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Press Release, 13 October 2022

"Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid" at Andermatt Music: **Soul of the Spanish Guitar**

Joaquín Rodrigo and Manuel de Falla, the crème de la crème of Spanish classical music in Andermatt. The "Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid" under its principal conductor Marzena Diakun performs works by these two Spanish composers and a symphony by Antonín Dvořák. Pablo Sáinz-Villegas, a star of the scene and an acclaimed "global ambassador for the guitar", can be heard on the solo guitar.

A classical symphony concert with guitar is not commonplace. Although part of the Spanish cultural identity, it is still unusual for classical fans in more northern latitudes. New York based guitarist Pablo Sáinz-Villegas brings the evocative sounds of Spain to Andermatt. His debut was with the New York Philharmonic; the New York Times praised his "virtuoso playing characterised by irresistible exuberance". Sáinz-Villegas is considered the benchmark for symphonic guitar, the performance of the six-stringed instrument accompanied by a large symphonic orchestra. In Andermatt he will perform the *Concierto de Aranjuez*, a solo concerto for guitar and orchestra by Joaquín Rodrigo. Premiered in 1940 in Barcelona, it is Rodrigo's most popular work and arguably the most well-known music from 20th-century Spain.

Sharing the same pioneering spirit

Polish conductor Marzena Diakun became the second woman to lead a state orchestra in Spain when she took on the Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid last year. After studying with prominent conductors including Kurt Masur and David Zinman, Ms Diakun dedicated her career, alongside the great orchestral repertoire, to endorsing the works of Spanish composers. Her engagement likens her to Andermatt Music's Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer, who promotes Swiss orchestral music in Andermatt with her Swiss Orchestra and Residence Orchestra. Indeed, a musical friendship has developed between the two orchestras. In February, the Swiss Orchestra toured Spain on the invitation of its Madrid colleagues. And the compliment is now being returned, with the Spanish orchestra coming to Andermatt for one concert in Switzerland.

Programme, Saturday 29 October 2022, 7.30 p.m. Symphony concert Joaquín Rodrigo Concierto de Aranjuez Manuel de Falla "El amor brujo", suite Antonín Dvořák Symphony No 8 in G major, Op 88

Artists Orquesta de la Comunidad de Madrid Marzena Diakun, conductor Pablo Sáinz-Villegas, guitar

Programme and tickets andermattmusic.ch/en/concerts-and-tickets/

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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. andermattmusic.ch

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