

## A magical weekend of supreme Christmas music

**For 14 years the Klosters Christmas Concerts have risen each year to new heights and the well thought out and varied programme was quite exceptional last weekend.**

*Clair Southwell*

There was remarkable talent shown by the young musicians from the Royal College of London, the combined magnificent voices of the Klosters London Singers and the Lund Switzerland Singers and the premiere of the special composition "Palimpsestus" by Swiss composer Tobias Krebs.

The Lounge concert on Friday was a wonderful "gemütlich" evening in the Silvretta Parkhotel with performances carefully curated by Stephen Johns, Artistic Director of the Royal College of Music, London with every artist having their chance to shine. A delightful evening to start the weekend.

The concert in St Jakob's Church on Saturday was a more serious affair with Elisa Netzer dazzling the audience with her harp playing, fabulous clarinet and trumpet playing from Méline le Calvez and Ruby Orłowska. The Swiss violinist David Nebel, Turkish violinist Elif Ece Cansever, Japanese violinist Otoha Tabata and highly talented cellist Maxim Calver made up a RCM string quartet as well as doing memorable solo pieces on both the Saturday and Sunday nights. The fantastic Soprano Charlotte Bowden together with the brilliant Welsh tenor Dafydd Jones performed a selection of Brahms Zigeunerlieder accompanied by Hamish Brown on the piano to end the evening.



Claude Schauerte, Co-founder and President of Klosters Alpine Concerts with Linda Oswald and Monika Mark and the Artistic Director Stephen Johns. Photos: cs

On Sunday, as per tradition, the concert featured more choir, organ, and Christmas repertoire again with all the musicians performing together or solo. The audience helped raise the roof with Parry's Jerusalem and some of the traditional English carols conducted by Felix Bagge who we were delighted to have back in Klosters again. This truly memorable weekend of high-class music ended aptly with everyone singing the song O Tannenbaum. Thank you to Stephen Johns for all he does to make the Christmas Concerts such a success, to all the sponsors, advertisers and volunteer helpers, Hotels Alpina, Piz Buin and Silvretta, the concert manager Caterina Ciani, Vice President Monika Mark and Board Member Linda Oswald who put so much hard work into the organisation and finally, a

big thank you to Claude Schauerte, Co-founder and President who, together with the Board, has ensured these concerts bring together locals and guests to relish and appreciate an event that certainly celebrates the "Klosters Spirit".



Valued volunteers - Liane Alban (m) and Michael and Vanessa Muntinga.



Patrons and sponsors of the RCM travelled to Klosters for the first time to see their protégés perform - after a wonderful visit they already wish to return next year!



Räto Conzett, highly regarded patron of the Hotel Alpina was rightfully serenaded by the Lund Switzerland singers for his loyal support over the past 14 years.