MPO SEASON OPENING CONCERT

23|24

2ND AUGUST 2023
GRANDMASTERS SUITE HILTON - BATH
8.00PM

BALTA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAESTRO JOE GRIMA

MICHAEL LABB

Programme

Carl Maria von Weber
Overture "Euryanthe" Op.81

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Francesca da Rimini, Op.32 "Allegretto"
I. Vigoz Allegro
II. Andante
III. Allegro vivacissimo
Intermezzo: Andante cantabile
IV. Finale: Allegro

Maurice Ravel
Valses nobles et sentimentales
I. Modéré
II. Assez lent
III. Assez vif
IV. Presque lent
V. Vif
VI. Assez lent
VII. Vif
Epilogue: Lent

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(Russia 1840 – Russia 1893)
Francesca da Rimini, Op.32
I. Vigoz Allegro
II. Andante
III. Allegro vivacissimo
Intermezzo: Andante cantabile
IV. Finale: Allegro

Programme Notes

by Dr Joseph Cordina

Carl Maria von Weber
(Germany 1786 – London England 1826)
Overture "Euryanthe" Op.81

Weber composed Der Freischütz in 1821 and the success of this opera made him the talk of the town. Although Euryanthe was composed a year later, within a few years, it had made its mark on the world of opera and was performed in Vienna, Berlin, Prague and Dresden. Although the opera was not successful, it was considered a masterpiece, overshadowing some of the earlier struggle Weber had had with his previous operas. Weber's Euryanthe was the first German romantic opera and was a great influence on Richard Wagner. Freuchen Kirch's libretto draws on the Medieval tale of the Knight Lohengrin and the Swan Knight and is a mixture of a tragic and a comic opera. In the overture of the story, the Knight Lohengrin is mentioned in the opening bars of the overture and the theme is heard at the end of the overture. Euryanthe is a shocking complex work, with a very complex and difficult plot. The overture is a masterpiece in itself, with a very complex structure, with a lot of contrasting themes and a very well-known ending which is very difficult to perform. The overture is based on two main themes, the first one is a very well known tune, which most, which is of Weber's great contemporary, Carl Maria von Weber's, well known Invitation to the Dance, which is a very well known tune. The second theme, the musical voice of the lovesick Knight Lohengrin, is a very romantic melody. The Weber music which follows contains a lot of tension, which is created by the use of the diminished chord and the use of the tremolo in the strings. The second theme is heard in the overture twice, the second theme leads to the "supernatural" ending of the overture, which is very difficult to perform. The overture is a very complex piece, with many themes and many ideas. The overture brings the overture a bright ending.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(Russia 1840 – Russia 1893)
Francesca da Rimini, Op.32

Vigoz Allegro
Andante
Allegro vivacissimo
Intermezzo: Andante cantabile
Finale: Allegro

Tchaikovsky's Francesca da Rimini is based on the story of the adulterous couple, represented by the Dante's Divine Comedy. Tchaikovsky's work is based on the Dante's Divine Comedy, which is the first movement. Tchaikovsky's work is a tone poem, which is a piece of music, which is based on a literary work, which is a piece of music, which is based on a literary work, which is a piece of music, which is based on a literary work

23/24 Season Calendar Highlights

Aug 31	**MPO Season 23/24 Opening Concert** *Grandmaster's Suite, Hilton - Malta*
Sep 14	**The Classical Shift: Celebrating diversity with the MPO** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Sep 21	**Il-Kunċert tal-Indipendenza** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Sep 30	**Rockestra: More Than a Feeling** *Malta Fairs & Conventions Centre, Ta' Qali*
Oct 14	**Madama Butterfly** *Teatru tal-Opra Aurora, Victoria Gozo*
Oct 26, 28	**Rigoletto** *Teatru Astra, Victoria Gozo*
Nov 11	**Classics at the Cathedral** *Gozo Cathedral, Cittadella Gozo*
Dec 16	**Romantic Classics** *Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta*
Dec 23	**Christmas with the MPO** *Malta Fairs & Convention Centre, Ta' Qali*
Jan 17	**Goldberg Variations on Wind Instruments** *Casino Maltese, Valletta*
Jan 18	**Bach Keyboard Concertos - Concert 1** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Jan 19	**Bach Keyboard Concertos - Concert 2** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Jan 20	**Bach Keyboard Concertos - Concert 3** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Feb 2	**Oratorio 'Hawn f'nofs l-ghar musbieħ qed jixghel' (world premiere)** *Basilica of St Paul, Rabat*
Feb 17	**Symphony to a Jungle** *Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta*
Feb 24	**Symphonic Concert** *Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta*
Mar 3, 6, 8, 10	**Armida** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Mar 14, 15, 16	**Mużika Mużika** *Malta Fairs & Convention Centre, Ta' Qali*
Apr 5	**APS Easter Concert 2024** *St John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta*
Apr 13	**Closing Concert** **18th Malta Spring Festival** *venue tbc*
Sat 20	**Gaulitana Opera** *Teatru tal-Opra Aurora, Victoria Gozo*
May 4	**Joseph Vella's opera *Valeriana* (world premiere)** *Teatru Astra, Victoria Gozo*
May 10	**Foundation Day Concert 2024** *Pjazza Teatru Rjal, Valletta*
May 18	**Feel the Magic** *Teatru Astra, Victoria Gozo*
May 25	**From the British Isles** *St Agatha Auditorium, Rabat*
May 31	**Classical & Contemporary Colours** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Jun 14	**Victoria International Arts Festival - Opening Concert** *Teatru Astra, Victoria Gozo*
Jun 22	**Malta International Arts Festival Concert** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Jun 28	**Luminaria** *Teatru Manoel, Valletta*
Jul 15	**Victoria International Arts Festival - Closing Concert** *St George's Basilica, Victoria Gozo*

All information is correct at the time of publishing. Circumstances may change and the MPO reserves the right to make changes accordingly. For the latest updates and information, please check our website and social media accounts regularly.

THANK YOU
2023/2024

The MPO is a Public Cultural Organisation within Arts Council Malta under the remit of the Ministry for the National Heritage, the Arts, and Local Government.

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MINISTRY FOR NATIONAL HERITAGE, THE ARTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ARTS COUNCIL MALTA

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