Denis Gougeon
Granby (Canada), 1951

Well-known in the Canadian musical scene, composer Denis Gougeon has more than 100 works to his credit, ranging from solo to orchestra, from concert works (piano, guitar, English horn, piccolo) to chamber music, as well as from the musical story to the ballet. Simultaneously sensitive, lyrical and imbued with tremendous dynamism, his music has gained him a reputation beyond our borders and garnered him numerous awards. A professor of composition in the Faculty of Music at the Université de Montréal since 2001, his path is punctuated by prestigious collaborations both on the Canadian and international stage. His great versatility has lead him to many collaborations with the theatrical milieu in addition to working with renowned ballets. Keenly sensitive to audiences of all ages, Gougeon has also composed works intended for the young audience and in collaboration with the legendary Gilles Vigneault, he created an original musical tale.

Voler comme un oiseau (2013)
For children's choir, recorder,
Orff instruments, boomwhackers
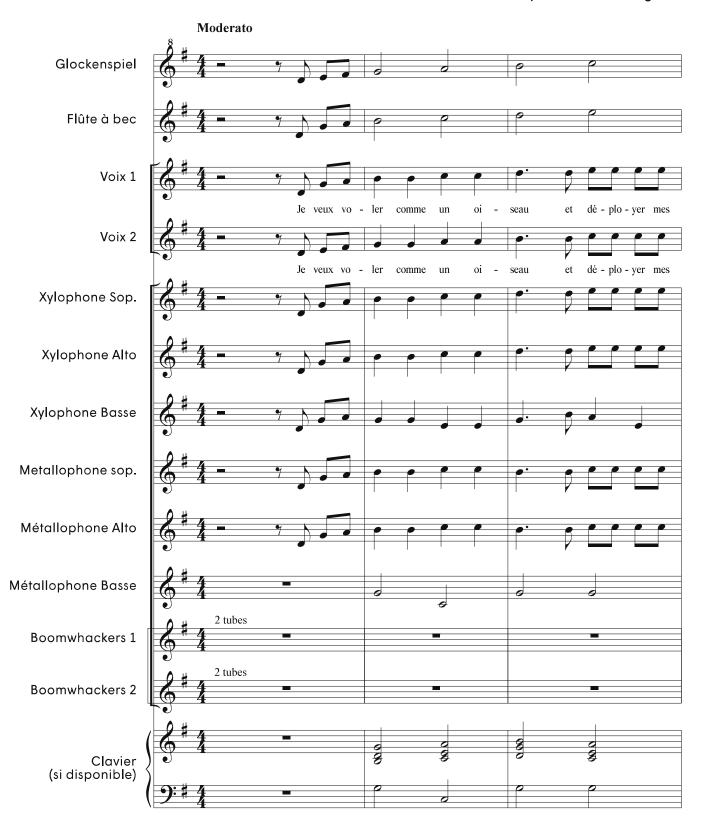## and keyboard

Presentation notes

Through his music, Denis Gougeon seeks to transmit to young people the sense of growing up and engaging fully with life. He desires that they work hard to maintain the hope and desire to realize their dreams, and especially, to never give up. Moreover, the flight theme is a wink at his own "crazy" youthful dream that he actualized by becoming a pilot at age 54. He explains: «to pilot requires one to be alert, to highly concentrate. It is the same thing when we compose. It is necessary to turn the key, step on the gas, ensure that everything is under control so that the music takes off. Then the audience can admire the landscapes and discover new ones.»

Text (free translation)

I want to fly like a bird and spread my wings,
Always go higher and to travel the sky.
I want to go to the end of the world and across the sea,
Fly every second, make tour the Earth
And like the bird who sings and flies so high
With all my friends, we shall reunite
To laugh, have fun and sing of our friendship.

Voler comme un oiseau

Paroles et musique : Denis Gougeon

Voix 1: Je veux vo - ler comme un oi - seau et dé - plo - yer mes

Voix 2: Je veux vo - ler comme un oi - seau et dé - plo - yer mes