

Press Release, 12 July 2022

Andermatt Music's packed annual programme:

World stage, Swiss classical music and local sounds in Andermatt

Andermatt Music launches its second season on 13 August. By 1 July 2023, approximately 20 concerts will have been given in the award-winning Andermatt Concert Hall. Artistic Director Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer continues to build on her three-pillar concept: top international artists, Swiss classical music played by the orchestra in residence, and native sounds performed by well-known formations from Central Switzerland. The programme will include big names such as tenor Rolando Villazón, Stephan Eicher and violinist Michael Barenboim. The Jerusalem Chamber Music Festival Ensemble, the Brass Ensemble of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and the Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid will also be performing. Furthermore, Bernhard Russi will again be on stage as a tried and tested storyteller. The season will open with a Goethe special as a tribute to the great poet's travels to Andermatt.

Pure emotion in the mountains: the alpine concert hall will experience its first year-round season, with Andermatt Music as the main organiser. Artistic Director Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer will continue her tried and tested three-pillar programme. In addition to internationally renowned stars and orchestras, local sounds by local artists from Central Switzerland will be the order of the day. And the Swiss Orchestra will be playing classical gems by long-forgotten Swiss composers. Located at the highest altitude of any concert hall in Europe and enjoying unique views directly from the auditorium into the Alps, the venue is establishing itself as a veritable beacon of classical music. The renowned Architizer Competition has just named the hall as the global winner in the 2022 Cultural Halls/Theatre category.

World stage for international stars

Rolando Villazón will be giving a gala evening of French and Italian opera arias. He will be accompanied by the Swiss Orchestra. The Brass Ensemble of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra from the Netherlands will perform a festively rousing Christmas concert, featuring a best-of programme. The Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid will be coming from the south to Andermatt, intoxicating audiences with Spanish classical music and great symphonies. The Jerusalem Chamber Music Festival Ensemble – a top orchestra from the Orient – will also be performing on Andermatt's stage. Pianist Elena Bashkirova will present works by Rossini and Brahms together with the ensemble she founded.

Swiss classical music with the orchestra in residence

At the suggestion of the Swiss Orchestra, Michael Barenboim will be performing the Violin Concerto by Hermann Suter (1870–1926), one of Switzerland's most important composers. And Stephan Eicher will be given carte blanche: together with the Swiss Orchestra, he will create a special programme in which the orchestra and the exceptional artist will fulfil each other's musical wishes.

Sounds of Central Switzerland

In addition to top-class local folk music, Camille Saint-Saëns's *Carnival of the Animals* will be a special concert experience. In cooperation with the *Musikschule Uri* (Uri Music School) and the *Talentförderung Musik Kanton Luzern* (Promotion of Musical Talent, Canton of Lucerne), an intergenerational family concert with selected young artists is also planned. "Besides the international greats and Swiss symphonic music, Central Swiss artists are particularly close to my heart. Andermatt is the junction of the north-south axis and thus the ideal place to bring local musical traditions and classical music stars onto the same stage," affirms Artistic Director Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer. After the great success of *Peter and the Wolf* with audiences at Easter, Bernhard Russi will once again be performing as the narrator. The stage seems to have become his second passion alongside the ski slopes of the world.

Goethe's travels to Andermatt

To kick off the programme, Andermatt Music will follow in the footsteps of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The great author discovered the material for *William Tell* in Stäfa on Lake Zurich. He recommended the theme to his friend Friedrich Schiller, who turned it into a world hit. Goethe, visibly fascinated by Switzerland, was subsequently drawn to the Gotthard region three times. As a tribute to the great poet, Franz Schubert's Goethe settings, which are celebrated as great works of the art of the *lied*, will be performed in Andermatt. The tenor part will be performed by the well-known Lucerne opera and *lieder* singer Mauro Peter.

Artistic Director Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer intends to transform the trip to the mountains of Uri into a cultural experience for all the senses. In a unique setting and atmosphere, audiences will be offered cultural experiences with supporting programmes that match the respective concert programme. The concert hall is easily accessible from all over Switzerland.

Programme and tickets

andermttmusic.ch/en/concerts-and-tickets/

Andermatt Music

Andermatt Music brings music off the beaten track to Andermatt Concert Hall, Switzerland's highest concert venue. Andermatt Music presents around 20 concerts annually. This year, the Swiss conductor and musicologist Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer has taken the helm as Artistic Director. Her programme centres on the three pillars "Swiss Orchestra – Schweizer Klassik", "World Stage – Welt Bühne" and "Local Roots – Heimat Klänge". In addition to the Swiss Orchestra as orchestra in residence, Andermatt Music features acclaimed classical music stars, world-famous orchestras and outstanding Swiss ensembles. Andermatt Music establishes the Alpine destination as a magnet for classical music fans and guests from all over the world, as well as a cultural meeting point for Central Switzerland. andermttmusic.ch

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