Classical Sonic SensationsTake the Stage

Klosters Music Festival August 2-6, 2017

Klosters, Switzerland May 29, 2017- the Klosters Music Festival Association announces its inaugural Klosters Music Festival this August 2 - 6, 2017.  The performances will be in various venues around Klosters Platz and the festival has secured some of the most inspirational musicians of our time for what promises to be a veritable feast of music making in a glorious Alpine setting.

Renowned for his tremendous vision and energy while serving for three decades as the Managing Director of the British Philharmonia Orchestra, David Whelton, now the Klosters Music Festival Artistic Director, puts his stamp on the Festival by bringing the world’s best to the stage in Klosters.

“Klosters is the perfect backdrop for these artists," says Whelton. "The surroundings will provide audiences with an intimate musical experience amid breathtaking natural beauty."  Whelton continues, “And each musician is magnificent in their own right.  It just happens that everyone including Håkan Hardenberger and Maurice Steger were available at the same time and we are able to provide this unique combination of talent and fame.”

The Festival is pleased to present Håkan Hardenberger, who is universally regarded as the best trumpeter in the world and he will perform with his superb Malmö Symphony Orchestra.  Hardenberger crosses all musical boundaries, combining the genres of classical music, jazz, new music and improvisation.

Also known as the cleanest, subtlest trumpeter on earth, Hardenberger is said to come eerily close to imitating the human voice, a soprano with no verbrato in absolutely pure tones.  Together, Hardenberger and the Malmö Symphony Orchestra will take you on an unforgettable journey suggesting any number of metaphors as they ride with ease through the dizzyingly fast repeated notes and quick changing colours.

Hardenberger who is pleased with the “old and new” aspect of the festival says “A new festival amidst old mountains. Together with my old friends of the Malmö Symphony Orchestra we get to perform for a new audience in Klosters, juxtaposing Vivaldi and Beethoven with living composers like Dean and Börtz. The hills will truly be alive with the sound of music!”

And the Basel Chamber Orchestra will be giving a Barock Gala with the prestigious award-winning and world’s leading Block Flute (recorder) player Maurice Steger who will be performing masterpieces by Vivaldi and Bach.

Swiss born, Maurice Steger says, “Being surrounded by mountains always brings me tremendous joy and a huge boost of energy.  And when this feeling is combined with the inspirational and soulful work of Johann Sebastian Bach and Vivaldi played alongside the winners of the Pizzicato’s Supersonic-Prize and also nominated for the ICMA Music Award 2015, Basel Chamber Orchestra, that's when the magic starts to happen.”

And speaking of magic, another sonic signature all the way from Barcelona and soon to be in residence at the Royal Palace in Madrid, the world renowned, Cuarteto Casals will join the festival for "The Beethoven Experience“ in the perfect acoustics of Klosters very own St Jacob‘s church before embarking on their world tour.

“We are set to perform three of Beethoven's most powerful works: Opus 18/1 the slow movement of which we know from his sketchbooks was inspired by the 'Tomb Scene' from Romeo and Juliet,” says Cuarteto Casals viola player Jonathan Brown.  “Not to mention Opus 95, which, in its day, was deemed so radical that even Beethoven questioned whether it should be performed; and Opus 59/3 the crowning achievement of the three quartets dedicated to Count Razumovsky.”

Brown continues, “These stunning works performed in St Jacob’s Church offers an ideal setting for chamber music in which the audience will be able to experience these compositions as they were intended to be heard.  It will be a treat for both the audience and the Cuarteto.”

This fascinating and eclectic lineup of gifted performers includes the Lund Student Singers from Sweden, who have been coming to Klosters each Christmas for the last six years delighting audiences with their inimitable style of acapella.  This August, they will give a programme entitled "A Nordic Serenade“ together with other performances during the festival.

Lund Student Singers spokesperson, Oscar Necking, says “We take great pride in having been part of the Klosters Christmas concerts in previous years and the Lund Student Singers are delighted to be invited to perform in the first ever Klosters Music Festival. Our programme emanates from Scandinavian folk tunes with music by Grieg and Sibelius and we look forward to sharing some true nordic sounds with our audience and friends in August."

And the Festival wouldn't be complete without the sensational Swiss accordionist Viviane Chassot, who will be joined by her friends to present an eclectic programme ranging from Haydn and Dvorak to Piazolla along with with a few surprises in between."

Viviane Chassot‘s performances in the major concert halls of London, Berlin, New York and Vienna have drawn admiration and enthusiasm from leading music personalities including Sir Simon Rattle, Heinz Holliger and Alfred Brendel.

“The accordion has its roots in folk music,” says Chassot. “And is the perfect fit for this wonderful alpine world of Klosters. Our program has been specially selected for this location and it includes the simple Volksmelodie originating from a cross section of cultural influences like the Bohemian folk song, the mesmerising music of the Hungarian sages, the passionate Tangoklängen from the streets Buenos Aires to the most popular folk music of Switzerland.”

Each day, in the Festival tent opposite the Klosters Platz Railway Station, the Festival will showcase some of the best musicians from the Grisons canton including Swiss folk and Jazz.  In addition, the Brass Quintet from the Royal College of Music, comprised of five brilliant young players, will play a varied and lively programme of popular classics in the tent as well in locations across Klosters.

“There is always a certain amount of risk in programming such an exciting and startling palette of music for a festival and the audience is definitely in for a huge surprise,” says festival President and Co-Founder Geoff Richards. “However, curated under the watchful eye of David Whelton, who believes the listener should be given the opportunity to savour the collision of multiple musical worlds while at the same time be able to experience the underlying classical coherence.”

Co-founding festival partner, Claude Schauerte further comments, “It’s a spectacular and innovative mix of talent and we all agreed that the signature of an unforgettable music festival is unity in diversity and continuity amid flux. And, maybe even Beethoven had the same idea 200 years ago."

In amongst the magnificent food and hospitality Klosters has to offer the festival has organised a bar which will also be available creating an informal and relaxed atmosphere perfect for outdoor music making in Klosters.

As of this summer, a Music Festival of international standing will further establish the name of Klosters in the musical world, in addition to enhancing its summer tourism. The Klosters Music Festival aims, with the best performances of both classical and contemporary music, to become one of e-concert best talks.

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TICKETS

Online Tickets are on sale now.

klostersmusicfestival.ch

(choose your own seats and print out your tickets yourself)

Advance ticket sales office

Tickets are available at Klosters Tourist Office (Alte Bahnhofstrasse 6) as well as at Davos Tourist Office (Talstrasse 41).

Ticket Sales by Phone: 0900 091 091

(CHF 1.19 / min., fixed rate, Monday through Sunday)

Evening box office

Remaining tickets, if available, can be bought 45 minutes before the beginning

of the event.

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