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# Klosters Music 2022

*Clair Southwell*

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Klosters Music will take place from 30<sup>th</sup> July – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and in line with the 800-year anniversary of Klosters, the program of nine concerts will take the audience on a fascinating journey through time and space.**

The performances will include works from the Renaissance, the Baroque, the Classical and the Romantic periods. In Atelier Bolt there will be an exciting encounter between music and literature and, Klosters Music will also recall the golden era of «Hollywood on the Rocks» with the famous musical «Singin' in the Rain».

Klosters Music has, after 3 successful annual festivals, already developed into a small but fine hotspot of classical music with national and international appeal. Once again, the exclusive concert series, which has become indispensable as a cultural and tourism factor for the region, will offer a programme with a superb cast next summer: a reunion with well-known masters of their craft, such as the pianist Sir András Schiff and the conductor Pablo Heras-Casado, among others. For the first time, the Munich Chamber Orchestra, the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg conducted by Riccardo Minasi, the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, the Ensemble Philharmonix, and the Hagen Quartet, known as a great performer of chamber music, will be performing. However, much can also be expected from the soloists: for example, soprano Nuria Rial, who specializes in Baroque music, will perform together with internationally acclaimed recorder player Maurice Steger, while the multi-award-winning violinist Arabella Steinbacher

and the technically and musically skilled pianist Francesco Piemontesi will be heard playing the great soloist works by Brahms and Schumann and orchestra. With the musical «Singin' in the rain», Klosters Music evokes the glamour of «Hollywood on the Rocks». The evening will take the audience back to those days when the star of the musical, Gene Kelly, danced on the tables of the hotel bar in the Chesa Grischuna. The Lucerne City Light Symphony Orchestra will play live music from the famous musical, which will be shown on the big screen. An exciting encounter between literature and music will be provided by the writer Alain Claude Sulzer and the pianist Oliver Schnyder, who will go in search of traces of Switzerland as a «pioneer in tourism» in Atelier Bolt.

## The Opening: Romantic Awakening

For the opening of Klosters Music 2022, the audience can look forward to an intriguing journey to romanticism and the sunny south. On this first evening, there will be a reunion with Pablo Heras-Casado, who conducts the Munich Chamber Orchestra, making their first guest appearance in Klosters alongside the technically and musically accomplished Ticino pianist Francesco Piemontesi.

The fascinating journey begins in Switzerland on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July with the overture to Gioacchino Rossini's Opera «William Tell». This work allows the eye to wander calmly over the impressive mountain landscape and develops into a turbulent experience with stormy passages, the dance of the cows and the well-known mounted attack. The overture is followed by Robert Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor, played by Francesco Piemontesi. The Ticino native combines



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accuracy with a richness of tone colour that traces every emotion of the music's soul. This makes him the perfect companion for exploring the depths of Schumann's work. With the «Italian» Symphony in A major by Mendelssohn, Italy's vibrant joie de vivre takes hearts by storm with turbulence, rapturous longing, and cheerful dancing. The southern sun unfolds its full power at the end of the evening.

### A Musical Journey through time at the founding site of Klosters

On the 4<sup>th</sup> August, virtuoso recorder player Maurice Steger, in dialogue with soprano Nuria Rial and the Basle-based La Cetra Baroque Orchestra Basel, allows the audience to immerse themselves deep into the history of Klosters: mystical sounds, the splendour of the Renaissance and the sensual worlds of the Baroque unfold 400 years of musical history in a wealth of tonal colours and effects.

First documented in 1222, only the Romanesque church tower remains of the original building of the former Premonstratensian monastery «Klösterli im Walt». However, the church dedicated to St. Jacob, the actual founding site of Klosters, still captivates visitors today with its unique atmosphere, which is further emphasised by the stained-glass windows surrounding Augusto Giacometti's «Jacob's Dream». Another gem is the baroque house organ from 1686, which continues to delight organists and listeners alike. The outstanding acoustics of the church and the magnificent Goll organ built in 2018, with its 28 stops make St. Jakob a unique venue for organ concerts, solo evenings, and historical music. Klosters Music pauses to enjoy the spirit of the founding years within its historic walls.



Maurice Steger is particularly excited about specially created programme in St Jakob's Church, and he says quote «The early baroque music of Monteverdi, Merula, Fontana and Castello could not spread more joie de vivre – a feast full of solid virtuosity! The anticipation of returning to Klosters is huge. For me, this is where relaxation and experiencing the breath-taking landscape are combined with the concentrated work on the music, feelings of home and enjoyment on all levels.»

Bild: zVg



The dynamic and acclaimed Spanish conductor Pablo Heras-Casado will open Klosters Music 2022 with the Munich Chamber Orchestra and the accomplished Ticino pianist Francesco Piemontesi.