

68. Gstaad Menuhin Festival & Academy | 12 July – 31 August 2024

TRANSFORMATION – CYCLE «CHANGE II»

The 68th edition of Gstaad Menuhin Festival & Academy is embracing the topic of TRANSFORMATION, curating a diverse programme for the second year of the three-year programme cycle dedicated to change (2023 – 2025). Processes and developments of transformation are intricately tied to the evolution of our surrounding, spanning the environment, our society, economy, technological progress, spirituality in all its forms, and the artistic realm. Transformations reveal themselves in various facets – Trans-mission, Trans-cendence, Trans-Classics. All these components of the programme find expression in the innovative project “**Mission Menuhin**”, which has been inaugurated with the 68th Gstaad Menuhin Festival & Academy.

Gstaad Menuhin Festival & Academy 2024 brings with it ...

- Two captivating new concerts themed “**Music for the Planet**”, curated by **Patricia Kopatchinskaja**, our “Ambassador of Change”. On both evenings, vibrant music, paired with texts and visuals, will explore the multifaceted aspects of transformation. “Venezia and Beyond” immerses the audience in the visual tapestry of a city grappling with the threat of rising waters. Expressive images have been selected for the programme, guiding the audience through a four-century musical journey alongside cellist **Anastasia Kobekina** and the **Kammerorchester Basel**. The spectacular programme “Time and Eternity” is a collaborative creation involving Patricia Kopatchinskaja and the **Camerata Bern**.
- A stellar line-up featuring some of the greatest stars: **Jonas Kaufmann** and **Camilla Nylund** take centre stage in a Wagnerian evening, while pianists such as **Hélène Grimaud** (performing on three evenings), **Yuja Wang** (with a solo recital), **Sir Andrés Schiff** (also making his appearance at the Gstaad Piano Academy), and **Jan Lisiecki** (exploring the intricacies of the prelude form) grace the stage with fantastic programmes. The roster also includes **Daniel Hope** (accompanied by the Zurich Chamber Orchestra for a concert that explores dance music), **Janine Jansen** (bringing Mendelssohn to life alongside the GFO and Jaap van Zweden) and **Vilde Frang** (presenting Elgar’s monumental *Violin Concerto* alongside the London Symphony Orchestra).
- Exciting **Festival debuts**, including the jazz accordionist **Richard Galliano**, pianist **Yunchan Lim** (presenting a pure Chopin programme) and a rising talent of the Baroque scene, **Lea Desandre** (performing with her partner **Thomas Dunford** and her ensemble **Jupiter**).
- A dramatic opera spectacle in a semi-staged performance: Act II of Wagner’s “Tristan and Isolde”, led by Sir **Mark Elder**.
- “**Carte blanche**” concert series with **Julia Fischer**, Artist in Residence 2024: sonatas accompanied by pianist **Yulianna Avdeeva**, chamber music (in two different ensemble formations!) and a Beethoven programme with the **Camerata Salzburg**.

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- A **stunning choral event** (performed on two evenings) marking the opening of the 68th Gstaad Menuhin Festival & Academy: Schubert's monumental *Mass No. 5*, following the "Unfinished" Symphony – a repertoire tailor-made for **Philippe Herreweghe** and his Collegium Vocale Gent.
- Step into the world of our "**Menuhin's Heritage Artists**" concerts, offering a preview of what currently takes centre stage on international platforms: Violinist **Nemanja Radulović** and his ensemble Double Sens completely reimagine Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata" and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Scheherazade". Trumpeter **Lucienne Renaudin Vary** dives into the musical realm of Fazıl Say, and the performance by pianist **Alexandre Kantorow** (featuring Liszt's *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2* and his *Piano Concerto No. 2*) alongside Iván Fischer and the Budapest Festival Orchestra is awaited with great excitement as well.
- **Captivating solo recitals and intimate chamber concerts** set against the backdrop of the region's most splendid churches, featuring the pianists Kristian Bezuidenhout, Hayato Sumino and the duo of Lucas & Arthur Jussen, as well as violinist Samuel Niederhauser (the winner of our "Jeunes Étoiles" 2023 online voting alongside Denis Linnik), clarinet star Sabine Meyer and the Schumann and Chiaroscuro Quartets.
- Introducing the **winner of the Olivier Berggruen Prize 2024**: Pianist Kate Liu, who will be awarded directly following her recital on August 15th at the Rougemont Church, featuring pieces by Beethoven and Schumann.
- **Thrilling symphonic performances** in the Gstaad Festival Tent: Bruckner's *Seventh* with the Gstaad Festival Orchestra led by Jaap van Zweden, Dvořák's *Seventh* presented by the Budapest Festival Orchestra under Iván Fischer and an extraordinary night with the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Antonio Pappano, featuring Mahler's "Titan" and Holst's masterpiece "The Planets".
- In 2024, the **Gstaad Festival Orchestra** extends its partnership with Jaap van Zweden, Principal Conductor of the New York Philharmonic since the 2018/19 season. Beyond gracing the Festival stage, the orchestra takes its music on the road, touring across Europe. Moreover, it plays a pivotal role in the Gstaad Conducting Academy, a collaborative effort led by Jaap van Zweden and Johannes Schlaefli: gstaadfestivalorchestra.com.
- **(Re)discoveries and premieres** await, including Emilie Mayer's *Symphony No. 5* performed by the Kammerorchester Basel, a collection of pieces dedicated to cello pioneer Lisa Cristiani and revived by **Sol Gabetta**, and the debut of Jeremy Menuhin's new *Cello Concerto*.

But there's even more in store ...

- **Diving into the world of Early Music** with the vocals of Nuria Rial and the exhilarating sounds of recorder virtuoso Maurice Steger in "Il giardino d'amore", a joint programme featuring participants of the Gstaad Baroque Academy.
- **Uncharted experiences** with the acclaimed star guitarist **Miloš Karadaglić** accompanied by the Festival Strings Lucerne, or with Daniel Hope on a journey to uncover his "Irish Roots". Andrej Hermlin brings his **Swing Dance Orchestra**, while the multi-percussionist Vivi Vassileva will approach her programme "Pure Energy" with boundless passion! The Quatuor Vision takes the stage with music by Bloch and Shostakovich alongside some jazz and folk on the terrace atop the **Eggli** (1,557 meters above sea level!) – preparing the stage for a DJ set right after the concert. And let's not forget the return of the **DDC Dancefloor Destruction Crew** with their one-of-a-kind programme "Breakin' Mozart".

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Not to be missed ...

- The offerings of the **Gstaad Academy** in 2024, featuring master classes in orchestral conducting, string instruments, piano, and Baroque music. This is the chance to immerse in the expertise of internationally renowned professors like Jaap van Zweden, Ludovic Tézier, Ana Chumachenco, Ettore Causa, Ivan Monighetti, Sir Andrés Schiff and Maurice Steger. The audience is invited to experience the Gstaad Academy's public concerts, titled "**L'Heure Bleue**": gstaadacademy.ch.
- "**Gstaad Discovery**" opens a world of engaging **events for kids, teens, and families**, featuring entertaining introductions to our programmes, unique concert experiences, interactions with artists, behind-the-scenes tours, and much more ...
- Our **streaming platform** "Gstaad Digital Festival" allows you to watch the best Festival moments all year round ... or experience them again! As a bonus, enjoy interviews with artists, panel discussions with experts and exclusive behind-the-scenes glimpses: gstaaddigitalfestival.ch.

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