

# TSINANDALI FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2022 EDITION INCLUDING RETURN OF THE PAN-CAUCASIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA

2-11 SEPTEMBER



- Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra brings together over 80 young musicians from the surrounding region in specially conceived project to foster understanding and collaboration
- Festival opens with the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra conducted by Ukrainian conductor Oksana Lyniv with pianist Mao Fujita in a programme featuring Ukrainian composer Bohdana Frolyak's *Adagio*. Orchestra performs three other concerts during the Festival under Maestros Charles Dutoit, Pablo Heras-Casado & Vasily Petrenko
- Soloists include Renaud Capuçon, David Carpenter, Seong-Jin Cho; Lucas Debargue, Vilde Frang, Mao Fujita, Denis Kozhukhin, Li La, Noa, Julien Quentin & Kian Soltani

Founded in 2019, The Tsinandali Festival has presented major international musicians in the historic Tsinandali Estate situated in the heart of Georgia's wine country. Despite the challenges posed by the global pandemic, the Festival has been presented every September since its founding.

One of the major initiatives from the inaugural Festival was the founding of the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra that brought together over 80 young musicians from across the region: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkey & Ukraine. Often coming from countries that have a long history of tensions and disputes, these musicians came together to rehearse and perform on the Tsinandali estate. Thanks to support from the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth of Georgia and the Swiss and Norwegian embassies in Georgia, the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra return to the Festival this year for the first time since the outbreak of the Covid pandemic.

The PCYO open the Festival on 2 September with Oksana Lyniv (first woman to conduct at Bayreuth and as music director of the Bologna opera house the first woman to hold such a position at an Italian opera house) conducting the orchestra with pianist Mao Fujita in a programme of Brahms' first Piano Concerto and Beethoven's seventh symphony. They perform in three additional concerts during the Festival under maestros Charles Dutoit, Pablo Heras-Casado and Vasily Petrenko.

The theme of supporting the next generation of musicians is further enhanced by masterclasses given by visiting international soloists and a special concert presented in partnership with Georgian violinist Lisa Batiashvili's foundation of young musicians mentored by her on 11 September.

Over the 10 days of the Festival a host of international musicians will perform together in differing combinations in lunchtime and evening concerts in the two venues built for the inaugural Festival. All programmes and artists have been created by the Festival's joint Founders & Artistic Directors Martin Engstroem and Avi Shoshani.

Gabriadze Theatre, the leading theatre company specializing in puppet performances, makes its Tsinandali Festival debut with the timeless classic *The Autumn of My Springtime*.

#### Martin Engstroem and Avi Shoshani comments:

"We are delighted that the Tsinandali Festival continues its unbroken run of annual editions and to bring back the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra. As the region faces the Russian invasion and occupation of neighbouring Ukraine this Orchestra is needed more than ever. By bringing together these young musicians from across the region, the Orchestra fosters understanding and dialogue – and perhaps most importantly of all the ability to listen to others and perform as a cohesive cohort. We remain indebted to George Ramishvili and the team at Tsinandali who have never swerved from their commitment to the Festival and its ideals."

**George Ramishvili**, Chairman of the Silk Road Group & Chairman and Founder of the Tsinandali Festival comments:

"The work of the Pan Caucasian Youth Orchestra is more vital and necessary than ever before. As Georgians we know better than anyone what it is like to live under occupation. The Orchestra's founding ideal is that the best way to prevent war is dialogue. The impact that the PCYO delivers has now been recognised internationally by the support of the Swiss and Norwegian embassies in Georgia in helping us ensure that the PCYO returns this year at a time when its work is more essential than ever. This support also includes the Georgian Ministry of Culture who join with all of us at the Tsinandali Festival in hoping that the international cooperation that is exemplified by the PCYO is replicated in other countries."

Yerkin Tatishev, Founder and Board Member comments:

"The historic estate of Tsinandali has become a centre for cultural exchange and the gathering of human and intellectual capital. United by music and a common understanding of the power of the arts, Tsinandali is where people – especially young people - from all cultures participate in open exchanges in a dynamic and free environment."

# For more information on the Festival please visit: www.tsinandalifestival.ge

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# **Editor's Notes**

# Tsinandali Festival and the Silk Road Group

The Tsinandali Festival is part of the Silk Road Group's long-term development plan for the Tsinandali Estate. This has included the restoration of Prince Alexander Chavchavadze's manor house, a unique mix of Georgian and European architectural styles from 1812 that is Georgia's most visited attraction with 120,000 visitors annually.

Two new venues have been built on the estate to house the Festival performances - an open amphitheatre with a retractable roof seating 1,200 people and the Chamber Concert Hall which seats 600 people. The halls have been designed by an international group of designers, including German industrial designer Ingo Maurer and French architect Xavier Fabre, who has previously worked on acoustics of the Philharmonie de Paris. The frescoes adorning the site belong to the beloved Georgian artist Tamara Kvesitadze.

# 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.

Tsinandali Festival is presented by Silknet

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Hosts: Radisson Collection Hotel, Tsinandali Estate Georgia, Park Hotel Tsinandali

#### **FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

#### 2 September

19:00 Oksana Lyniv – Conductor Mao Fujita - Piano Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra Bohdana Frolyak - Adagio Johannes Brahms - Piano Concerto No. 1 in D minor, Op. 15 Ludwig van Beethoven - Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92

#### **3 September**

12:00 Li La recital - Cello Julien Quentin – Piano Igor Stravinsky: Suite Italienne Bright Sheng: Seven Tunes Heard in China Rachmaninoff: Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano, Op. 19 19:00 Seong-Jin Cho – Piano Handel: Suite in F minor, HWV 433 Brahms: Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24 Schumann: Symphonic Etudes, Op. 13

# 4 September

12:00 Denis Kozhukhin – Piano Beethoven: 32 Variations in C minor Schubert Piano Sonata No 21, B-flat major, D 960

19:00

Mao Fujita – Piano Mozart: Piano Sonata No. 17 in B-flat major, K 570 Schubert: Drei Klavierstücke, D 946 Brahms: Theme and Variations in D minor from String Sextet no. 1, Op. 18b Clara Schumann: Three Romances, Op.21 Robert Schumann: Piano Sonata No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22

# **5** September

12:00 Kristóf Baráti – Violin Julien Quentin – Piano J.S. Bach: Chaconne, Partita No. 2 BWV 1004 Janáček: Sonata for Violin and Piano Bartók: Violin Rhapsody No. 2 for Violin and Piano Saint-Saëns: Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso, Op.28, for Violin and Piano Ravel: "Tzigane" for Violin and Piano

19:00 Charles Dutoit- Conductor Seong-Jin Cho - Piano Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra Beethoven: 'Egmont' Overture Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major, Op. 58 Dvořák: Symphony No. 9 in E minor, "From the New World", Op. 95

# 6 September

12:00 David Aaron Carpenter – Viola Julien Quentin – Piano Brahms: Sonata for Viola and Piano No. 2 in E-flat major, Op. 120 Prokofiev: Four Pieces from 'Romeo and Juliet', for Viola and Piano (arr.V.Borisovsky), Op. 64 Piazzolla: Oblivion Vieuxtemps: Souvenir d'Amerique, Op. 17 "Yankee Doodle"

19:00

Mao Fujita – Piano Renaud Capuçon - Violin Kian Soltani – Cello Mendelssohn: Piano Trio no. 1 in D minor, Op. 49 Tchaikovsky: Trio in A minor, Op. 50

# 7 September

12:00

Alexandra Conunova - Violin Denis Kozhukhin – Piano Bartók: Six Romanian Folk Dances Sz.56 Enescu: Violin Sonata No. 2 in F minor, Op. 6 Grieg: Violin Sonata No. 3 in C minor

19:00 Gabriadze Theatre Gabriadze: The Autumn of My Springtime

### 8 September

12:00: Alexandra Conunova - Violin Kian Soltani – Cello Lucas Debargue – Piano Robert Schumann: Piano Trio No. 3 in G minor, Op. 110 Schubert: Piano Trio No. 1 in B-flat, Op. 99 D.898

19:00

Pablo Heras-Casado- Conductor Renaud Capuçon - Violin Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra Brahms: Violin Concerto in D major Brahms: Symphony no 4

#### 9 September

12:00 Kian Soltani – Cello Julien Quentin – Piano Debussy: Cello Sonata in D minor Schnittke: Sonata for Cello and Piano Shostakovich: Sonata for Cello and Piano in D minor, Op. 40

19:00 Lucas Debargue– Piano Mozart: Sonata in A minor K. 310 Chopin: Ballade 2 in A minor, Op. 38 Chopin: Prelude in C-sharp minor, Op. 45 Chopin: Polonaise-Fantaisie in A flat major, Op. 61 Alkan: Concerto for Solo Piano, Op. 39 n.8

### **10 September**

12:00 Vilde Frang – Violin Kian Soltani – Cello Julien Quentin – Piano Ravel: Piano Trio in A minor Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No. 2 in C minor, Op. 66

19:00 Noa (Achinoam Nini) – Voice Gil Dor - Guitar Kian Soltani – Cello Noa: Letters to Bach

#### **11 September**

12:00 Giorgi Gigashvili - Piano Sandro Nebieridze - Piano Stravinsky: 'Le Sacre du Printemps' for Two Pianos, Arranged by the composer

19:00 Vasily Petrenko- Conductor Vilde Frang – Violin Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra Shostakovich: Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 77 Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5 in B-flat major, Op. 100