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KCPT TO AIR DOCUMENTARY ON THE MAKING OF THE JULIA IRENE KAUFFMAN CASAVANT ORGAN, OPUS 3875

The locally produced film, "Kingdom Come: The Making of the Casavant Opus 3875," chronicles the pipe organ's design and production in Quebec to its hand assembly in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City

Kansas City, MO – KCPT-Channel 19 will air a locally produced documentary on the making of the <u>Julia Irene Kauffman</u> <u>Casavant Organ, Opus 3875</u> on Monday, March 16, 2016 at 9:00 p.m. The instrument was custom-built for the Kauffman Performing Arts Center which opened in September of 2011.

Produced and directed by the <u>Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation</u>, the documentary titled *Kingdom Come: The Making of Casavant Opus 3875* goes behind the scenes to chronicle the design, manufacture and unveiling of the organ.

The film traces the complex task to create a powerful custom-built pipe organ, known as "The King of Instruments," for a modern concert hall. It records the artistry and craftwork of the men and women at the Casavant Frères workshop in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec. The story follows truckloads of handmade parts arriving in Kansas City and documents the elaborate process to assemble the massive five-story support structure, delicate instrumentation and precise individual voicing of each of the organ's 5,548 pipes.

In addition to showing the making of the organ, the documentary features interviews with key people in Canada and Kansas City. With the instrument in place, the film records history in the making as world-renowned organist James David Christie takes the stage at Helzberg Hall to play the organ for the first time.

Ultimately, the film tells the story of a city's commitment to the arts and the imagination, invention, and careful human touch that inspires a creative legacy for musical artists and audiences to admire for generations to come.

The documentary was presented as a gift to Julia Irene Kauffman and her foundation, the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, the Kauffman Center staff and the Kansas City artistic community on behalf of the associates and board of trustees of the Kauffman Foundation.

WATCH THE TRAILER FOR THE DOCUMENTARY

ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN FOUNDATION

The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation is a private, nonpartisan foundation that aims to foster economic independence by advancing educational achievement and entrepreneurial success. Founded by late entrepreneur and philanthropist Ewing Marion Kauffman, the Foundation is based in Kansas City, Mo., and has approximately \$2 billion in assets. For more information, visit www.kauffman.org, and follow the Foundation on www.twitter.com/kauffmanfdn and www.facebook.com/kauffmanfdn.

ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts – a major not-for-profit center for music, opera, theater and dance designed by Moshe Safdie – opened in 2011. Serving as a cultural cornerstone for Kansas City and the region, the Kauffman Center delivers extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences. Honored as one of the World's 15 Most Beautiful Concert Halls, the Kauffman Center attracts some of the world's most renowned performers and entertainers.

Through educational outreach programs and community enrichment, the Kauffman Center supports Kansas City as a cultural destination. More information on the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is available at <u>kauffmancenter.org</u>.

Follow the Kauffman Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to get details about upcoming performances and behind-the-scenes access.



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