



Tsinandali Festival

Inaugural Tsinandali Festival creates the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra, uniting 80 young musicians from Georgia and its neighbouring countries

- **Tsinandali Festival gives young musicians extraordinary opportunities to train and perform with world-class conductors, coaches and musicians, including the Festival's Music Director Gianandrea Noseda**
- **80 young musicians from Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Ukraine to gather for the first time from 17 August at the Tsinandali Estate**
- **Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra established to deliver message of peace and unity between Georgia and its neighbouring countries**
- **Tsinandali Festival [8-22 September 2019] launches with performance of Mahler's Second Symphony with the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra under the Festival's Music Director Gianandrea Noseda**

The Tsinandali Festival [8-22 September 2019] – a major new 15-day international classical music festival set in the heart of Georgia's wine country on the Tsinandali Estate – brings together over 80 18-28-year-old musicians from across the Caucasus region for the first time from 17 August 2019.

The Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra (PCYO) is offering the best young musicians from countries across the Caucasus - from Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Ukraine - the fully-funded opportunity to work with leading international players and Music Director Gianandrea Noseda, and perform with world-class conductors and soloists.

George Ramishvili, Martin Engstroem and Avi Shoshani (Co-Founders, Tsinandali Festival), along with David Sakvarelidze (General Director, Tsinandali Festival), formed the PCYO with the vision of empowering the next generation of musicians, encouraging them to interact and communicate through the universal language of music and deliver a powerful message of peace and unity between Georgia and its neighbouring countries.

Martin Engstroem, Artistic Director, Tsinandali Festival, commented: *"Just doing a festival with some nice music isn't enough. Since this region has been so violated and so full of conflict for so many years there had to be a message, a reason, in what we were doing. If you look at Georgia and its neighbouring countries and their collective histories, you realise that the only way to approach each other is through culture. I want our PCYO members to leave with a better understanding of, and for, each other. They should realise the power of sharing the love of music and being able to grow through music. By being part of the Tsinandali Festival, they will make contact with other musicians and build their networks. I hope our youth orchestra will become an essential symbol of hope and a major platform for development in this new cultural centre."*

Avi Shoshani, Artistic Director, Tsinandali Festival, commented: *"We could put a music festival anywhere, but when we had the idea to create the youth orchestra from Georgia and its surrounding countries, to put it in a place with a real message of peace and friendship, we knew we were doing something special. I come from a tortured area and I recognise similarities, so forming this orchestra means so much to me."*

Gianandrea Nosedà, Music Director, Tsinandali Festival, commented: *"I am inspired by the creation of the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra. This has really convinced me that the Tsinandali Festival will be something special, as through music we can try to develop a new society based on friendship and respect despite any differences in politics or religion, because music has a unique language. When you sit with your partner at the music desk, you serve the music together."*

As well as building bridges and breaking down political and economic barriers, the Tsinandali Festival recognises the importance of investing in the next generation of professional musicians, so is providing its players with the unprecedented educational opportunity to serve as the vibrant orchestral backbone for the new Tsinandali Festival.

The festival will further support the orchestra through the fully-funded sponsorship of each member, enabling them to develop and improve their professional skills and experience, learn from and train with world-class coaches, and participate in Georgia's first international music festival. An on-site campus has also been erected which will accommodate the 80-strong orchestra for the duration of the rehearsal and festival period.

The PCYO's involvement in the Tsinandali festival begins on 17 August with three weeks of lessons and rehearsals with principal musicians from leading orchestras and will be followed by five concerts at the Tsinandali Festival led by Music Director Gianandrea Nosedà, as well as other world-class conductors Jukka-Pekka Saraste, Omer Meir Wellber and Lahav Shani, and soloists Lahav Shani, Mischa Maisky, Denis Kozhukhin and Yuja Wang.

The Tsinandali Festival runs from 8 – 22 September 2019

Further information and tickets at www.tsinandalifestival.ge

-Ends-

**For further press information and pictures please contact Phoebe Burrows at Premier
phoebe.burrows@premiercomms.com**

+ 44 (0)20 7292 7352

IMAGES ATTACHED: Gianandrea Nosedà, Tsinandali Estate

Notes to Editor

Gianandrea Nosedà

Gianandrea Nosedà is one of the world's most sought-after conductors, equally recognized for his artistry in both the concert hall and the opera house. He was named Washington D.C.'s National Symphony

Orchestra's seventh music director in 2016 beginning his tenure in the fall of 2017; his contract has been renewed until the 2024/25 season.

In addition to his positions with the National Symphony Orchestra and the Tsinandali Festival, Nosedá also serves as Principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra and Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal Conductor of the Orquesta de Cadaqués, and Artistic Director of the Stresa Festival in Italy. In July 2018, the Zurich Opera House appointed him the next General Music Director beginning in the 2021–2022 season where the centrepiece of his tenure will be a new *Ring* Cycle.

Martin Engstroem

Founder and Executive Director of the Verbier Festival, Martin Engstroem has worked with every major musician of our time. In addition to founding and running the Verbier Festival, Engstroem has held senior roles as an artist manager, as a consultant or executive for Rolex, EMI France, the Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele, the Opéra National de Paris, Deutsche Grammophon and IMG Artists.

An in-demand jury member for numerous competitions he is also a member of several Boards, including the Béjart Ballet, Lausanne, the Macao Festival, the Tibor Varga Academy, Sion and the Glion Institut de Hautes Etudes. In April 2015, he received the Dmitri Shostakovich Prize, considered to be one of the most prestigious prizes in the field of Russian art. He is the first non-musician laureate of this Prize.

In 2018 he became Artistic Director both of the Tsinandali Festival in Georgia and of the Riga Jurmala Music Festival in Latvia.

Avi Shoshani

Secretary General of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, an organisation he joined in 1973 and which he has transformed into a major international orchestra. Shoshani has been responsible for all aspects of the Orchestra's artistic policy, international touring and securing close relationships with many of the world's greatest musicians. A passionate advocate of musical education he has initiated several education programmes in Israel.

As Co-Founder of the Verbier Festival and Academy, he served as Artistic Director for the Festival's first 10 years and continues to be an Artistic Consultant to the Festival.

George Ramishvili

George Ramishvili is Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Silknet and founder, shareholder and chairman of Silk Road Group, a diversified group with a portfolio of investments in transportation and logistics, telecommunication, banking, real estate, tourism and energy in the Caspian and Central Asian region with a focus on Georgia.

George, an entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience in starting-up and successfully running new companies, was the President of the Georgian Ski Federation for several years and is still supporting development of winter sports in Georgia. George is also a member of the international boards of several artistic and cultural organizations, a chairman of the board of National Geographic Georgia (the Licensee of National Geographic in Georgia), a chairman of the Board of the Tsinandali Festival and a member of the International Board of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, among others.

FESTIVAL EVENTS

8 September

19.00: Mahler Symphony No. 2 in C minor, *Resurrection*
Ying Fang, soprano
Ketevan Kemoklidze, mezzo-soprano
Tbilisi Z. Paliashvili Opera and Ballet Theatre Chorus
Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra
Gianandrea Nosedá, conductor

9 September

12.00: Haydn Piano Sonata in E flat major; Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 14; Chopin, 4 Mazurkas Op. 24;
Liszt *Reminiscences de Don Juan*
George Li, piano

19.00: Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 4 & Symphony No. 2
Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra
András Schiff, piano
Gábor Takács-Nagy, conductor

10 September

12:00: Mendelssohn Piano Trio No. 1; Brahms Piano Trio No. 1
Renaud Capuçon, violin
Edgar Moreau, cello
Nicholas Angelich, piano

16:00: repertoire TBC
Katya Tsukanova, violin
Itamar Golan, piano

19:00: Georgian National Ballet Sukhishvili

11 September

12:00: Shostakovich Piano Trio No. 2; Tchaikovsky Piano Trio in A minor
Pinchas Zukerman, violin
Amanda Forsyth, cello
George Li, piano

19:00: Bach Keyboard Concerto in G minor, BWV 1058; Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor; Haydn
Symphony No. 88
Renaud Capuçon, violin
Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra
András Schiff, piano/conductor

12 September

12:00: Chopin Nocturnes and Scherzo No. 1; Schumann 4 *Nachtstücke*; Ravel *Gaspard de la Nuit*;
Rachmaninoff *Cinq Morceaux de fantaisie*
Jan Lisiecki, piano

19:00: Beethoven Triple Concerto; Berlioz *Symphonie fantastique*
Anna Tchania, violin
Lizi Ramishvili, cello
Sandro Nebieridze, piano
Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra
Gianandrea Noseda, conductor

13 September

12:00: Schumann *Dichterliebe*; Schubert Heine Songs
Thomas Hampson, baritone
Jan Lisiecki, piano

19:00: Beethoven Piano Sonatas Nos. 12 & 21; Schumann Piano Sonata No. 1 & Fantasy in C major
András Schiff, piano

14 September

12:00: Chopin Cello Sonata in G minor; Franck Cello Sonata in A major
Edgar Moreau, cello
Itamar Golan, piano

19:00: Tchaikovsky *Variations on a Rococo Theme*; Sibelius Violin Concerto in D minor; Mozart
Symphony No. 40
Lisa Batiashvili, violin
Gautier Capuçon, cello
Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra
Gábor Takács-Nagy, conductor
Pinchas Zukerman, conductor

15 September

12:00: Chopin Waltz in A minor & Scherzo No. 2; Shostakovich Piano Trio No. 1; Mendelssohn Piano Trio No. 2

Lisa Batiashvili, violin
Gautier Capuçon, cello
Nino Gvetadze, piano

19:00: Enescu Romanian Rhapsody No. 1; Dvorak Cello Concerto in B minor; Sibelius Symphony No. 2

Mischa Maisky, cello
Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra
Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor

16 September

12:00: Chopin Piano Sonata No. 3; Medtner Piano Sonata No. 2; Rachmaninoff Piano Sonata No. 2

Yoav Levanon, piano

19:00: Chopin Polonaises; Valses; Mazurkas; Barcarolle in F-sharp minor; Impromptu in A-flat No. 1;

Prelude in A-flat
Sergei Babayan, piano

17 September

12:00: Rachmaninoff *Melodie, Vocalise & Elégie*; Tchaikovsky 'October' from *The Seasons* & *Valse sentimentale*; Scriabin Etude in B flat minor & Romance; Shostakovich Cello Sonata in D minor

Mischa Maisky, cello
Lily Maisky, piano

19:00: Mozart arias from *Così fan tutte* & *Le nozze di Figaro* & Concerto for Two Pianos in E flat;

Schubert Symphony No. 5 in B flat
Thomas Hampson, baritone
Sergei Babayan, piano
Yoav Levanon, piano
Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra
Gábor Takács-Nagy, conductor

18 September

12:00: Weber Grand Duo Concertant for clarinet and piano; Brahms Sonata for clarinet and piano in E flat & Brahms *Hungarian Dances* Nos. 1, 13 & 21

Martin Fröst, clarinet
Yuja Wang, piano

19:00: Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3; Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 1; Shostakovich Symphony No. 9

Lahav Shani, piano
Denis Kozhukhin, piano
Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra
Omer Meir Wellber, conductor

19 September

12:00: Say "Gezi Park 3" for string sextet, piano and mezzo-soprano; Songs for mezzo-soprano and piano & Piano Quintet

Senem Demircioğlu, mezzo-soprano
Fazil Say, piano

19:00: Mozart Clarinet Concerto in A major; Shostakovich Piano Concerto No. 1; Beethoven Symphony No. 1

Martin Fröst, clarinet
Yuja Wang, piano
Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra
Gábor Takács-Nagy, conductor

20 September

12:00: Tsinandali Festival Academy Presents

19:00: Chopin Nocturnes; Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 8 & 23; Satie Six *Gnossiennes*; Debussy Preludes; Say own works
Fazil Say, piano

21 September

12:00: Mendelssohn *Lieder ohne Worte*; Grieg *Lyric Pieces*; Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue* (version for solo piano)
Denis Kozhukhin, piano

19:00: Georgian State Academic Ensemble Rustavi

22 September

12:00: Bach Adagio and Fugue from Sonata in G minor & Chaconne from the Violin Partita No. 2; Kuwahara *Improvised Poem for Mandolin*; Sauli *Partita for Mandolin Solo in C*; Sollima *Prelude for Mandolin Solo*; Bruce "Cymbeline" for Mandolin and String Quartet
Avi Avital, mandolin

19:00: Rachmaninoff Suite No. 2 for two pianos, Op. 17; Shostakovich Piano Concerto No. 2 in F; Brahms Symphony No. 2 in D
Yuja Wang, piano
Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra
Lahav Shani, piano/conductor