

PRESS RELEASE

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS KLOSTERS, 16 to 18 December 2022

The Friday concert at the Silvretta Parkhotel will be, as usual, a more intimate evening with a chance to see all of our artists up close and personal. The programme will feature Christmas carols as well as some shorter classical works.

On Saturday evening at the Church of St. Jakob, the artists and soloists will have their chance to shine. RCM vocal stars Charlotte Bowden (soprano) and Dafydd Jones (tenor) will share the stage with instrumental soloists such as the Swiss harpist Elisa Netzer, the French clarinetist, Méline Le Calvez and British trumpeter, Ruby Orłowska. The string quartet are Swiss violinist David Nebel, Turkish violinist Elif Ece Cansever, Japanese violist Otoha Tabata, and British' cellist Max Calver. Hamish Brown will return as our pianist.

The highlight of Saturday evening will be the world premiere of Swiss composer Tobias Krebs' commissioned work for Organ, String Quartet and Choir inspired by the SOUNDS OF KLOSTERS. Speaking of Choirs, on Sunday's Christmas Concert at the Church of St. Jakob Klosters' favorite ensemble, THE LUND SWITZERLAND SINGERS, as well as the KLOSTERS LONDON SINGERS will close the weekend with an evening of Christmas spirit and joy. As per tradition, the programme will include Christmas carols where the audience can sing along, as well as a selection of joyful and sacred repertoire that is appropriate for the season. The choirs will also perform on Friday and Saturday.

Tickets sales for members will start on November 1st, 2022. Public sale: November 15th, 2022

Available via website www.weihnachtskonzerte-klosters.ch/en/tickets or personally at DDK Klosters and Davos.

Bios of the artists:

STEPHEN JOHNS, Artistic Director

Artistic Director Stephen Johns studied music at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was organ scholar. Trained at Abbey Road Studios, he has spent over thirty years in the recording industry as a classical record producer. He worked for EMI Classics from 1998, taking the role of Vice-President, Artists and Repertoire, in 2008.

Stephen has worked with artists including Sir Simon Rattle, Bernard Haitink, Sir Antonio Pappano, Evgeny Kissin, Msitslav Rostropovich, Kyung Wha Chung, Jonas Kaufmann, Diana Damrau, Emmanuel Pahud, and ensembles including the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, the Berliner Philharmoniker and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

Recordings he has produced have received numerous international accolades including four Grammy Awards and five Gramophone Awards. Stephen joined the Royal College of Music in 2010 in the newly created role of Artistic Director, where he is responsible for overseeing more than five hundred performance events each year at the College and around the world.

FELIX BAGGE, Conductor

Felix Bagge is a conductor with his degree from the Swedish Royal College of Music in Stockholm. He was the assistant conductor for the LUND STUDENT SINGERS many years and has been the musical director for the Klosters triple quartet since the start in 2011. He made his opera debut at Norrlandsoperan 2018 and is the conductor and musical director of the Stockholm Home Guard Band since 2019. Earlier this year he conducted the Royal Swedish Army Band at the opening of the Swedish Parliament. Besides his musical career, Felix is also a radiologist with his medical degree from Lund University.

TOBIAS KREBS, Composer

Tobias Krebs (*1993) is a Swiss composer and classical guitarist. After having studied from 2012-2017 at the Hochschule für Musik Basel (CH) he continued his studies at Det Jyske Musikkonservatorium in Aarhus (DK) in the Master for Contemporary Music. His works include performances for various solo instruments, small and larger ensembles, choir, orchestra and music for theatre. His pieces have been performed by ensembles in Switzerland and Europe and he has been awarded prizes from prestigious composition competitions. In addition to his keen interest in performing contemporary music, he also regularly performs concerts of «traditional» classical music from Renaissance to modern times.

CHARLOTTE BOWDEN, Soprano

Charlotte has recently appeared as Barbarina in the production of "Le nozze di Figaro" for the Glyndebourne Festival and Tour, in which she also covered the role of Susanna. She made her Wigmore Hall debut as Orfeo in Handel's "Parnasso in festa" and was a finalist in the 2022 Kathleen Ferrier competition. She has performed at venues including the Royal Albert Hall, Wigmore Hall, Royal Festival Hall, among other. Other operatic performances include Susanna (OHP Young Artist cast), Gretel (British YouthOpera/Silent Opera and RCM Opera Studio), Pamina (RCM Opera Studio), and Flaminia Il mondo della luna (RCM Opera Studio). She is an alumna of the RCM Opera Studio, Verbier Festival Atelier Lyrique, and Glyndebourne/Jerwood, Britten-Pears young artist programmes.

DAVYDD JONES, Tenor

Welsh tenor, Dafydd Jones, is studying for a Masters degree at the Royal College of Music, London. Dafydd won the Brooks-Van der Pump English Song Competition and was runner up in the Joan Chissell Competition at the Royal College of Music. At the College, Dafydd has also won the Lieder Competition, and was also Runner Up in the College's Lies Askonas Competition. In 2021, Dafydd won the Prix Thierry Mermod at the Verbier Festival. Operatic roles include Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni (OPRA Cymru), Pastore in L'Orfeo (Garsington Opera), Clotarco in Armida (Bregenz Festival), Monostatos in Die Zauberflöte (RCM International Opera Studio) among many others.

Méline LE CALVET, Clarinet

Méline studied in Paris before coming to London, where she is currently studying at the Royal College of Music for a Master of Performance. She is very grateful to be a RCM Scholar. Enthusiastic and curious clarinet and bass clarinet player, she also studies historical clarinets. Méline is a member of the Thea Trio and has a great passion for playing both chamber and orchestra music. She is part of the LPO's Foyle Future Firsts programme 2022/23 and she has enjoyed playing as a freelance musician with the English National Opera Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra and Royal Opera House Orchestra to name a few. Together with the Theatre Company Les Engivaneuses, she works on combining music, dance and theatre.

ELISA NETZER, Harp

Elisa Netzer is one of Switzerland's leading young harpists. In recent years she came under the spotlight of the international music scene by being the first harpist to ever give a solo recital in the prestigious Lucerne Festival, representing Switzerland at the World Harp Congress in Hong Kong, and publishing her debut album "Toccatà" for the Naxos international label with an enthusiastic reception from public and critics. Elisa is an appreciated chamber musician and appears regularly with the OSI Orchestra and Tonhalle Orchester Zürich. Since 2016 Netzer is host of the classical music program "Paganini" aired on the national Swiss TV (RSI).

RUBY ORLOWSKA, Trumpet

British trumpeter Ruby Orłowska achieved her BMus(Hons) and her MMus(Perf) with a distinction from The Royal College of Music (RCM). Since childhood, Ruby immersed herself in music and the local theatre scene playing lead trumpet for musicals such as Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables and Jesus Christ Superstar. Through her education at The RCM, Ruby became interested in contemporary music and 20th Century repertoire. Ruby freelances with major UK Orchestras and is also Principal Trumpet of The Bath Festival Orchestra.

DAVID NEBEL, Violin

David Nebel - a name to remember! This young violinist from Zurich has a flawless, stupendous playing technique and an immensely impressive musical intelligence" (Fono Forum, 2020). David Nebel is in demand as a soloist, combining technical brilliance with mature musicality and an unmistakable tone. Highlights of past seasons include performances and recordings with the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra, the Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra Royal Philharmonique de Liège and the Lithuanian National Philharmonic. Nebel has been a guest soloist in Festival all around the world. He is currently studying at the Royal College of Music in London.

ELIF ECE CANSEVER, Violin

Turkish violinist Elif Ece Cansever is currently a student at the Royal College of Music in London. Her studies are being generously supported by the Bowerman Charitable Trust Scholar and the Ian Evans Lombe Scholarship. She has participated in many masterclasses and was invited to perform for world renowned musicians such as Maxim Vengerov, Mincho Minchev, Alexander Markov, Guy Braunstein. Cansever performed as soloist in halls such as the Konzerthaus Berlin, Kurhaus Merano and at the renowned festival «Heidelberger Frühling». She is a current member and soloist of the prestigious youth string ensemble LGT Young Soloists. Elif Ece Cansever plays on a fine violin by Joseph Rocca 1848 and gratefully acknowledges its loan from the Royal College of Music in London.

OTOHA TABATA, Violin

Japanese violist Otoha Tabata performs internationally and across Europe and has appeared as soloist at the Wigmore Hall, the Concertgebouw, and the Queen Elizabeth Hall. She recently received 3rd Prize at Windsor Festival International String Competition, Promotion Prize at the Anton Rubinstein Viola Competition, and an Honorary Mention at the Oskar Nedbal Viola Competition. Otoha has been invited to perform in festivals including IMS Prussia Cove Open Chamber Music and Four Seasons Music Festival's Winter Workshop where she collaborated with artists such as Ani Kavafian, Ara Gregorian and Kwan Yi.

HAMISH BROWN, Piano and Organ

Hamish Brown is a British pianist, whose work includes performances as a vocal accompanist, chamber musician, orchestral pianist and soloist. Hamish read music at the University of Manchester, continuing with post-graduate studies under Simon Lepper and Roger Vignoles at the Royal College of Music, graduating with Distinction. He has won prizes at the Kathleen Ferrier Awards, Wigmore Hall Song Competition, Mozart Singing Competition and Somerset Song Prize. He has performed at Oxford Lieder Festival, Internationaal Lied Festival Zeist, Heidelberger Frühling, and live on BBC-Radio 3.

KLOSTERS LONDON SINGERS, Choir

The KLOSTERS LONDON SINGERS come together exclusively for the Klosters Christmas Concerts. Drawn from choirs in London and beyond, the female chorus is made up of performers experienced in a wide range of choral genres and styles. Their skill and versatility are highly suited to the intensity of the concert series in Klosters. The members of the Klosters London Singers work in a variety of occupations, including music performance and management and other professional careers. Their annual visit to Klosters is a highlight of their year, enjoying the warm welcome, the music, and the camaraderie in this beautiful village.

LUND SWITZERLAND SINGERS, Choir

LUND SWITZERLAND SINGERS is a triple quartet with members from Lund, Malmö, Gothenburg and Stockholm. All singers are, or have been, members of the Lund Student Singers. The choir, founded in 1831 and historically associated with the University in Lund, has become one of the oldest and most well-known choirs in Sweden. The twelve singers have different occupations, some within music but most within medicine, engineering, law and business.

The brochure with the detailed programme will soon be available in the Schauerte watch shop and on order via office@weihnachtskonzerte-klosters.ch.

Klosters, 4th October 2022/LO