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### **Dear Friends**

## Dear fabulous and faithful Friends of the Gstaad New Year Music Festival

"From the singing voice to the spoken voice" - the title of this latest edition of the festival is not a trivial one - as it restores our own voice!

It was lost in December 2020 last year when the first Covid-related restrictions were placed on us for our vocal concerts. The spectre of risk of possible transmission by voice from lyric artists on stage to the first rows of our audience was used to justify the decision. The consequences for operas and for the lyric arts generally would have been dreadful had they continued.

In fact, it was the opposite which occured. A series of German studies showed that in all observed situations: theatres, operas and museums there were half of the risks for one person infecting another than in a supermarket! Edifying...

Nathalie Stutzman, the distinguished singer and conductor who has honored the festival with concerts in Lauenen and Rougemont recounted an absurd anecdote from a concert she conducted in Madrid that same month of December 2020. While she was conducting the orchestra, her solo singers had to perform... masked! The result: they were inaudible!

In fact, all these measures have caused a disaster for music over the last two years. For us, first and foremost, it resulted in the outright cancellation of our Festival on 18 December 2020! This, when the first concert was due on 27 December and almost all the costs related to the organization and the artists' fees had been paid! Many of the most interesting and innovative festivals around the world have not recovered. Despite all this, we have not given up and are delighted to be retaking the enchanted path of music with you! Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support.

This edition of the festival will be festive - even fantastic - with superstars and also with young discoveries of great talent who we are launching on the way for their careers, and who we then find performing with our friends at other festivals. Dinners and parties accompany after-concert celebrations, a beautiful tradition!

You are a wonderful group and I assure you that my work is devoted to making you the most entertained, interested, surprised, enthusiastic and fulfilled audience possible. Because you give me the joy and the honor, at this very festive time

of the year, to offer me your time and your attention, I can assure you that you are my priority as I consider each of my choices. And originality remains a requirement that justifies your interest. We do beautiful work with the Gstaad New Year Music Festival. We support marvellous artists - known and so far less so - by providing them with a stage and with patrons of superlative quality. We assert courageously that "without music, life would be a mistake" when our politicians seem in broad measure to forget it...

Please speak to those around you about our concerts, advertise this event which is your festival, support it by showing others the program of this magnificent edition! Laure and Illyria are there to respond to your questions and your requests. Jane, Marceau (our concert manager/régisseur) and Clélia will help me make sure everything "runs smoothly" and meets your expectations and those of the artists. I would also like to thank Cindy Schönrich and Manrico Iachia at the Gstaad Yacht Club for their unfailing loyalty, Philippe Gudin de la Sablonnière of Le Rosey for his support over the years and Daniel Koetser who kindly welcomes us at the magnificent Grand Bellevue. Thanks also to Gstaad Tourist office for their collaboration and to all those magical places that welcome us: the churches of Lauenen, Rougemont, Saanen and Gstaad. I am also very grateful to the Commune of Rougemont for its enthusiastic participation in the Festival. Finally, I would like to thank the Saanen Anzeiger and Gstaad Life for their contribution to the prestige of our Festival and most especially Mr Antoine Turzi, Regenlab, for being from the beginning a faithful support.

As the Festival approaches, my thoughts turn to the late Philippe Foriel-Destezet who did so much with his generosity, elegance, discretion and finesse to allow us to reach this 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the festival. He will be sorely missed. And I also have cherished thoughts for our dear friend Florence Tari, always so positive, warm and wonderful. They will remain in our hearts at every concert.

By the time you read this Christmas will probably be behind us, but as I write it is fast approaching; so allow me to wish you a very Happy Christmas in joy, in peace and happiness.

With all my affection, believe dear Friends in my sincere gratitude for what you do for music and the musicians, and in my warmest wishes for a serene and music-filled 2022!

Caroline Murat



**SUNDAY 2 JANUARY 2022 7 p.m.** Église de Rougemont **Voice Project Pretty Yende, soprano** Natalia Morozova, piano

**MONDAY 3 JANUARY 2022** 7 p.m. Église de Rougemont **Voice Project** Marina Rebeka, soprano Mathieu Pordoy, piano

**WEDNESDAY 5 JANUARY 2022** 7 p.m. St Niklaus Kapelle Gstaad **New Talent** Parker Ramsay, harp



sopranos

**SATURDAY 8 JANUARY 2022** 7 p.m. Kirche Saanen **Voice Project** 

Celebrating Cole Porter and Erroll Garner From Broadway to Paris

**Edwin Crossley-Mercer, bass-baritone** Michelle Bradley, soprano Bruno Fontaine, piano

**SUNDAY 9 JANUARY 2022** 

4 p.m. Kirche Saanen

Pinchas Zukerman, violin Olga Sitkovetsky, piano

VYEAR

STIVAL

**SUNDAY 9 JANUARY 2022** 7 p.m. Gstaad Yacht Club

Closing Gala of the Festival - Voice Project Lecture de lettres extraites de la collection Anne-Marie Springer

**Introduction: Anne-Marie Springer (in French)** Narrator: Pilar de la Béraudière (in French)







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### Dear and loyal friends,



I am thrilled to be with you for the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Gstaad New Year Music Festival.

Your commitment to the Festival is vital and your support to music and art is essential.

My very best wishes for the coming year, I look forward to seeing you all at the wonderful events that await us!

Marie Gabrielle de Savoie Honorary Chairman of Club des Amis



Dear Friends

From the bottom of my heart I thank the generous patrons who, despite these troubled times, decided to support the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Gstaad New Year Music Festival.

This edition is probably one of the most emotional because the music is back after one year of silence.

We are all thrilled to welcome these exceptional artists. I let you discover quite a huge and fantastic program in the next pages!
We look forward to seeing you again in snowy Gstaad

Kind regards, Jean-Sébastien Robine Chairman of the Club des Amis

### UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF H.S.H. PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO

Gstaad New Year Music Festival

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This concert has been

the extreme generosity,

### 27.12

### MONDAY 27 DECEMBER ÉGLISE DE ROUGEMONT - 7 P.M.

### **Opening Concert - Voice Project**

THE NEW STAR OF THE MET

Angel Blue, soprano
Natalia Morozova POSTPONED
Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

• Clair de Lune

### Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

- Mandoline, from Cinq Mélodies de Venise op. 58
- Fleur jetée (Melodies)

### Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

- Morgen
- Befreit, op. 39 N° 4
- Cäcille



### Sergueï Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

- Ne poy krasavitsa primne (Sing not to me, beautiful maiden)
- Zdes' khorosho (How peaceful)
- V molchan'i nochi taynoy (In the Silence of the Secret Night)
- Vesenniye vody (Spring Waters)

### Lee Hoiby (1926-2011)

- The Lady of the Harbor
- Winter Song
- There came a wind like a bugle

### Pietro Yon (1886-1943)

• Gesu Bambino

Christmas carol by Franz Xaver Gruber, lyrics Joseph

Mohr: Stille Nacht

Robert Wells and Mel Tormé : The Christmas Song

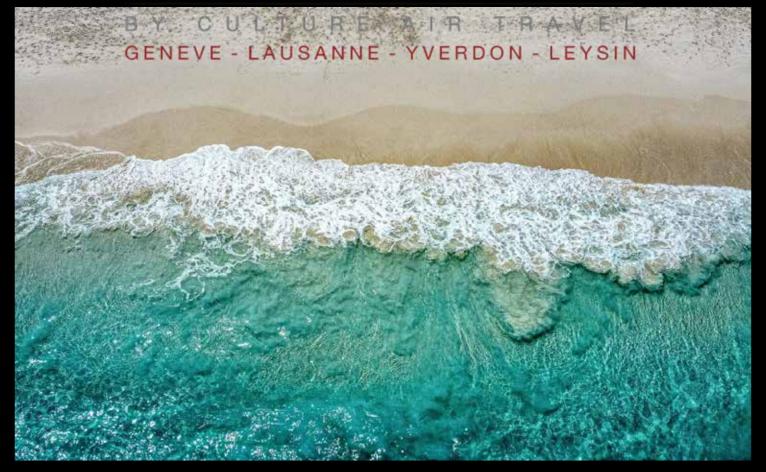
**Spiritual**: Deep River, Ride on King Jesus



Natalia Morozova, piano

Angel Blue, soprano





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Spécialistes du voyage haut de gamme mais pas seulement, nos conseillers mettent à votre disposition leurs nombreuses années d'expérience afin de répondre aux demandes les plus exigeantes, en grande partie grâce à notre partenariat avec Virtuoso, réseau regroupant les meilleurs partenaires de Voyages Luxe du monde.

À votre service au sein de nos espaces à Genève, Lausanne, Yverdon-les-Bains et Leysin, confiez-nous l'organisation de Vos plus belles semaines de l'année, VOS VOYAGES sont notre passion!







### TUESDAY 28 DECEMBER LAUENENKIRCHE - 6 P.M.

### Voice Project - Opening Gala of the Festival

### GIULIETTA E ROMEO \ 2021 ANNÉE NAPOLEÓN

Zingarelli's Giulietta e Romeo was Napoleon favorite opera, and the famous castrato, Girolamo Crescentini, performing Romeo, his favourite singer! Luigi Boccherini Stabat Mater was dedicated to Lucien Bonaparte.

The Festival would like to thank Mr and Mrs Patrice Féron Mr and Mrs Michel Jouven Mrs Chahrazad Rizk **Count and Countess** Alain de Saint-Côme for their precious support.

### Adèle Charvet, mezzo-soprano Il Giardino d'Amore directed by Stefan Plewniak

### Luigi Boccherini (1743-1805)

- String Quintet in D Minor, op. 25 N° 1
- I. Larghetto
- II. Allegro

### Niccolò Antonio Zingarelli (1752-1837)

• Adora i cenni tuoi from Giulietta, e Romeo (1796)

### Luigi Boccherini (1743-1805)

 String Quintet in D Minor III. Minuetto con moto IV. Rondeau. Allegretto

### Niccolò Antonio Zingarelli (1752-1837)

• Qual improvviso tremito! from Giulietta, e Romeo A.C.

### Luigi Boccherini (1743-1805)

- String Quintet in A minor, op. 25 N° 6
- I. Allegro non molto
- II. Minuetto

### Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

• Giusto ciel, in tal periglio! from Maometto II. A.C.

### Luigi Boccherini (1743-1805)

• String Quintet in A minor, op. 25 N°. 6 III. Largo cantabile IV. Finale. Allegro giusto

### Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

• Una voce poco fa from il Barbiere di Siviglia.



Adèle Charvet, mezzo-soprano



Stefan Plewniak, violin & conductor



PAULINE VIARDOT (1821–1910), MEZZO SOPRANO, PIANIST, COMPOSER AND TEACHER.

Franz Liszt: "in Pauline Viardot, the world has finally found a woman composer of genius."

Born in 1821 to a Spanish opera family living in Paris, Pauline Viardot was taught piano and singing by her father, the great tenor and composer Manuel Garcia; the first Count Almaviva in Rossini's opera The Barber of Seville.

As a young girl, Pauline traveled with the family to New York where her father, mother, brother (Manuel Garcia Junior, the baritone, great teacher and inventor of the laryngoscope) and her sister (Maria Malibran) gave the first performance of Mozart's Don Giovanni in the presence of the librettist Lorenzo da Ponte.

By the age of six Pauline could speak Spanish, French, English, and Italian. She took piano lessons with Franz Liszt and counterpoint and harmony classes with Anton Reicha, the teacher of Liszt and Hector Berlioz. She remained an outstanding pianist all her life and played duets with her friend Frédéric Chopin, who assisted her in arranging some of his mazurkas as songs. Her concert debut was as a pianist, accompanying the violinist Charles de Bériot, her brother-in-law.

Her father died when she was 11 and her wish to become a professional concert pianist was blocked by her mother, a soprano, who - after hearing Pauline sing Rossini - took her over voice lessons. Pauline's sister Maria Malibran died in 1836 and that year Pauline became a professional singer. Her vocal range was extraordinary: from F3 (F below middle C - Alto) to C6 (soprano high C). Her career was distinguished and successful on international stages from London to Madrid, Vienna, Prague, Dresden, Berlin, Leipzig, Baden-Baden and Saint-Petersburg. She inspired many other composers and also George Sand, especially in her work on Consuelo.

Pauline Viardot was the first Fidès in Giacomo Meyerbeer's grand opera in five acts Le Prophète (The Prophet) and was the first to take the title role in Charles Gounod's three-act opera Sapho. When Berlioz resurrected Gluck's Orfeo for the Parisian stage in 1859, he rewrote the title role for the diva Viardot. A decade later, Brahms chose her as the soloist for the public premiere of Alto Rhapsody for contralto, male chorus and orchestra which he had written as a wedding present for Robert and Clara Schumann's daughter.

After retiring from the opera stage in 1863 Viardot continued singing in concerts. She put significant time and energy into composing, writing hundreds of pieces - the majority of them songs for solo voice and piano - from texts by the Russian poets Alexander Pushkin, Afanasy Afanasyevich Fet, later known as Shenshin and Ivan Turgenev, her lover. She also wrote works for piano and violin, the instrument of her son, Paul.

From 1864 to 1874, Pauline Viardot wrote three salon operas to libretti by Turgenev, the last one Le Dernier Sorcier was orchestrated and performed in 1869 in Weimar Germany.

Then she wrote her own libretti for two more salon operas - Le conte de fées (1879) and Cendrillon (1904). They were mostly performed with piano accompaniment by her students and three of her other children at home or in Turgenev's country house in Bougival, west of Paris, which she bought and which is now known as Villa Viardot. Famous artists and composers including Fauré and Tchaikovsky came to the villa and saw the original manuscript of Don Giovanni which Viardot later gave to the Bibliothèque du Conservatoire de Paris BNF. The Villa has been restored to become part of the Académie de Musique du Centre Européen de Musique, a music and cultural project headed by the baritone Jorge Chaminé.

Pauline Viardot died at the age of 89 in May 1910 and is buried in the cemetery of Montmartre, Paris.

WEDNESDAY 29 DECEMBER PARK GSTAAD MONTGOMERY ROOM - 7 P.M.

### **Voice Project**

SALON OPERA CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF PAULINE VIARDOT (1821–1910)

### The Festival would like to recognize and thank Mr François Reyl, and REYL & Cie.SA for the organisation of this concert.

### Natalia Kawalek, mezzo-soprano Il Giardino d'Amore directed by Stefan Plewniak

### Pauline Viardot (1820-1910)

• Haí Lulí - song based on Chopin's Mazurka op. 24 N° 1 N.K.

### Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)

• Introduction & Tarantella, op. 43 for violin & ensemble

### Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

- La Cloche song for mezzo-soprano, dedicated to Pauline Viardot -N.K.
- Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso pour violon et cordes

### **Charles Gounod (1818-1893)**

• Boléro - song for mezzo-soprano dedicated to Pauline Viardot N.K.

### Pauline Viardot (1820-1910)

• Les Filles du Cadix - song for mezzo-soprano and strings N.K.

### Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908)

Gypsy Airs - for solo violin and strings

### Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

• Lydia - song for mezzo-soprano and strings dedicated to Pauline Viardot N.K.

### Pauline Viardot (1820-1910)

• Havanaise (C major) song for mezzo-soprano and strings. N.K.







Stefan Plewniak, violin & conductor



### THURSDAY 30 DECEMBER LE GRAND BELLEVUE - 11 A.M.

### **Voice Project**

**CELEBRATING** JEAN DE LA FONTAINE (1621-1695) & CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS (1835-1921)

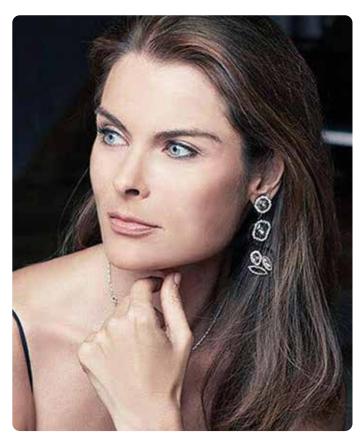


The Festival would like to recognize and thank **Leman Capital** for their loyal contribution.

### Natalia Morozova, piano Jacques Gay, narrator (in French)

Camille Saint-Saëns' "Carnaval des Animaux", transcription for piano solo. "Fables" from Jean de La Fontaine

Followed by a delicious three course lunch by Francesco De Bartholomeis in Leonards' restaurant





Natalia Morozova, piano

Jacques Gay, comedian, baritone



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### SATURDAY 1 JANUARY EGLISE DE ROUGEMONT - 6 P.M.

### **Traditional New Year's Day Concert**

### 1821-2021 HOMMAGE TO PAULINE VIARDOT

### Mélody Louledjian, soprano Giulio Zappa, piano Michèle Larivière, narrator (in French)

### Manuel Garcia (1775-1832)

• El corredor, Chansons espagnoles N°6

### Pauline Viardot (1821-1910)

- Waldeinsamkeit, sur un poème de Richard Pohl d'après Ivan Tourgeniev
- L'oiselet, arrangement de la Mazurka op. 47 en la mineur op.68 N°2 de Chopin sur un poème de Louis Pomey
- Ozhidanije (L'Attente), sur un poème d'Ivan Tourgeniev d'après Richard Pohl
- Разгадка (L'Enigme), sur un poème de Ivan Tourgeniev
- Hai Luli, arrangement de la Mazurka op. 24 N°1 47 en la mineur op.68 N°2 de Chopin sur un poème de Xavier de Maistre
- Floris (Sous ta noire mantille), arrangement pour voix et piano d'après les Chansons espagnoles N°3 de Manuel García, traduction de Louis Pomey
- Havanaise, thème populaire sur un poème de Louis Pomey
- Ta Chevelure, Chanson napolitaine, paroles de Vincent Des Loÿs

### The Festival would like to recognize and thank the Commune of Rougemont

and Mr Byron Bacciochi

for their long partnership.

### Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

- Mazurka op. 67 N°3 en Do majeur
- Mazurka op.67 N°4 en la mineur (Piano Solo)

### Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

• Air des Bijoux, extrait de Faust, acte II

### Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)

- Les Nuits d'été, sur des poèmes de Théophile Gautier, extraits :
- La Villanelle
- Le Spectre de la rose, Absence ou L'île inconnue

### Lectures, extraits

Quand la musique nourrit l'amour de Dietrich FISCHER-DIESKAU Correspondance entre Pauline VIARDOT et George SAND Lettres de Ivan TOURGUENIEV à Madame VIARDOT





### LE GRAND BELLEVUE

GSTAAD















### LE GRAND BELLEVUE

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### O2.01 SUNDAY 2 JANUARY EGLISE DE ROUGEMONT - 7 P.M.

This concert has been organised thanks to the

extreme generosity, marvelous vision and

wonderful support of Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, the great patron of music.

### **Voice Project**

### Introduction Michèle Larivière (in French)

### Pretty Yende, soprano Natalia Morozova, piano

### **Charles Gounod (1818-1893)**

• Roméo et Juliette - Ah, je veux vivre!

### Gustave Charpentier (1860-1956)

• Louise - Depuis le jour

### Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)

• Lucia di Lammermoor - Regnava nel silenzio

### Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

• Rigoletto - Caro nome

### Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

• La traviata - È strano

### Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)

• Don Pasquale - Quel guardo il cavaliere ... So anch'io la virtù magica

### Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

• Canções da Floresta do Amazonas -Melodia sentimental

### Ernani Costa Braga (1888-1948)

• Canções nordestinas do folclore brasileiro -Engehno novo

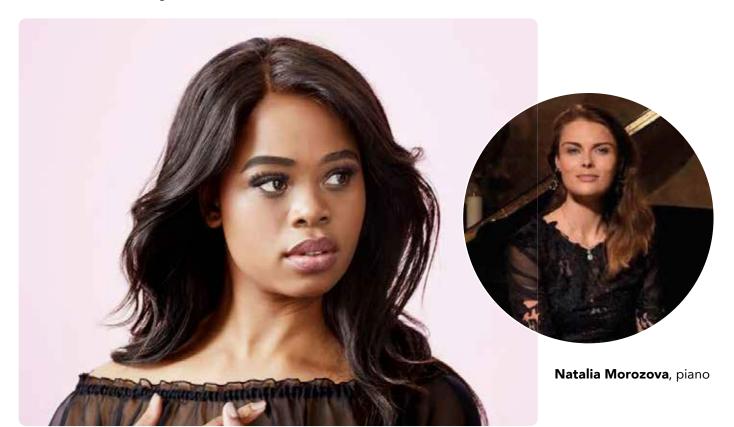
### Joaquin Rodrigo (1901-1999)

Cuatro madrigales amatorios

- Con que la lavaré
- Vos me matastes
- De donde venís, amore
- De los alamos vengo, Madre

### Gerónimo Giménez (1854-1923)

• Me llaman la primorosa - El barbero de Sevilla



# Yes, you've heard of us. That's only the start. Finish a day of skiing in Gstaad by returning to your luxe private suite or residence, and we'll take it from there. Experience the service of a 5-star superior hotel within the privacy of a chalet setting. This is life savoured to the fullest.

### MONDAY 3 JANUARY EGLISE DE ROUGEMONT - 7 P.M.

### **Voice Project**



This concert has been organised thanks to the extreme generosity, marvelous vision and wonderful support of Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, the great patron of music.

### Introduction Michèle Larivière (in French)

### Marina Rebeka, soprano Mathieu Pordoy, piano

### Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

- In solitaria stanza
- Ave Maria (volgarizzata da Dante)
- Brindisi

### Francesco Paolo Tosti (1846-1916)

- Vorrei
- Visione

### Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936)

- Notte
- Nebbie
- Notturno (Piano solo)

### Cesar Cui (1835-1918)

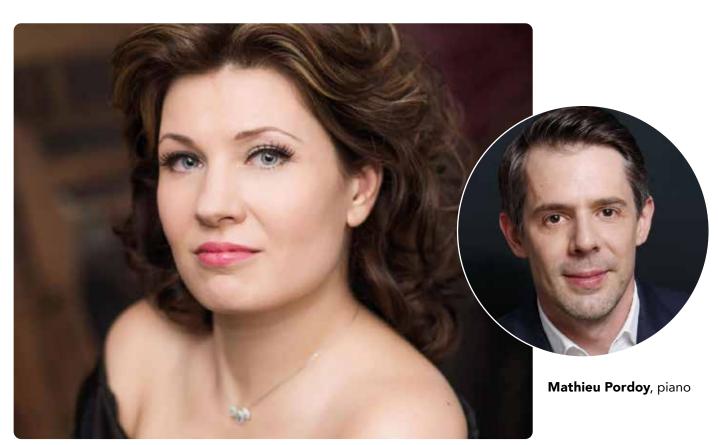
- Carskoselnaja statuja
- Kosnulas ja cvetka

### Piotr Ilitch Tchakovsky (1840-1893)

- Skazhi o chom v teni vetvej
- Zabyt tak skoro
- Den li tcharit

### Sergueï Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

- op. 38 N° 1 In the night in my garden
- op. 38 N° 3 Margaritki
- op. 34 Dissonans
- op. 14 Vesennie vody





BACH'S GOLDBERG VARIATIONS: A MAIDEN VOYAGE

"Bach was the greatest of musicians, the Homer of music whose light still shines in the European skies of music and who has, in a sense, never been surpassed," wrote German conductor and composer Wilhem Furtwängler. Together with his Well-Tempered Clavier, Mass in Biminor and the incomplete musical work of unspecified instrumentation written in the last decade of his life, The Art of Fugue, The Goldberg Variations are one of the musical legacies that Bach brought to the immense cathedral of his work. While the Variations were originally written for the harpsichord, they have been transcribed, played and recorded on many instruments.

### The most famous cantor of St Thomas' Church in Leipzig

At the age of 38, Bach was already acclaimed as an organist and was chosen to succeed Johann Kuhnau to the prestigious post of cantor (someone who leads people in singing) at St. Thomas' Church in Leipzig. He lived in the commercial, Lutheran and music-loving city for 27 years. It had one of the most prestigious publishing centers and one of the best universities in Germany.

His work as cantor was no easy task and required considerable songwriting and teaching tasks. Bach gave music lessons to students at the school next to the church and he was responsible for the sacred music programs. He wrote a new cantata every week while still finding the time for his other work.

### The genesis of the Goldberg Variations

Published in Nuremberg in the fall of 1741, this work, in which Glenn Gould saw neither beginning nor end, is part of Bach's last creative decade. He called it Aria with different variations for two-keyboard harpsichord. Why are they known as the Goldberg Variations? This title, which appeared in the 19th century, courtesy of Johann Nikolaus Forkel, author of the first Bach biography in 1802 (On the life, art and work of Johann Sebastian Bach). Former Russian Ambassador to the Court of Saxony, Count Herman Karl von Keyserling had in his service the young

virtuoso harpsichord player Johann Gottlieb Goldberg (1727-1756). Tired of hearing the same pieces to distract his sleepless nights, the Count asked Bach to compose a new piece for him which Goldberg could play.

### An interior journey

The Goldberg Variations are part of the fourth and final part of Clavier-Übung (Keyboard practice). They go beyond a simple method of learning and open like a book.

Bach built a rigorous musical architecture that has been described as cosmic: aria and fifteen variations, fifteen other variations and a resumption of the aria. The work is rich in form, harmony, dance rhythm, expression and technical refinement. From a simple continuo bass - the one that serves as the canvas for the aria of the work - a dazzling musical universe unfolds. The starting point is an aria in the shape of a French sarabande in G major, with a simple, slow and largely ornamented rhythmic structure which appears in the Clavierbüchlein collection of keyboard music composed for Anna Magdalena, Bach's second wife. In addition to the division into two parts of fifteen variations, they are grouped into ten sets of three variations, following a contrapuntal gradation. After the launch of these thirty variations in which Bach uses all imaginable means to start from and return to the same point, we have a spiritual dimension of this journey which crystallizes many images, many joys and sorrows. What does Bach tell us? He tells us about the existential human quest to search an individual path. Life is a journey, from birth to death.

German poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe left this testimony: "When I hear Bach's music, I have the impression that I am witnessing the conversations of God with himself just before creation."

It was not until Beethoven wrote his 33 Variations on a waltz by Anton Diabelli (the Diabelli Variations for the piano composed between 1819 and 1823) that there was a return to Bach's peak in the genre of variations.

### WEDNESDAY 5 JANUARY ST NIKLAUS KAPELLE GSTAAD - 7 P.M.

### **New Talents**

### @ THE 16TH GSTAAD NEW YEAR MUSIC FESTIVAL

### Christine Mondon, narrator (in German)

Die Goldberger Variationen von J.S. Bach: eine initiatische Reise

### Parker Ramsay, harp

Nino Rota (1911-1979)

Theme from Romeo and Juliet

Hanus Trnček (1858-1914)

Fantasia on Themes from Smetana's Die Moldau

J.S Bach (1685-1750)

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988 (Transcribed for Harp by Parker Ramsay)

Goldberg Variations World Premiere Live



The Festival would like to recognize and thank Mrs Sana H Sabbagh for her generous support for this concert.







Mrs. Regine Sixt, Senior Executive Vice President of Sixt International - who is again generously supporting this year's 16<sup>th</sup> Gstaad New Year Music Festival - has created a special offer for the esteemed guests of the festival:

Friends of the Gstaad New Year Music Festival enjoy preferential rates, when booking their rental car under: www.sixt.com/gstaadnymf

Furthermore Sixt is pleased to offer their chauffeured service SIXT ride to the guests of the 15th Gstaad New Year Music Festival! To book your seamless transfer service, simply visit the website www.sixt.com ride and book your ride from Zurich, Geneva or Bern Airport to Gstaad - and enjoy the SIXT ride experience in more than 60 countries around the globe!

### 06.01

### THURSDAY 6 JANUARY LAUENENKIRCHE - 7 P.M.



### **New Talents**

### @ THE 16<sup>TH</sup> GSTAAD NEW YEAR MUSIC FESTIVAL

This concert has been organised due to the musical inspiration and generous contribution of Mr & Mrs Sven G.

# Willard Carter, ce POSTPONED Caroline Haffner, piano

### Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

• Suite Italienne (arr. Piatigorsky)

I - Introduzione: Allegro moderato

II - Serenata: Larghetto III - Aria: Allegro alla breve IV - Tarantella: Vivace

V - Minuetto: Moderato e Finale: Molto vivace The Suite italienne is one of several spin-offs from Pulcinella, the "ballet with song" that Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971) composed for the Ballets Russes.

### Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

• Divertimento (arr. Piatigorsky)

I - Adagio

II - Minuet e trio

### Nadia Boulanger (1887-1979)

• Three Pieces for Cello & Piano

I - Moderato

II - Sans vitesse et l'aise

III - Vite et nerveusement rythmé

Originally written for the organ, Nadia Boulanger transcribed the three pieces for cello and piano in 1914. A delicate opening is followed by a peaceful lament, while the finale mirrors the speed of life at the time.

### Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)

• Prayer from Jewish Life

I - Prayer

### Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

• Le Grand Tango for Cello and Piano Le Grand Tango is a single-movement piece that expresses the spirit of nuevo tango.









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### FRIDAY 7 JANUARY EGLISE DE ROUGEMONT - 7 P.M.

### **Voice Project**

Prize winners of the 16th Gstaad New Year Music Festival

### TRIBUTE TO CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS (1835-1921) ORGAN WORKS

The festival is a donor of the Rougemont New Pipe Organ

### Shayne Doty, organ

Edwin Crossley-Mercer & Festival Castel Artès present:

### Faustine Egiziano, soprano Cynthia Pelletier, soprano

### Johann Sebastian Bach

• Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541 S.D.

### François Couperin (1668-1733)

• Troisième leçon de ténèbres à deux voix (Tenebrae Readings for Holy Wednesday)

### George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

• De torrente in via bibet from Dixit Dominus

The Festival would like to recognize and thank Mr Dimitri Dogaev Mrs Maria Elvira Pardo-Le Grand for their generous contribution to this concert and their loyal support.

### Camille Saint-Saëns

• Prelude and Fugue in E flat major, op. 99 N° 3

### Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

- Sound the trumpets
- My dearest, my fairest

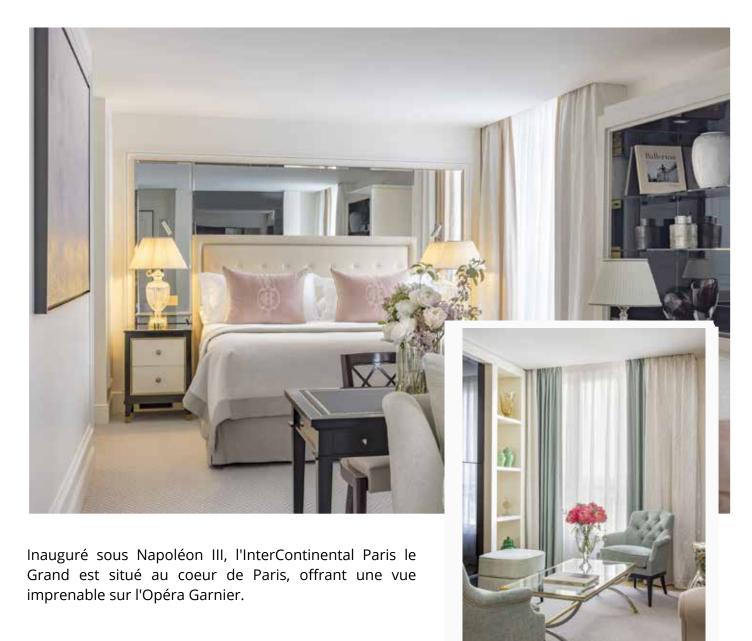
### Saint-Saëns

• Fantasie N° 1 in E flat major. S.D.



Faustine Egiziano, soprano





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The Festival would like to recognize and thank

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for their generous contribution to this concert

and their loyal support.

### SATURDAY 8 JANUARY KIRCHE SAANEN - 7 P.M.

### **Voice Project**

### CELEBRATING COLE PORTER & ERROLL GARNER

### Michelle Bradley, soprano Edwin Crossley-Mercer, bass-baritone Bruno Fontaine, piano

### George Gershwin

- He Loves And She Loves
- I Got Rhythm
- My Man's Gone Now
- I Loves You Porgy
- Summertime
- Let's Call The Whole Thing Off

#### Around Frank Sinatra...

- On the sunny side of the street
- Strangers in the night
- Fly me to the moon

### Rogers and Hammerstein

• Some enchanted Evening

### French songs...

- Sous le ciel de Paris (Giraud)
- Les feuilles mortes (Kosma)
- C'est si bon (Betti)

### Errol Garner/Bruno Fontaine

• A Garner Fantasy improvisation (Piano solo)

### Frederick Loewe

• I could've danced all night

And favorites titles from Cole Porter ...

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### SUNDAY 9 JANUARY KIRCHE SAANEN - 4 P.M.



This concert has been organised thanks to the extreme generosity, marvelous vision and wonderful support of Mrs Aline Foriel-Destezet, the great patron of music.

### Pinchas Zukerman, violin Olga Sitkovetsky, piano

### **Johannes Brahms**

• Scherzo from the FAE Sonata (collaboration with Robert Schumann and his pupil Albert Dietrich) for violin and piano

### Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

• Sonata in B-flat Maj

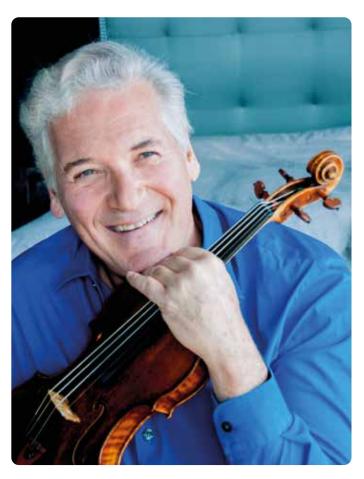
### Ludwig van Beethoven

- Violin Sonata N° 5 in F major, op. 24 "Spring"

  - Adagio molto espressivo
  - Scherzo: Allegro molto
  - Rondo: Allegro ma non troppo.

### with the invaluable support of





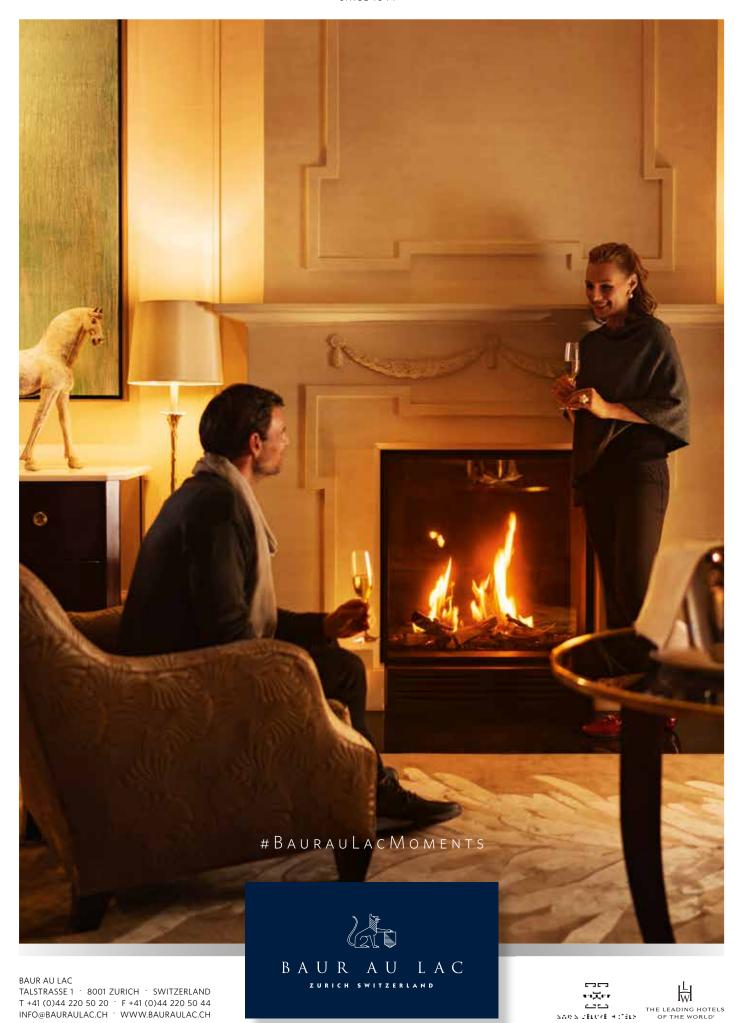


Pinchas Zukerman, violin

Olga Sitkovetsky, piano

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### 9.01 SUNDAY 9 JANUARY GSTAAD YACHT CLUB - 7 P.M.

# Closing Gala of the Festival "DE LA VOIX CHANTÉE À LA VOIX PARLÉE"

Lecture de lettres extraites de la collection Anne-Marie Springer

**Introduction** (in French) **Anne-Marie Springer** 

Lecture (in French)
Pilar de la Béraudière

Lecture de lettres de Hector Berlioz, Frédéric Chopin, Fernand Léger, Jean Dubuffet, Edith Piaf...



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of the Festival goes
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**Anne-Marie Springer et sa fille** 



Pilar de la Béraudière, narrator (in French)



### Pilar de la Béraudière

Alter studies in law and foreign languages Pilar de la Béraudière worked at London's Colnaghi, one of the oldest art galleries and then for the Wildenstein art institute before joining Christie's. In 1993 together with Philippe Cazeau and Jacques de la Béraudière, they opened an art gallery specialized in impressionist and modern painting and sculpture. She is currently chairman of the board of the Wallerstein foundation specialized in healthcare. Theater has always been a passion for her. She does mostly readings and also for children. She is chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur

### About the Artists



The Festival would like to thank all the wonderful artists of this edition



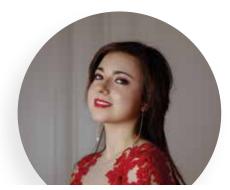
### Michelle Bradley, soprano

A graduate of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, Michelle Bradley is beginning to gain great acclaim as one of today's most promising Verdi sopranos. She made her debut with the Lyric Opera of Chicago in the title-role of Tosca and returned to the New York Met as Liù in Turandot. In concert, she made her debut with the San Francisco Symphony as the soprano soloist in Beethoven's 9th Symphony and with the Atlanta Symphony as Aida. She sang recitals for San Diego Opera with Brian Zeger at the piano. Future projects include a debut with then San Francisco Opera and returns to the Met and the Lyric Opera of Chicago, all in leading roles. Last season, Ms. Bradley made debuts with the Prague State Opera as Aida and in recital with the Houston Grand Opera and the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society. She also appeared in concert with the Dallas Symphony in a program of gospel and in a gala concert with the San Diego Opera. Among many other accolades, she is a recipient of the George London - Leonie Rysanek Award; Hildegard Behrens Foundation Prize; winner of the Koussevitzky Music Foundation, and The Marilyn Horne Song Competition. Recently Michelle Bradley made her debut at the Met in Norma, Idomeneo and Aida.



### Angel Blue, soprano

Angel Blue has been praised for performances at the Vienna State Opera, Semperoper Dresden, San Francisco Opera, Seattle Opera, Theater an der Wien, Oper Frankfurt, and San Diego Opera. In the 2019/2020 season, she made her debut at the Hamburg State Opera as Mimi and appeared with the Philadelphia Orchestra in concert performances of Porgy and Bess, under Marin Alsop, and also joined many of her international colleagues at the annual Richard Tucker Gala at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Angel is taking part in the Met Opera's live-stream pay-per-view New Year's Eve Gala 2020/21 from the Parktheater in Augsburg Germany, part of the Met Stars Live in Concert series. She will make her debut at the Staatsoper Berlin in the title role of Tosca, a role which she will also sing at the Semperoper Dresden. Puccini's La Boheme has played an especially prominent role in the development of Angel Blue's career. She was raised in California and completed her musical studies at UCLA. She was a member of the Young Artists Program at the Los Angeles Opera. She made her United States operatic debut as Musetta at the Los Angeles Opera in 2007 while a member of the company's Young Artist Program and subsequently made her debut at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan in the same role. As Mimi, she has won special international acclaim, first singing the role at the English National Opera in London in 2014 and for her Metropolitan Opera debut in 2017. Also active on the concert platform, Angel Blue has appeared in recital and in concert in over thirty-five countries. Important orchestral engagements have included Porgy and Bess at the Berliner Philharmoniker with Sir Simon Rattle, Mahler's Symphony No. 2 with the Münchener Philharmoniker under the baton of Zubin Mehta, and Verdi's Requiem in Sydney, Australia with Oleg Caetani. She sang Strauss's Vier Letzte Lieder and Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, and debuted in recital at the Ravinia Festival in August of 2019. The same year, she opened the Met season in Porgy and Bess.



#### Jacques Gay, comedian, baritone

After studying law and political science Jacques Gay entered the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique (CNSM) and obtained a first prize in opera. He also attended Jean Laurent Cochet's theatre classes at the Théâtre Hébertot in Paris. He has participated in numerous television and stage productions including Yasmina Reza's Art and Racine's Britannicus. He has sung various major opera roles including Figaro in the Marriage of Figaro, Marcello (La Bohème), Valentin (Faust) and Escamillo (Carmen). In operetta he has sung the role of the Viceroy in La Périchole, the Baron in La Vie Parisienne and General Boum in The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein at houses including the Bastille Opera, Capitole de Toulouse and Marseille Opera. Internationally he has worked under the direction of Nello Santi, Maurizio Benini and Julius Rudel. Over the last 15 years he has written and performed musical shows for French and Swiss audiences: including La Belle Hélène n'était pas une poire and Offenbach à Broadway. With Raphaëlle Farman he set up La Comédie Lyrique Romande and regularly performs in Switzerland with young artists offering them the opportunity to play leading roles.



#### Willard Carter, cello

Willard started cello lessons at the age of 4 with Elizabeth Anderson. He joined Wells Cathedral School as a chorister at the age of 8 and moved to the Purcell School in 2013. Three years later Willard joined the Junior Department of the Royal College of Music for additional study of chamber music. In 2018 Willard began studies with Ivan Monighetti at the Escuela de Musica Reina Sofia in Madrid where he was named outstanding student "Aline Foriel-Destezet Cello Chair" for the year to 2020.

Willard has played recitals in Wales, Somerset, Wiltshire, Oxford and in London. He has also given recitals in Pratovecchio, Poppi, Loreto, Osimo and Recanati, in Italy. In August 2018 he played a recital in Sagamore Hill, New York. He has performed at The Wigmore Hall, Charterhouse, Goldsmiths Hall, Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. His second concert at Buckingham Palace in 2019 was broadcast on Classic FM for which he has since been selected as a Rising Star.

In May 2021, Willard played a recital in the Solsberg festival in Switzerland, in June he played the Brahms double concerto in the Teatro Romano in Merida for the Queen of Spain, live on television and in August 2021 Willard played the Elgar Cello Concerto with the Menuhin Festival Orchestra.



#### Edwin Crossley-Mercer, bass-baritone

Edwin Crossley-Mercer performs on the most prestigious international opera and concert stages. After studying sacred music at Versailles, then opera and Lied with Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau in Berlin, he made his debut in 2006 at the Staatsoper Unter den Linden, notably under the direction of Daniel Barenboim in Doktor Faustus, Der Freischütz and The Merry Widow.

In 2009 he sang Guglielmo (Così fan tutte) at the Aix-en-Provence Festival, then made his debut the following season at the Opéra National de Paris in Strauss' Ariadne auf Naxos (Harlekin). Since then he has performed in many works of the repertoire on the stages of the Opera Bastille and the Palais Garnier. His engagements lead him to the United States (Massenet's Manon and Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro), Japan (Beatrice and Benedict), South America (Don Giovanni in Chile) as well as opera - especially Mozart but also Rossini and Puccini or contemporary works.

His particular affection for oratorios and recital has always been an essential component of his musical life: from Carnegie Hall to the Paris Philharmonie, Tokyo Suntory Hall, Montevideo and Saint Petersburg, he performs Lieder and Art songs in collaboration with pianists and orchestras including the Berliner Philharmoniker, Wiener Symphoniker, the Orchestre National de Radio France, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and London Symphony Orchestra. He is a regular guest of the festival.



#### Adèle Charvet, mezzo-soprano

A graduate of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique (CNSM) Adèle Charvet made her stage debut in 2017 with the Dutch National Opera in Borodin's Le Prince Igor. Her love of opera dates from that time and she then sang at the Verbier Festival in Tchaikovsky's Eugene Onegin. Her Royal Opera House debut came in a production of Bizet's Carmen and other roles followed at the Opéra National de Bordeaux and the Opéra Comique, Paris. Winner of the prize for the most outstanding musician of the Verbier Festival Academy, Thomas Hampson invited her to join his Lied Academy in Heidelberg.

Adèle Charvet has given recitals and appeared in festivals including Deauville, the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, and the Pont de Croix Festival. She has sung with the Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra at the Berlioz Festival, at the Proms in London and in Versailles under the baton of John Eliot Gardiner.

Future projects include the title role in Carmen with the Opéra National de Bordeaux, Serse with Opera Fuoco on tour in China, Lully's Cadmus et Hermione at the Royal Opera of Versailles, Rigoletto and Carmen with Paris Opera. She is also planning a recital tour to promote her first recording "Long Time Ago ...."



#### Shayne Doty, organ

Shayne Doty began organ lessons at the age of four, continuing as a high school student at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University, studying with French specialist Fenner Douglass. Mr. Doty studied with Xavier Darasse at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Lyon, receiving the Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures. He obtained a Master of Music degree from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, studying with Robert Anderson. He has performed throughout the US, including a concert at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists. In France he has given concerts at Soissons Cathedral, the Basilique cathédrale de Saint-Denis, Saint-Severin, Saint-François-de-Sales in Lyon, the Musée des Augustins and Saint-Sernin in Toulouse, and other locations. As an ensemble player he has performed with Les Arts Florissants, Paul Hillier's Theatre of Voices, the North Carolina Symphony, and other groups, playing works such as Poulenc's Concerto for Organ, Joseph Jongen's Symphonie Concertante, Saint-Säens "Organ Symphony," music of Arvo Pärt, and other repertoire. Mr. Doty lives in New York and is a supply organist at the Church of the Ascension, which has a magnificent organ by Pascal Quoirin.



### Faustine Egiziano, soprano & violin

Born in Chambéry, France in 2002, Faustine Egiziano gained her first musical studies diploma aged 14 in the class of Josiane Brachet and went on to study violin at the Grenoble Conservatoire with Philippe Wucher which allowed her to perform Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 1 with the conservatoire orchestra. She then moved to Lausanne to follow a BA in violin studies with Renaud Capuçon and his assistant François Sochard. She joined the Chambéry Conservatoire choir and then studied lyrical voice with Marie-Hélène Ruscher and gained a further diploma, with credit, in 2020. She also received advice from Tedi Papavrami and Alexandra Conunova for violin, as well as Vincent Coq for chamber music. She joined the Lausanne Opera choirs and sang at the Landes Opera Festival with Mathieu Pordoy. She sang the role of Yniold in Debussy's "Pelléas et Mélisande" in July 2021.

She has continued her voice studies at the HEMU in Lausanne with Swiss mezzo soprano Brigitte Balleys and also been advised by Edwin Crossley-Mercer and Julie Fuchs at the Festival Castel Artès Academy. She was a soloist in Pergolesi's Stabat Mater under the bass-baritone's direction at his festival in France. She was awarded First Grand Prix unanimously for the "Jeune Espoir" category at the 5th Raymond Duffaut opera competition under the patronage of Jean-Claude Casadesus. She is a prize winner of the voice project of the 16<sup>th</sup> Gstaad



New Year Festival.

#### Bruno Fontaine, pianist, conductor, arranger, composer

Bruno Fontaine is a complete artist who defies classification. Born in Epinal he began piano studies at the age of 4 and joined the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris (CNSM) at the age of 11 by special dispensation. There he studied with Pierre Sancan and Jean Hubeau among others. He left at the age of 15 with five first prizes. Bruno Fontaine plays regularly with l'Orchestre National d'Île de France, l'Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, l'Ensemble Orchestral de Paris, l'Orchestre de Cannes and l'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande.

He directed the London Symphony Orchestra for a recording with guitarist John Williams. In Los Angeles he met and worked with Don Costa, who was Frank Sinatra's musical arranger. He made symphonic arrangements for Barbara Hendricks, Les Rita Mitsouko, Paolo Conte, Abd Al Malik, Emilie Simon and Jacques Higelin who he directed in concert. Responsible for the musical direction of shows with Ute Lemper, Lambert Wilson and Julia Migenes for a number of years, Bruno Fontaine was nominated for the Césars and Victoires de la Musique for the soundtrack of Alain Resnais' film « On connaît la chanson ». He received the Grand Prix Sacem 2013 for music in pictures.



### Ensemble Il Giardino d'Amore

Il Giardino d'Amore comes from an Italian name for Garden of Love. The inspiration for its creation was the philosophy of the orchestra members, to gather in the circle of friends, to share music with the feeling of deep, joyful and expressive sensitivity. Founded in 2012 by violinist and conductor Stefan Plewniak during the Bach Festival in Cracow who then met harpsichordist Marco Vitale. This cooperation proved to be very fruitful for the Il Giardino d'Amore and its further development. The ensemble performed in the prestigious Salzburg Mozarteum in Salzburg and New York's Carnegie Hall. Since its creation it has performed Italian and French opera; sacred music and Italian instrumental masterpieces. In 2017 Il Giardino d'Amore recorded with countertenor Jakub Orliński and mezzosoprano Natalia Kawalek. It was chosen as a CD of the week by The Times, and CD of the Month by Opera Netherlands. In 2018, the orchestra toured in the US with Le Roi Dance. During the 2020 virus lockdown, video music projects were produced with the Magnetic Festival in Italy, and Dell'Arte Festival in Brazil.



### Amanda Forsyth, cello

Canadian Juno Award-winning Amanda Forsyth is considered one of North America's most dynamic cellists. She is recognized as an eminent recitalist, soloist and chamber musician appearing with leading orchestras in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia. From 1999-2015, Amanda Forsyth was principal cellist of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, where she performed regularly as soloist and in chamber ensembles. Ms. Forsyth has appeared as soloists with orchestras around the globe including Orchestre Radio de France, Boston, Chicago, Toronto, and Vancouver Symphonies, and the English Chamber Orchestra. She has performed on international tours with the Mariinsky, Royal Philharmonic, and Israel Philharmonic Orchestras. As cellist of the Zukerman Trio, she has performed on six continents and has appeared at prestigious music festivals such as Edinburgh, Verbier, BBC Proms, and Ravinia.

Born in South Africa, Ms. Forsyth moved to Canada as a child and began playing cello at age three. Amanda Forsyth's recordings appear on the Sony Classics, Naxos, Altara, Fanfare, Marquis, Pro Arte and CBC labels and her most recent disc features the Brahms Double Concerto with Pinchas Zukerman and the National Arts Centre Orchestra released by Analekta Records. Ms. Forsyth performs on a rare 1699 Italian cello by Carlo Giuseppe Testore.



#### Caroline Haffner, piano

Princess Caroline Murat's professional career as a musician is under her mother's maiden name: Haffner.

Musician, teacher and artistic director Caroline has just been named "chevalier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres" in France. The main aim of her career is to support the causes which have been presented to her in recognition of the opportunities given to her to study music. Her charitable activities include fundraising recitals or by her own presence in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Her first charity concert while she was still a student at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris (CNSM) was at Les Invalides in the presence of, and for those injured in the Algerian war. Personalities including Placido Domingo, and the late, great cellist Mstislav Rostropovich have supported and encouraged her during her musical career. Rostropovich spoke of the "imagination, colour and poetry in her performance." General Charles de Gaulle, to whom she was presented, considered her as "one of the great hopes of France." She was the last student of Samson François, who was the French interpreter of reference for Chopin. It was the grand maître Alfred Cortot who set Caroline on her career as a pianist when she was a child. She is the winner of several important international competitions and played in most of the greatest concert halls.



### Natalia Kawalek, mezzo-soprano

Natalia Kawalek began her musical education with the classical guitar before leaving Warsaw for Rome where she studied voice with lyric soprano Rebecca Berg at the Conservatorio di Santa Cecilia as part of the Erasmus exchange program. She then moved to Vienna to study with Professor Claudia Visca at the Viennese Universität für Musik and joined the Junges Ensemble at the Theater an der Wien.

A prize winner at competitions in Innsbruck and Vienna, Natalia Kawalek has developed a broad repertoire of music ranging from the late renaissance to baroque opera and chamber music to contemporary and experimental projects. However, her greatest passion is opera.

Making her Glyndebourne Opera debut in the role of Cherubino in Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro in 2016, she joined Placido Domingo on stage at the Theater an der Wien when he starred in Verdi's Macbeth. Many stage roles have followed in Poland and Austria. She has also appeared in festivals in Europe including the Handel Festival in Halle, Festival Oude Muziek Utrecht and the Avant-garde KODY in Lublin and Festival of Contemporary Vocal Music Gebofon in Warsaw.

Natalia Kawalek has collaborated with several famous baroque ensembles including Il Complesso Barocco under Alan Curtis.



### Michèle Larivière, récitante

Musicologist of the Verbier Festival and speaker in French for all the pre-concert conversations in the evenings since 1995, Michèle Larivière has also broadcast flagship musical series for Radio France/France Musique including les Mémoires retrouvées of Nicolaï Gedda, Leopold Simoneau, Suzanne Danco, Ileana Cotrubas, Peter Ustinov and Portraits of Alfred Bruneau, Wolf-Ferrari, Maurice Ohana, Yves Prin and Renaud Gagneux for France Culture and Beethoven, Chopin, Gershwin, Callas for France Inter.

Presenter at Mezzo TV from 1999 to 2002, and lecturer in the most important concert halls in France including the Châtelet, Pleyel, Auditorium de Lyon and Paris Opera, Nancy, Tours and Nantes, she is also the narrator for productions such as Tcherepnin's Fisherman and the Fish, Poulenc's Histoire de Babar, Les rêves d'Alfred Bruneau and Yves Prin's Psaume pour Nako, in France and Switzerland.

Author and director of documentaries for Arte, Mezzo and France 2, she wrote Les pianos de l'été with Don Kent and Une Trilogie de Monteverdi, Stéphanie d'Oustrac, Coline Serreau répète Rossini, La Péniche Opéra, Le Manuscrit disparu, Le Concours de Musique, and OMO BELLO I want to be a prima donna (Vosges TV 2016) with Gérald Caillat. More recently she has written Divertir en honnête homme (Yves Coudray), Rencontre avec Jean-Claude Pennetier (2017) and Yves Prin Portrait Lyrique for the Péniche Théâtre-Opéra and in 2021 Pré-concert videos on Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Puccini, Bartok broadcast on VerbierFestival.com.



### Mélody Louledjian, soprano

After a first prize for piano at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Lyon, and studying at the Hochschule in Vienna before completing a masters degree, Mélody Louledjian made her debut at the Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux in 2009 playing Carmen in Le Balcon by Peter Eötvös. She sings regularly there and at concert halls throughout Europe including the Philharmonie de Paris, Konzerthaus Berlin, the Tonhalle Zurich and at numerous international festivals. She has played the roles of Musetta (La Bohème), Elvira (L'Italiana in Algeri) and Eurydice (Orphée aux Enfers) among others at the Grand Theatre of Bordeaux, and other stage roles at the Bayerische Staatsoper München, Cité de la Musique in Paris and Opera of Lausanne.

Mélody Louledjian gives recitals and concerts across a range of genres and is particularly at ease with the contemporary repertoire. She is regularly invited to sing with prestigious ensembles such as Intercontemporain, Contrechamps and Ensemble Modern. Among her recordings is "Follement 30' " where she plays her accordion and sings French songs from the 1930s with a jazz quartet. Mélody Louledjian also gives masterclasses on contemporary music and free improvisation at the High Music School of Geneva among others. With an Armenian family heritage, she speaks French, Italian, Spanish, English and German and some Russian and Greek.



#### Christine Mondon, author, broadcaster and lecturer

German expert, "historienne des idées" and "maître de conférences habilitée classe exceptionnelle" at Paris-Sorbonne, senior lecturer at the University of Bordeaux Montaigne, Christine Mondon has a focus on three areas: Austria, music and Italy, including Venice. Included in Who's Who since 2011, she has participated in television programs with Stéphane Bern, Frank Ferrand and Arté. A published author in French since 1998, she has written on Hermann Hesse, the search for a new humanism; Sissi, a woman of the avant-garde; Louis II of Bavaria, the King of Moons; Rodolphe de Habsbourg; Romance Writing and Philosophy; Vienna, the Imperial City; Franz Liszt; The Mark of Wagner; The legacy of Verdi; Venice - beyond the times; The Venetian refuge; Johann Strauss and the Viennese spirit; Franz Schubert, The musician of the shadows; Beethoven: Incomparable Beethoven (with a preface by Caroline Murat) and a novel: A beautiful lesson of life. Her next book is on Frederic Chopin.



#### Natalia Morozova, piano

The Russian pianist Natalia Morozova was born in Moscow and began her piano studies at the age of six at the Rachmaninoff School. She attended the Tchaikovsky State Conservatory where she studied in the class of Tigran Alikhanov. She pursued her piano studies while also studying chamber music and graduated in 2001 before going on to present her doctoral dissertation in 2003 and then chamber music in Trieste, Italy. The winner of international prizes in Russia, Italy and Switzerland she is a member of the committee of the international Primavera Musicale project at the Discanto Academy of Arts in Verona where she also conducts masterclasses and is a member of the Umbria Music Fest jury. As a performer, she has given concerts in many international venues and has accompanied world-class singers in festivals. Constantly seeking new forms of expression and knowledge, Natalia Morozova's repertoire has increased in both baroque music and modern sonority. She is pianist -in-residence of the festival for the past 10 years.



#### Cynthia Pelletier (Cynthia Bak), soprano

Cynthia began her musical studies with the clarinet and voice at the age of 8 years. She went on to study at the Toulouse regional conservatoire aged 19 in the class of Christian Crozes. A teaching diploma for voice coaching was followed by a move to Brussels to join Marcel Vanaud's voice class at the Royal Conservatoire. Inspired by musicals, she took part in a number of concerts and projects of this kind while in Brussels. Laureat in the category of new talents of lyric art at the Ans international competition in 2018, the following year she sang the role of Maria in West Side Story for the centenary celebrations of Leonard Bernstein with the Royal Conservatoire's orchestra. The same year Roger Louret wrote and directed "En Mode Diva" for her. Since 2020, She has played one of the principal roles in the musical "Emmenez-moil" based on the songs of Charles Aznavour. She is a prize winner of the voice project of the 16th Gstaad New Year Festival.



#### Stefan Plewniak, violin - director of Il Giardino d'Amore

Stefan Plewniak is a Polish violinist, conductor and music producer. He is the founder and leader of II Giardino d'Amore ensemble in Viennaand Cracow, Cappella dell'Ospedale della Pietà in Venice and The Feel Harmony studio orchestra with which he has toured Europe, the USA and China. He has given concerts at the Chateau of Versailles in France, the Carnegie Hall in New York, Mozarteum in Salzburg and the Forbidden City in Beijing. He founded the CD label Ëvoe Records and released the album Enemies in Love, with Jakub Jozef Orlinski and Natalia Kawalek, which reached number 8 on the list of the world's best-selling classical albums. As a conductor and violinist he has been described as the «Paganini of the baroque violin» the «master of emotional chemistry» and as a «hurricane on stage.» As a teacher and conductor he cooperates closely with the NOR59 String Institute in Oslo and gives masterclasses at a number of American universities.



#### Mathieu Pordoy, piano

Pianist and chef de chant, Mathieu Pordoy has worked at Europe's major opera houses including the Wiener Staatsoper, Paris Opera and Zurich Opera. He has accompanied singers including Michael Spyres, Sabine Devieilhe, Siobhan Stagg and Jean-Sébastien Bou. He accompanied Marina Rebeka for her Italian-Russian program in Toulouse and again in the Grand Hall of the Conservatoire Tchaikovsky which was broadcast live on Rossiya Kultura TV. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in Berlioz's Lelio - a work of music and spoken text for a narrator, solo voices, chorus and an orchestra including piano - directed by John Eliot Gardiner. As a specialist in French repertoire, he is regularly called on to work on productions in houses including Opéra Comique in Paris, la Monnaie de Bruxelles, l'Opéra de Monte-Carlo, le Théâtre des Champs-Elysées and with the London Symphony Orchestra and Cologne Opera. Dedicated to teaching he has been invited to work with young singers at the International Vocal Art Institute in Tel Aviv and Montreal, the Academy of Young Opera Singers, Mariinsky Theatre St Petersburg and the festival of Aix-en-Provence.



#### Parker Ramsay, harp

Parker Ramsay's career is unique in its integration of contemporary music and historical performance. It defies easy categorization as he is equally at home on modern and period harps. He is dedicated to invigorating the existing canon while delving into new and underperformed works. A native of Nashville, Tennessee, Parker began harp studies with his mother at a young age before moving to the UK at age 16. Awarded the undergraduate organ scholarship at King's College, Cambridge, he served under the direction of Stephen Cleobury and his tenure with the King's College Choir included performing for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in 2012, as well as six international tours and four recordings. Parker has performed at the Concertgebouw, the Royal Albert Hall, the Musée d'Orsay, the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing, the Sejong Center for the Performing Arts in Seoul and many others. His 2020 recording of his transcription of Bach's Goldberg Variations for the King's College, Cambridge label was praised as "remarkably special" (Gramophone), "nuanced and insightful" (BBC Music Magazine), "relentlessly beautiful" (WQXR) and "marked by keen musical intelligence" (The Wall Street Journal). Parker is co-director of A Golden Wire, a period instrument ensemble devoted to French and English music from the seventeenth century. He has appeared with the Shanghai Camerata, the Academy of Sacred Drama, Ruckus, Teatro Nuovo and Apollo's Fire.



#### Marina Rebeka, soprano

Latvian soprano Marina Rebeka has become an international star of opera with great praise especially for her performances as Violetta in Verdi's La Traviata.

Since her international breakthrough at the Salzburg Festival in 2009 under the baton of Riccardo Muti, Marina Rebeka has been a regular guest at the world's most prestigious concert halls and opera houses including the Met and Carnegie Hall in New York, Teatro alla Scala Milan, the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Bavarian State Opera Munich, Vienna State Opera and the Zurich Opera House. She collaborates with leading conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Zubin Mehta, Antonio Pappano, Fabio Luisi, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Daniele Gatti, Marco Armiliato, Michele Mariotti, Thomas Hengelbrock, Paolo Carignani, Ottavio Dantone and Dan Ettinger. Her repertoire ranges from Baroque (Handel), Bel Canto (Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti) and Verdi (La Traviata, Simon Boccanegra, Il Trovatore) to Tchaikovsky (Eugene Onegin) and Stravinsky (The Rake's Progress).

Marina Rebeka has made many recordings, the latest being a full studio recording of Bellini's opera Il Pirata.

She was awarded the Republic of Latvia's Order of the Three Stars for her cultural achievements.



#### Nadine Sierra, soprano

Praised for her vocal beauty, seamless technique, and abundant musicality, Nadine Sierra is being hailed as one of the most promising young talents in opera today. She was named the Richard Tucker Award Winner in 2017 and was awarded the 2018 Beverly Sills Artist Award by the Metropolitan Opera. Having made a string of successful debuts at the Met, Teatro alla Scala, Opéra national de Paris, and Staatsoper Berlin, she has become a fixture at many of the top houses around the world. On August 24th, 2018, her debut album, There's a Place for Us, was released under the Deutsche Grammophon/Universal Music labels. In the 2021/22 season, Nadine Sierra makes her house debuts with Maggio Musicale Fiorentino for the first time as Violetta (La traviata), and at the Bavarian State Opera as Lucia (Lucia di Lammermoor), a role she also sings at Teatro di San Carlo and The Metropolitan Opera. Moreover, she appears as Gilda (Rigoletto) at Opéra de Paris and Teatro alla Scala. In concert, she performs in Recital with Palm Beach Opera and in concert with Berliner Philharmoniker, Turku Music Festival, Opera Liège, Wiener Konzerthaus, Klangvokal Festival Dortmund and at Salle Gaveau.

Nadine Sierra has been featured in Vogue, Nylon, Bon Appetite, Opera News, on the cover of Classical Singer magazine and numerous international TV and print media. She maintains an active presence on social media, where she interacts with her followers by answering messages, comments and questions on a daily basis. On her Instagram profile, she has launched two successful series, Mornings with Nadine and Notes from Nadine, giving her followers an exclusive look at the life of a modern-day opera singer.

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#### Olga Sitkovetsky, piano

Born in Moscow, Olga Sitkovetsky studied piano and concertmaster skills there and later at the St Petersburg Conservatoire. Over a career spanning decades, she has been accompanist to many of the world's greatest musicians including Yehudi Menuhin and Mstislav Rostropovich. Invited to work at the Menuhin School of Music in Surrey, she then accompanied former students became accomplished musicians themselves in their tours all over the world - including the Royal Festival Hall in London, the Grand Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, the Verdi Hall in Milan, Carnegie Hall, the Concertgebouw, the Salzburg 'Mozarteum' and the Vienna Konzerthaus. She toured extensively in Italy, Belgium, Japan, New Zealand and Britain, China and South Korea.

Olga has performed as accompanist in numerous International Violin Competitions and has received multiple awards for best accompaniment. From 2016 she was pianist at the International Menuhin Music Academy under the direction of Maxim Vengerov.

Her many recordings include one celebrating Menuhin's 80th birthday, Favourite Chinese classical violin music and with her son Sasha on his debut album in New York. In July 1998, Olga made her official American debut at the renowned Newport Music Festival in Rhode Island whilst 2000 saw her perform a number of successful concert tours in China and in S. Korea.



### Anne-Marie Springer, writer and collector

Passionate about art and literature, Anne-Marie Springer started a collection of autographed letters in 1994 when her daughter was born, on the theme of love and friendship.

Today, the collection includes about 2000 letters from famous people (Napoleon, Gauguin, Van Gogh, etc.) and has given rise to several books, exhibitions and numerous conferences and readings.





#### Giulio Zappa, piano

Italian pianist Giulio Zappa graduated with honors for piano at the Novara conservatoire and for foreign language & literature at Milan University with a dissertation on Russian opera. He studied piano accompaniment for opera in the class of Bianca Maria Casoni in Milan. He furthered his studies with Aldo Ciccolini and for the vocal chamber music repertoire with Irwin Gage.

In a career dating back to 1996 he has played concerts all over the world and been invited as opera vocal coach and accompanist for recitals by famous Italian and international singers. He has appeared in many theaters and festivals across Europe and Asia including Opéra National de Bordeaux, Seoul Art Center, Teatro Real and Teatro de la Zarzuela in Madrid, the Rossini Opera Festival, Glyndebourne Festival, Teatro alla Scala, Wiener Staatsoper, Bayerische Staatsoper, Biwako Hall Japan and the Bolshoi Theatre and Saint Petersburg Philharmonia in Russia. Forthcoming tours will include recitals at the Teatro alla Scala Milan, Pesaro, Moscow, Lausanne, Zurich, Toulouse, and Vienna.



#### Pinchas Zukerman, violin

With a celebrated career encompassing five decades, Pinchas Zukerman reigns as one of today's most sought after and versatile musicians - violin and viola soloist, conductor, and chamber musician. He is renowned as a virtuoso, admired for the expressive lyricism of his playing, singular beauty of tone, and impeccable musicianship, which can be heard throughout his discography of over 100 albums for which he gained two Grammy® awards and 21 nominations.

A devoted teacher and champion of young musicians, he has served as chair of the Pinchas Zukerman Performance Program at the Manhattan School of Music for over 25 years, and has taught at prominent institutions throughout the United Kingdom, Israel, China and Canada, among others. As a mentor he has inspired generations of young musicians who have achieved prominence in performing, teaching, and leading roles with music festivals around the globe. Mr. Zukerman has received honorary doctorates from Brown University, Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and the University of Calgary, as well as the National Medal of Arts from President Ronald Reagan. He is a recipient of the Isaac Stern Award for Artistic Excellence in Classical Music.

His legendary career began alongside Daniel Barenboim and the late cellist Jacqueline du Pré. Close personal and musical friends for decades, Zukerman and Barenboim have performed together countless times, with Beethoven's Violin Sonatas forming an important part of their joint repertoire.

The maestro's violin is the 1742 Guarneri del Gesu that previously belonged to the great violinist, composer, and teacher Samuel Dushkin.

### Venues & Tickets

### **TICKETS ON SALE ONLINE** www.gstaadnewyearmusicfestival.ch

Gstaad, Saanen & Rougemont Tourist Offices or before concerts & events

### – TICKET PRICES –

Park Gstaad, St Niklaus Kapelle Gstaad, Lauenenkirche: CHF 60 adults

Eglise de Rougemont & Kirche Saanen: CHF 60 or CHF 30 (cat.1 & 2)

Le Grand Bellevue: CHF 200 concert + lunch Gstaad Yacht Club: Special price including dinner

Les Amis du Festival: free entrance to the 28 December concert Children under 16: free entrance. (except Le Grand Bellevue & Gstaad Yacht Club)

Tickets can be bought at the entrance from 40 minutes before the start of the concert.



### **ROUGEMONT** Eglise de Rougemont, Route Cantonale, Rte de Flendruz 1, 1659 Rougemont



### **GSTAAD** Park Gstaad,

St. Niklaus-Kapelle, Promenade 59,

3780 Gstaad

3780 Gstaad

Gstaad Yacht Club, Untergstaadstrasse 15, 3780 Gstaad

Le Grand Bellevue, Untergstaadstrasse 17, 3780 Gstaad



### SAANEN

Kirche Saanen, Dorfstrasse, 3792 Saanen



### **LAUENEN**

Lauenenkirche, Kirchgemeinde, 3782 Lauenen

Concerts also listed on Bachtrack.com

#### **FESTIVAL TEAM**

Founder and Artistic direction: Caroline Murat

Partnerships & translation: Jane Mcintosh Coordination: Clélia Gouret Contact: Laure de Dampierre Regisseurs: Erick Sez (consultant),

Marceau Gouret

### Communication, PR & website:

Illyria Pfyffer

Marianne Eon, Guillaume Alonso de Celada, Guillaume Prevelato, Léane Montion

Programmes, flyers & design: Regen Lab

### Concept and texts:

Caroline Murat, Illyria Pfyffer.

Ticketing: Yavuz Durukan

The Gstaad New Year Music Festival is an event of the not-for-profit Association Altezze e Musica, 3782 Lauenen, registered in Switzerland.





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