

Christmas Concerts 2023

The Christmas Concerts will take place over the weekend of the 15th – 17th December. With 3 concerts, each producing quality classical music and performed by top artists, it will definitely herald an exciting start to the festive season.

Clair Southwell

Artistic Director, Stephen Johns, has worked on a presentation of a traditional mix of Christmas sounds and beautiful music to showcase the soloists, which will be combined with a special selection from the solemn ceremony celebrating the recent coronation of King Charles III at Westminster Abbey. The soloists, who hail from the Royal College of Music London, and beyond, have chosen music that is particularly close to their hearts, and which gives them the opportunity to perform in different combinations and styles to make music, one of the joys of performing at such an occasion.

The opening Lounge Concert on Friday evening will be at the Silvretta Parkhotel with a Flying Dinner and is always a more intimate affair with a chance to see and meet all of the artists up close and personal. The varied programme will feature Christmas carols as well as some shorter classical works. On Saturday, the concert will be in St Jakobs Church and will be a more formal evening of first-class classical music. Stephen Johns always selects music that fits into the beautiful surroundings of Klosters and its church with its impressive acoustics. You will enjoy the experience of music that is especially close to the hearts of the performers and is sometimes familiar, sometimes new, sometimes unusual, but always inspiring

and gets us in the mood for the festive season. The concert on Sunday, also in St Jakob's Church, is traditionally an evening of Christmas spirit and Joy including known carols that the audience can sing along with, as well as a selection of a joyful and sacred repertoire that is suitably appropriate for the time of year.

The musicians are booked, and they are very much looking forward to coming - some again, others for the first time. Almost all of the young talents study or studied at the RCM of which Stephen Johns is also the Artistic Director. Coming to Klosters for the first time are Maddie Boreham, a wonderful soprano, Christopher Michie, a top flutist, the cellist Marion Portelance (from Canada), Emmanuel Webb, violinist as well as the violist Hattie Quick (both from GB). Returning back to Klosters are the Swedish talented tenor soloist Theodore Ugglä, Clarinetist Méline Le Calvez, Pianist/organist Hamish Brown and gifted Swiss harpist Elisa Netzer. Naturally it would not be a Klosters Christmas Concert without the charming Felix Bagge and the equally charming and popular Lund Switzerland Singers from Sweden and the very glamorous Klosters London Singers from the UK.

There is so much to look forward to and the brochure with the detailed programme will be available in mid-November. Ticket sales have already started and can



Stephen Johns and his wife Jenny (also a singer) who is very skillful in stage management on how to fit the instruments and artists into position in the smallest possible space between works! Stephen is Artistic Director of the Royal College Music London as well as Klosters Christmas Concerts and has put together a very exciting programme for this year.

be purchased either via the website or at the Tourist Offices of Destination Davos Klosters. The Christmas Concerts would simply not be possible without the generosity of members and donors and if you would like to offer your support and become a member or a sponsor, please go the website www.weihnachtskonzerte-klosters.ch. where you can also find updated information on the concerts.



The Lund Switzerland Singers at the après party in the Hotel Alpina after the Saturday concert last year singing their farewell and thanks to Rätö Konzett who was always such a loyal supporter of the Christmas Concerts.

Pictures: cs



Hamish Brown, a collaborative pianist based in London, whose varied and award-winning work includes performances as a vocal accompanist, chamber musician, orchestral pianist and soloist. A bit in the background in the church at the concerts but plays an important role.