
City Council

Notice of Motion

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| MM32.27 | ACTION | | | Ward:All |
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Proclaiming Glenn Gould Day in Toronto - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council proclaim September 25 as Glenn Gould Day.

Summary

Glenn Gould is one of the most internationally revered Canadians ever. His 1955 Goldberg Variations is the best-selling classical piano record of all time. In addition to his more than 80 highly influential albums, there are 85 books in a dozen languages, more than 20 feature films, as well as plays, ballets, pop songs, and literally thousands of articles about Glenn Gould.

Glenn Gould's significance extends far beyond the realm of classical Music. Gould remains an international icon of creative innovation who, along with Marshall McLuhan, predicted and embraced the transformative impact of technology.

He was Canada's first cultural diplomat - the first Western artist to perform in the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War (1957). His playing was included on the celebrated Golden Record placed aboard the Voyager Spacecraft 40 years ago. Voyager, now 12.9 billion miles from earth, is the most distant man-made object from our planet. As the sole Canadian contributor to the Golden Record, Gould remains an enduring symbol of Canadian innovation and the embrace of the future, "the first Canadian in space."

This year, The Glenn Gould Foundation, based in Toronto, has reached out to partner groups to organize celebrations of Glenn Gould's 85th birth anniversary in the United Kingdom, France, Russia, Cuba, Spain, Italy, Poland, Japan, Switzerland, Germany and here in Canada. The Toronto Symphony will open its subscription series this year with concerts celebrating Glenn Gould.

It is entirely fitting for Glenn Gould's home to join with the rest of the world in celebrating this unique and beloved genius. This Motion recommends proclaiming September 25 "Glenn Gould

Day in Toronto.”

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM32.27