

PLATOON

ALONE TOGETHER

Johannes Moser to release ground-breaking experimental cello project with Platoon



The album features six specially-commissioned new works as well as multi-layered octophonic arrangements of string classics

Prelude from Grieg's Holberg Suite is released as a single this week [13 May]: Listen [HERE](#)

The full album is released on 17 June 2022

Johannes Moser today [9 May] announces a highly innovative new album which shows him to be not only the highly-acclaimed international classical cellist performing at the highest level worldwide but as one of the most pioneering, open-minded, experimental, and creative classical artists on the scene.

The album, *Alone Together*, will be released on June 17th by Platoon.

It is conceived to fully immerse listeners in a multi-dimensional, spatial sound world that takes full advantage of the audio possibilities of DOLBY ATMOS's revolutionary technology. Featuring six new commissions for electric cello, alongside multi-layered octophonic arrangements of pieces for cello ensemble, the album creates the impression of sound moving around the listener in three dimensions.

Alone Together is one of the very first full-length classical albums to use multi-tracking so extensively, taking advantage of Dolby Atmos technology in a way that has not been seen in contemporary classical music before.

Moser said of the concept, *“The spatial aspect of the music was just as much a part of the programming as the artistic and musical vision of this repertoire, which represents a strong aspect of who I am and what the pandemic has also forced me to be - a need to be a multifaceted musician creating musical environments just using my cello.”*

Six of the fourteen pieces on the album are brand-new works, commissioned especially by Moser for the project.

‘Somewhere There Is Something Else’, by Pulitzer Prize Winner **Ellen Reid** relies entirely on the sound created by Moser’s cello, transforming and looping it through a uniquely programmed patch.

Guggenheim Fellowship winner **Nina Young’s** *‘meteoros’* uses a similar process to transform the sound of Moser’s cello into a spatial landscape. Multiple Grammy-nominated composer **Christopher Cerrone’s** *‘Exhalation’* is a piece in the minimalist style, combining pre-recorded performances with the live.

Annie Gosfield, winner of the Music Prize from the Academy of Arts and Letters (2021), uses obscure snatches of World War II radio distortion signals to set up a digital dialogue with Moser’s cello in *‘Ghost Radios & Audio Mirages’* (for electric cello and broken radios). *‘Lobby Music’* by Ted Hearne also uses prerecorded sound bites, combining audio from violent outbreaks in America with hyper-pop to explore the polysemic meanings of the word ‘lobby’ - either a physical meeting place or an agitated mob. Finally, Grammy-nominee **Timo Andres’** *‘Ogee’* is a ‘double eight’, playing with the idea of an infinite loop, as well as eight cellos in an octophonic set-up.

Moser alternates between playing on his famous 1694 Guarneri instrument, and two electric celli: a Ned Steinberger and a Yamaha electric cello.

The cellist has cited a personal passion for new music since the early days of his career, with a particular joy in commissioning original works. His first commission for electric cello was *‘MAGNETAR’* by Enrico Chapela in 2011, which premiered with Gustavo Dudamel and the LA Philharmonic. Moser claims that he has been “haunted” by the desire to create a soundscape using just the electric cello and a speaker set-up ever since.

The initial idea for these commissions emerged from Moser’s urge to present contemporary music in spaces that typically rely on traditional repertoire, expanding the reach of contemporary music and breaking down the traditional barriers between artist and audience. The recent coronavirus pandemic made such performances impossible, so Moser channeled his inspiration into a recording project with Platoon instead.

Platoon is a uniquely artist-led company, committed to facilitating the vision of the artists it works with. It has drawn on the most advanced sound and recording technology to create a whole new world of possibilities for classical musicians and audiences in the digital space. Moser is the first German classical musician to have worked with the label, known for its ground-breaking work with such artists as Billie Eilish, Jorja Smith, and Mr. Eazi and increasingly influential in pioneering digital work for classical audiences.

In addition to the release of the new single today, *'Song of the Birds'* is also now available to listeners. A traditional Catalan Christmas song and lullaby, the beautiful piece was established as a symbol of world peace by cellist Pablo Casals, who often performed the work as an encore. Johannes Moser said of the single: *"Since the days of the great Cellist Pablo Casals, the Catalan "Song of the Birds" stood for freedom, peace, and the hope of a better understanding between human beings, away from war and inconsolable conflict. In this tradition, I feel the urge to express my own voice amidst the many people that stand up in statements and demonstrations against this senseless war."* All proceeds from the single are being donated to Save the Children Deutschland. You can listen to the recording [here](#).

Alone Together will be released digitally through Platoon on 17 June 2022.

-ENDS-

TO LISTEN TO THE FULL ALBUM, CLICK [HERE](#)

TO DOWNLOAD THE ALBUM COVER, CLICK [HERE](#)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPATIAL AUDIO CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#)

For further press information, contact Premier:

Victoria Bevan | victoria.bevan@premiercomms.com | +44 7917764318

Editor's Notes:

Listening to the album

Although high-performance headphones or a professional Dolby Atmos set-up would provide the perfect experience for this album, it remains a stunning listening experience regardless. If you own AirPods, you can use these to access the album in Spatial Audio, an at-home Dolby Atmos experience through your earphones. Otherwise, the album is available to listen to in stereo, meaning it can be accessed through any home sound system.

TRACK LISTING

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Holberg Suite for Cello Ensemble

- 1. 'Praeludium'**
- 2. 'Sarabande'**
- 3. 'Gavotte'**
- 4. 'Air'**

5. 'Rigaudon'

Arvo Pärt (1935-)

6. 'Fratres'

Chris Ceronna (1984-), commissioned by Johannes Moser

7. 'Exhalation' (for electric cello)

Samuel Barber (1891-1910)

8. 'Adagio'

Ellen Reid (1966-), commissioned by Johannes Moser

9. 'Somewhere there is something else' (for electric cello)

David Popper (1843-1913)

10. 'Requiem'

Pablo Casals (1876-1973)

11. 'Song of the Birds'

Annie Gosfield (1960-), commissioned by Johannes Moser

12. 'Ghost Radios & Audio Mirages' (for electric cello and broken radios)

Timo Andres (1985-), commissioned by Johannes Moser

13. 'Ogee'

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

14. 'Prelude' (from *Five Pieces for Two Cellos and Piano*)

Nina Young (1984-), commissioned by Johannes Moser

15. 'Meteoros'

Arvo Pärt

16. 'Spiegel im Spiegel'

Ted Hearne (1962), commissioned by Johannes Moser

17. 'Lobby Music'

Julius Kengel (1859-1933)

18. 'Hymnus'

Johannes Moser – cello/electric cello

Anthony Hewitt – piano

JOHANNES MOSER

German-Canadian cellist Johannes Moser has performed with the world's leading orchestras and works regularly with conductors of the highest level. His recordings include the concertos by Dvořák, Lalo, Elgar, Lutosławski, Dutilleux, Tchaikovsky, Thomas Olesen, and Fabrice Bollon (Electric Cello), which have gained him the prestigious Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik and the Diapason d'Or. Concerto highlights of the 2021/22 season include performances with the San Francisco Symphony, Residentie Orkest, Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra, Oregon Symphony (as Artist in Residence), a Belgian tour with the Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen, Dusseldorf Symphoniker, and Lucerne Symphony. Chamber music performances include a European Trio tour with Vadim Gluzman and Andrei Korobeinikov with performances in Amsterdam (Concertgebouw), Dusseldorf (Tonhalle), Geneva (Conservatoire de Musique), and Dresdener Musikfestspiele amongst others as well as appearances at the West Cork, Norfolk and La Jolla chamber music festivals. Johannes is renowned for his efforts to expand the reach of the classical genre to all audiences, and his passionate involvement in commissioning new works for his instrument. Johannes Moser plays on an Andrea Guarneri Cello from 1694 from a private collection.

<https://www.askonasholt.com/artists/johannes-moser/> | <http://www.johannes-moser.com>

PLATOON

Founded by C.E.O. Denzyl Feigelson in 2016, boutique artist services company Platoon identifies and shepherds exciting musical talent from around the world while arming them with innovative tools and services to build careers and reach new fans. Platoon landed its first success in 2016 when they signed yet-unknown Billie Eilish, helping lay out the groundwork for her ascent to global stardom. Following

that it was BRIT Award-winner Jorja Smith's Blue Lights before guiding Nigeria's Mr. Eazi to worldwide attention and acclaim. Platoon has since built an impressive roster of fiercely independent creative artists such as Johannes Moser, Xuefei Yang, Oliver Zeffman, Rosey Chan, and Daniel Pioro. Platoon's team of employees has expanded across the globe, from London to New York, Los Angeles, Berlin, and Cape Town's "Creative Lab". Platoon's creative spaces in London and Africa boast 24-hour recording studios and double as inspiring ecosystems for artists to openly collaborate, with Platoon also offering educational classes across music and marketing.

<https://platoon.ai/> | @weareplatoon | <https://platoon.lnk.to/new-releases>

RELEASE SCHEDULE

May 13 - Holberg Suite, Op. 40: Präludium

May 20 - Chris Ceronna, 'Exhalation'

May 27 - Samuel Barber, 'Adagio for Strings'

June 3 - Arvo Pärt, 'Fratres'

June 10 - Ted Hearne, 'Lobby Music'

June 17 – Release of 'Alone Together' album and music video