



Our guest at the 15th General Assembly on Saturday, June 24, 2023, approx. 3.30 p.m., at the Hotel Steinbock, Klosters

MICHAŁ BALAS, cello

Born in Kraków in 2001, Michał Balas studies at the Musik Akademie Basel and at the Grażyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Łódź with Prof. Danjulo Ishizaki and Prof. Stanisław Firlej.

Michael is a soloist and chamber musician and frequently participates in international and national competitions. In 2021 he won the Grand Prize at the "Dominik Polonski Cello Competition" in Łódź. In the same year he was nominated by the National Institute of Music and Dance for the "Coryphaeus of Polish Music" award in the "Discovery of the Year" category.

In 2018 he won the first prize and a special prize for the best performance of a contemporary piece at the "Johansen International Competition for Young String Players" (Washington, USA).

Michael's most recent achievement is winning first prize and a special prize for the best performance of a work by a Maltese composer at the "Classic Strings Competition" (Dubai, UAE). This competition provides, among other things, a tour of 10 concerts with the orchestra in the coming months.

As a soloist he had the opportunity to perform with orchestras such as Sinfonia Iuventus, Südwest-deutschen Kammerorchester Pforzheim, Apollo Orchestra, Armenian Symphony Orchestra and the orchestras of Krakow, Swietokrzyska, Podkarpacka and Kaliska Philharmonic.

He had the privilege to collaborate at master classes with eminent personalities, e.g. Prof. Arto Noras, Prof. Lawrence Lesser, Steven Isserlis, Prof. Claudio Martinez-Mehner, Prof. Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt and many others.

He is a scholarship recipient of the LYRA Foundation and the "Young Poland" program. He has participated four times in the prestigious Morningside Music Bridge courses (Calgary-2015, Warsaw-2018, Boston 2017 and 2019).

He plays an instrument made by the French maker Michel Ange Garini in 1870.

More info:

<https://classicstrings.eu/news/polish-cello-michal-balas-wins-classic-strings-cello-competition.html>