

KLOSTERS ALPINE CONCERTS (KAC)

16th General Assembly

Saturday, 22 June 2024, 5 pm, GRIZZLY's Bar, Hotel Piz Buin

Minutes

1. Welcome by the president

Claude Schauerte welcomes the members, sponsors and guests present at 5 p.m. on behalf of the Board of Directors and the KLOSTERS ALPINE CONCERTS organisation team. After the official part of the AGM, an aperitif will be served followed by a concert, so he will guide you through the event quickly but conscientiously. He noted that the invitations to the AGM had been sent out in good time and that all members had had the opportunity to download the relevant documents. Printed copies were also available.

No requests for changes or additions to the agenda had been received.

A total of 28 valid votes from members were present, and an absolute record: 52 cancellations were received.

2. Election of the scrutineers

As in previous years, Ueli Zürcher is proposed and elected. Claude thanks him with warm words for his great support over the past five years. Ueli is elected with a big round of applause and thanked.

3. Acceptance of the 2023 GA minutes / 2023 annual report

The Board of Directors asks for approval of the above documents, which were already uploaded to the GA website last year and are also available in print.

The minutes are accepted unanimously, thanks to the author Linda.

The annual report is also unanimously approved, thanks go to Caterina.

4. Acceptance of the 2023 annual accounts / discharge of the Board of Directors / auditors' report

Claude refers to the annual financial statements, which were distributed to all members present, and hands over the floor to Linda, who reads out the report of our auditor René Brunner.

The annual accounts were unanimously approved, and the actions of the Board of Directors were ratified.

5. Budget 2024

Claude explains that the budget was distributed to those entitled to vote upon receipt.

There were no questions and the budget was unanimously approved.

6. Elections

As announced a year ago, Linda is leaving the Board after 5 years of association activity.

Claude regrets this very much but understands her decision and wishes her and Ueli all the best for the future. She will continue to support the association in an advisory capacity over the coming months.

Linda receives a basket of delicacies from the Kesslerhof, which are of course also intended for Ueli, as well as two orchids, one from Mattias Brendle. She receives a big round of applause.

Monika Mark stepped down from the Board last November and was thanked at last year's concerts. Unfortunately, she had to cancel today's GA at short notice, but Claude would like to take this opportunity to thank her on behalf of the entire organisation and all those present for her many years of service. Monika also received a lovely gift basket from the Kesslerhof.

According to Claude, he has thus achieved his goal of ruling as a tyrannical autocrat in his own right in future. But joking aside: as already announced, he is allowed to nominate two well-known Klosters faces for election.

You can find a brief CV of Rätö Conzett on our website under "Board", and he also introduces himself. Adrian Sergi was unfortunately unable to attend today, further information about him can also be found on the website.

Both are elected with a big round of applause and Rätö is presented with a bottle of wine.

Our auditor, René Brunner, was elected for two years last year, so fortunately he will remain with us. Many thanks to him and his wife Silvia. Unfortunately, both of them could not be here today.

And Claude was elected President for two years last year, which means that he still enjoys the job and is happy to continue doing it.

7. Programme 2024

Claude hands over to Caterina, who delivers a message of greeting from Stephen Johns (in German!) addressed especially to our GA guests:

Once again we host an international line-up of musicians for the Klosters Christmas Festival this year. In a series of three concerts, we will hear music ranging from baroque to contemporary, solo to chamber to large choral works, reflective to exuberant! Our performers include the best of the young talent from the leading conservatoire in the world, the Royal College of Music.

Our singers this year come from Australia and Scotland. Soprano Georgia Melville, who starred in the RCM production of The Merry Widow this year, has also performed at Glyndebourne and at stages across the globe. Scottish bass-baritone, who also starred alongside Georgia Melville in the Lehar operetta (might we have their famous duet at Klosters this year?) is a frequent performer with orchestras and conductors including Thomas Zehetmair and Gianandrea Noseda, the latter at the Verbier Festival.

Our instrumental performers are Samantha Rowe, flute, and Lucia Porcedda, clarinet. Samantha, who comes from Cornwall in England, is not only a wonderful flute player, but also a singer, pianist and composer. Lucia Porcedda, from Italy, has studied in Rome, Paris and now in London. She has played with all the major symphony orchestras in London, and her collaborations have ranged from solo to chamber to projects with musicians and dancers, the the group "Dimensione Danza".

Once again we welcome a string quartet to our line up - with two return visitors, Emmanuel Webb and Hattie Quick, and two musicians new to Klosters - Deniz Sensoy and Clélia LeBret. This international line-up - UK, Turkey and France - will showcase both their ensemble skills and also their virtuoso performing.

Our special choir friends from Lund, Sweden, and London UK bring their well-known charm and style, and we also welcome back the Swiss star harpist, Elisa Netzer. Our pianists and organists this year will be Hamish Brown, well known to the Klosters audience, and English keyboardist, Eleanor Kornas, featuring for the first time. She followed Stephen Johns (by some years!) as organ scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, and later went on to study at the RCM. She is soon to be moving to a new post in the Conservatoire in Agen, France.

The programme will feature three main areas. On Friday evening, music to take us into the Festive Season, both light and serious, and a chance to hear the amazing skills of our young performers. As ever, the concert will finish with a christmassy toe-tapping arrangement for the whole ensemble.

On Saturday evening we will showcase our choirs and ensemble players. Choral works will include famous numbers from some of the great German oratorios, including Mendelssohn, Brahms and Haydn, along with new arrangements of Swiss songs. The concert will also feature operatic solos and duos, along with some show-stopping virtuoso solos.

Sunday afternoon takes us towards the Christmas season, with both traditional and new music for the season from around the world and featuring our wonderful choirs. The whole programme is once again devised and conducted by Stephen Johns. We look forward greatly to being with you once again, and thank you all for your support and warm welcome.

Claude thanks Cat, also for her valuable work and great commitment, and hopes to be able to work with her for as long as possible. Cat also receives a bouquet of flowers from Mattias.

8. Varia

Claude gives a brief review of the last concerts: The concert weekend was again a great success and Stephen Johns has once again put together a great and coherent programme. The musicians and choirs also gave excellent performances and all the concerts went smoothly and without incident. The concerts were also almost completely sold out.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express my sincere thanks and applause:

All those present, whose generous support makes the concerts possible in the first place.

Liane and her team (Liane receives a bouquet of flowers from Mattias)

Vanessa for her traditional mulled wine and sweets (Vanessa also receives a bouquet of flowers)

Johannes and Andreas Kasper, for the bookkeeping and annual accounts

Heidi and Mattias Brendle for their constant motivational and financial support

and Eva Waldburger, who has already taken on numerous tasks in the team.

Many thanks also to Heidi von Hohenzollern for her many years of financial and active support.

And to John Reisinger, whose help with the organisation in the church has been greatly appreciated for many years.

Also a big thank you to Clair and Coni and to the Klosterser Zeitung, who fully support our concerts.

Good news: current membership: 143

And one more note: For environmental reasons, the minutes of today's AGM will not be sent by post and will be uploaded to the GV24 website by July at the latest. Anyone who no longer has the link or would like to receive the minutes by post after all, please contact us.

Finally, are there any questions or suggestions? No questions were asked.

Claude Schauerte closes the 16th General Meeting of KLOSTERS ALPINE CONCERTS at 5.40 pm and invites all those present first to an aperitif and then to the concert with soprano Sophia Seemann and pianist Judit Polgar.

Klosters, 25.6.2024/LO