s residents. Internationally-acclaimed pianist, Dr Jones grew up in Little Burgundy and all through his prolific career, his birthplace inspired his work”, says Mr. Denis Quirion, general manager of Office municipal d’habitation de Montréal. “For eight years now, the Office municipal d’habitation de Montréal has been in close collaboration with MU, entitling the creation of 11 large-scale murals that all contribute to embellish and enlighten the life of the residents of our housing project communities, as well as for Montreal’s neighbourhoods”, he added.

This project was made possible through the participation and contribution of the Sud-Ouest borough, the city of Montreal (Opérationmontréal.net), the Office municipal d’habitation de Montréal, Benjamin Moore and Youth in Motion, where teenagers were given the opportunity to create a new mural within their walls through mural arts workshops offered as part as **MU** social arts educational programming.

For more information about the project: <http://www.mumtl.org/en/projects/hommage-a-oliver-jones-dan-buller-et-five-eight-2014/>

## About MU

MU is a charitable non-profit organization whose mandate is to transform Montreal's public spaces by creating murals that are rooted in local communities. MU's projects are designed to promote the democratization of art and local development. Over the past seven years, MU has produced 50 large-scale murals in 15 neighbourhoods, in addition to over sixty community-based projects

## For more info:

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