

## Klosters Music 2022

**The fourth edition of Klosters Music (July 30–August 7, 2022) is themed «Zeitreise. A Musical Journey» and advance booking opens next week on the 1<sup>st</sup> March.**

*Clair Southwell*

Concertgoers can once again look forward to a top-class festival week with a total of nine fantastic events. This year's edition is themed «Zeitreise. A Musical Journey» which celebrates the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of Klosters. Artistic director *David Whelton* has put together a colourful programme featuring numerous masterpieces that will take audiences on sensual, baroque celebrations, to the Vienna of Mozart's time and, of course, to the spirit of optimism, but also to the dark emotions of Romanticism.

Klosters Music opens on 30<sup>th</sup> July with a concert by the *Munich Chamber Orchestra* under the baton of Spanish conductor *Pablo Heras-Casado* and begins with Rossini's Overture "William Tell" in a programme that captures the spirit of early 19<sup>th</sup> Century romanticism. Like the Munich Chamber Orchestra, Swiss pianist *Francesco Piemontesi* is also a first-time guest in Klosters and will perform Robert Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor, op. 54. Piemontesi combines accuracy with a richness of tone colour that traces every emotion of the music's soul. The evening ends with the «Italian Symphony» in A major by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy's which takes us across the Alps. The sky clears. The southern warmth immediately flows through your body as you listen to the first bars of this vibrant symphony.

On 31<sup>st</sup> July, the *Freiburg Baroque Orchestra* will also make a Klosters debut, conducted by *Gottfried von der Goltz*. Opening and closing with Händel's "Water Music" it will be a lavish baroque festival with *Francesco Corti* making Bach's Harpsichord Concerto No 1 in D minor BMV 1052 shine. An evening not to miss. The fireworks on the Swiss National Holiday will be provided by the seven boys of *Philharmonix* who know no stylistic boundaries for their highly musical mix. Most of them play with the Vienna or Berlin Philharmonic. Thus, they call their septet «*Vienna Berlin Music Club*»,

which also includes pianist *Christoph Traxler* and violinist *Sebastian Gürtler*. Here, each brings his own music, which he rearranges, embellishes with improvisations, and spices up a bit. This can be classics like Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart or Antonín Dvorák, but also the Australian folk song «Waltzing Matilda» which will resound in a completely new way. What better way to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> August!

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> August in *Atelier Bolt*, there is a musical-literary evening focusing on the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Switzerland, presented by Swiss author *Alain Claude Sulzer* and pianist *Oliver Schnyder*. The two friends will follow in the footsteps of traveling composers. Among others, works by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy and Franz Liszt, who explored Switzerland on several trips and found inspiration for their compositions there, will be heard. The author views the selected pieces of music by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (Songs without Words) and Franz Liszt (Années de pèlerinage: «Suisse») as atmospheric images.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> August brings top-class chamber music from Salzburg's *Hagen Quartet* who have just celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Despite their immense experience, routine is a foreign word for the ensemble. Curiosity and a love of experimentation are the hallmarks of the Hagen Quartet. In Klosters, the Salzburgers devote themselves to the «Hunting» Quartet by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and in Johannes Brahms' Piano Quintet in F minor there is an artistic encounter with pianist *Kirill Gerstein*.

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August there is a special concert in St Jakob's Church under the theme of «Journey through time» deliberately chosen by artistic director *David Whelton* to musically reflect the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Klosters. The renowned conductor and recorder player *Maurice Steger*, who grew up in Landquart, has put together a special programme for this concert in the church of St. Jakob, whose steeple is as old as the town, which goes back to the Middle Ages, but also includes virtuoso works from the Baroque (Aug. 4, «Innehalten»). Steger particularly likes the music of the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. With soprano *Nuria Rial* and harpsichordist *Sebastian Wienand*, who will play George Frideric Händel's Organ Concerto No. 13 in F Major «The

Cuckoo and the Nightingale» on the 330-year-old Köberle organ, Steger has invited highly musical companions for this special journey through time.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> August we celebrate Hollywood on the Rocks and this year's film concert «Singin' in the Rain», Klosters Music finally brings a little Hollywood to the mountains as it did in the 1950s, when leading actor *Gene Kelly* was a regular guest in Klosters along with other film stars. Whether he really danced on the tables of the bar in the *Hotel Chesa Grischuna* at that time, as is often read, the manager *Barbara Rios Guler* cannot testify: «I was a child at that time and was not allowed in the bar in the evening. I think the story is true.» In any case, she remembers the movie star as an extremely likeable person and an excellent skier. After the huge success of «Cinema Paradiso» on the big screen at last year's festival, this year the 70-piece *City Light Symphony Orchestra*, conducted by *Anthony Gabriele*, provides the live, perfectly timed soundtrack to «Singin' in the Rain». A touch of glamour moves into the tranquil mountain world. And Klosters once again becomes Hollywood on the Rocks.

The *Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg*, conducted by *Riccardo Minasi*, is another orchestra making its debut in Klosters on the 6<sup>th</sup> August. Opening with the overture of Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" before the Munich violinist *Arabella Steinbacher* performs the well-known violin concerto in D major, op.77 by Johannes Brahms. The evening ends with Joseph Haydn's final Symphony No. 104 in D major ("London") At the final concert on the 7<sup>th</sup> August, highly esteemed pianist *András Schiff*, an important constant at Klosters Music, celebrates his high piano art. His programme remains a surprise («A Reunion») but Schiff knows how to uncover new layers in every great work of piano literature and has Carte Blanche for the final concert of the festival.

This is a very brief summary of the fabulous programme planned and more details will follow in the coming months focusing on each concert and the artists. Meanwhile advance sales online and at the tourist offices in Klosters and Davos start on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Detailed information on the programme and ticket ordering: [www.klosters-music.ch](http://www.klosters-music.ch)