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A brilliant and lively concert by the talented and entertaining Janoska Ensemble.



Superb opening concert dedicated to Mozart & his love for Prague.

A stupendous opening to Klosters Music

Last weekend Klosters Music opened this year's concert series «Heimat. My Homeland» with real musical fireworks dedicated to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his love for the Bohemian city of Prague.

Clair Southwell

For the first time, the brilliant Czech conductor Jakub Hruša led the impressive Basel Chamber Orchestra, through a scintillating performance of Mozart's Symphony No. 38, the «Prague Symphony». This was followed by one of Mozart's greatest creations, his Piano Concerto No. 23 in A major. The concerto presented a complete contrast in mood and was played with great sensitivity and virtuosity by the French pianist Lukas Debargue one of the most interesting pianists of his

generation. Following the sparkling last movement, Lukas played an exquisite Scarlatti Sonata in A major a composer he feels very close to. After the interval, the Italian soprano, Giulia Semenzato, and the German bass-baritone, Hanno Müller-Brachmann, immersed the audience in the world of Mozart's operatic compositions with arias and duets from «Le Nozze di Figaro» and «Don Giovanni». Hanno captivated the audience with his powerful yet sensitive voice, and Giulia's warm and sophisticated soprano was an extremely moving experience. This wonderful opening concert ended with an encore of the well-known duet by Mozart «Là ci darem la mano» and naturally a standing ovation.

Klosters Music celebrated 1st August with a lively performance by the popular Janoska Ensemble from Bohemia, who staged a musical journey around the world

for the Swiss National Day with compositions by Antonin Dvorák, Roman Janoska, Astor Piazzolla, František Janoska, Freddie Mercury and the Beatles. The fact that this concert went off magnificently despite the absence of Ondrej Janoska due to a finger injury, bears testimony of the Ensemble's outstanding virtuosity and amazing improvisational talent. It was great fun, and the audience went home with a smile and a spring in their step!

Tuesday evening was devoted entirely to the magnificent music of the baroque and what a treat we had in store. The Zurich orchestra La Scintilla certainly lived up to their name with a spark right from the start with the Overture from Handel's opera «Alcina» setting the stage for the supreme French soprano Julie Fuchs. Baroque music has always been part of Julie's artistic life and it was obvious how much it touches her heart, and she dazzled the audience with her wonderful vocal qualities and talented, comic acting. For the encore Julie sang the «Air de La Folie» by Ramau and Handel's «Tu del ciel ministro eletto»; Julie showed she loves the freedom of this musical style by kicking her heels off! Also, to be mentioned is the concert master of La Scintilla, Anna Gebert who gave a brilliant performance of Vivaldi's «Violin Concerto in D minor». This was the most memorable evening and so special to have had Julie Fuchs in Klosters – we so hope she will be back again. Tickets are still available for tonight, Saturday and the closing night on Sunday with Cinema Paradiso.



Soprano Julie Fuchs totally wooed the audience with a dazzling performance aided by the orchestra La Scintilla.

Photos: cs

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