SEASON
19
20
MOVEMENTS OF
PASSION
MALTA
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

WELCOME

The Malta Philharmonic Orchestra is delighted to present its 19/20 Concert Season entitled Movements of Passion. The title is inspired by the engaging spirit and fervour the orchestra's musicians and conductors demonstrate, stemming from their love for music and the arts.

This booklet is a guide to the season's events, featuring our concert productions as well as the numerous third-party events we have been invited to participate in. During this artistic year, the orchestra shall perform around Malta as well as tour Moscow and present chamber concerts in New York and Bombay.

The eclectic programme presents a wide array of orchestral repertoire, ranging from symphonic and chamber concerts to opera productions and events of a lighter nature, including family-oriented ones. The symbol categorization listed below is provided for easier perusal of our season calendar.

MPO Membership Scheme concerts (more information can be found at the back of the booklet) and free events are also highlighted.

- Symphonic Concert
- Family and Educational Event
- Rock/Pop Fusion Concert
- Opera
- M — MPO Membership Scheme
- Chamber Music Concert
- Light Classical/Alternative Concerts
- Choral Concert
- F — Free Admission

ALLEGRO VIVACE

Foreward

Writing to his father, Mozart remarked that the “most necessary, most difficult and principal thing in music is time”. Introducing the 19/20 Concert Season of the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra, I believe this quote defines our new aims and broadened perspectives.

Today is the time to perform Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring, Schoenberg’s Verklärte Nacht and Strauss’ Sinfonia Domestica. It is the time to celebrate Beethoven’s birthday and to dream together of an auditorium heralding the beginning of an exciting era for our orchestra.

In my role as Artistic Director involved in the holistic nurturing of this fantastic philharmonic, as well as in my capacity as Conductor and Composer, I will strive to focus my energy on delivering a common tempo to connect everybody through the humanity and passion music evokes.

Undeniably, the time is apt for a renewal in our way of making music. The programmes have been based on a thematic focus, linked through composers, stylistic schools or internationally-acclaimed soloists.

We shall endeavour to engage with our audiences by opening our doors to discussions, open rehearsals, talks with artists and young audience programmes whilst fostering relationships with our partners. With the final trajectory of the baton, I wish you, as we say in my native France, *Belle Saison!*

Raoul Lay
Artistic Director

MALTA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

For half a century, the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra has been Malta's leading musical ensemble.

The orchestra was founded in April 1968, when musicians from the defunct "C-in-C" Orchestra of the Malta-based British Mediterranean Fleet regrouped as the Manoel Theatre Orchestra. It continued to serve as the theatre's resident orchestra until September 1997, when it became an independent orchestra, taking up National Orchestra of Malta as its name. The orchestra became the MPO in 2008 when it expanded into a full-size symphony orchestra, bringing together the best of Maltese talent and musicians from Europe and beyond.

Joseph Sammut, the C-in-C's last conductor, was the orchestra's first conductor, remaining at the helm until 1992. Since then, the orchestra has also been under the direction of Joseph Vella, Michael Laus, and Brian Schembri.

This season, the MPO has appointed Raoul Lay as its Artistic Director, together with Sergey Smbatyan as Principal Conductor and Michael Laus as Resident Conductor. The MPO also works with local and international guest conductors and soloists including Lawrence Renes, Michalis Economou, Guy Braunstein and Enrico Dindo.

As Malta's only professional orchestra, the MPO averages more than one performance a week including symphonic concerts, opera productions in Malta and Gozo, community outreach and educational initiatives, as well as various concerts of a lighter nature.

The orchestra has performed in leading venues across the globe, including in the USA, Russia, Germany, Austria, China, Italy, and Belgium. Presently it embarks on at least one international tour each concert season.

The MPO is a keen exponent of Maltese composers, regularly performing their works in Malta and overseas, as well as frequently premiering and commissioning new compositions.

Through the MPO Academy and the Malta Youth Orchestra, which itself regularly gives concerts around Malta, the MPO is also responsible for the training and professional development of the next generation of Maltese musicians.

www.maltaorchestra.com

MPO MUSICIANS

Violins
Marcelline Agius**
Stephen Zammit*
Roberta Attard
Roberta Cannas
Reggie Clews
Matteo Colombo
Stephen Debattista
Rosanne Dimech
Natalia Filipenko
Fiona Giambra
Elena Imparato
Tobias Kausel
Agnieszka Kuźma
Mario Micallef
Valhmor Montfort
Inmaculada Muñoz Salgüero
Klara Nazaj
Philipp Orlov
Vincenzo Picone
Riccardo Rossano
Emilia Wiśniewska

Violas
Nadia Debono*
Savio Debono
Matthew Fenech
Anthony Gilbert
Mateusz Kuźma
Ayako Omoto

Cellos
Mario Psaila*
Frank Camilleri
Peter Flanagan
Ákos Kertész
Lucie Kuchařová
Yaroslav Miklukho

Double Basses
Gjorgji Cincievski*
Marco Agnetti
Stefano Giordano
Dion Xuereb

Flutes
Rebecca Hall*
Fiorella Camilleri

Oboes
John McDonough*
Chiara Telleri
Jennifer Melville

Clarinets
Giuseppe Recchia*
Daniele Galletto

Bassoons
Giacomo Cella*
Lampros-Ioannis Lapinas
Maria Spiteri Zahra

Horns
Etienne Cutajar*
Manuele Catalano
Marco Cola
Bernardette Vella

Trumpets
Kevin Abela*
Brendan Ball

Trombones
Roderick Bugeja*
Dennis Camilleri
Jesmond Azzopardi

Tuba
Chris Spiteri*

Timpani
Michael Camilleri*

Percussion
Daniel Cauchi*

Harp
Britt Arend*

*** orchestra leader*
** section principal*

MPO BOARD, MANAGEMENT & ADMIN

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Principal Conductor: Sergey Smbatyan
Resident Conductor: Michael Laus

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Director - Finance and Administration: Reuben Sammut
Education & Development Manager: Maria Blanco

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Malta Youth Orchestra

Artistic Director: José García Gutiérrez
Project Manager: Chris Spiteri
Artistic Programme Developer: Maria Conrad

The MPO is grateful for the support of the following individuals towards its endeavours:
Ray Attard, Carl Borg, Hilda Curmi, Marouska Curmi and Anastasia Megally Cassar

MALTA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

An Artistic Vision

The past twenty-five years as a professional musician and educator have offered me the privilege to appreciate daily the intrinsic value of music. Its worth goes far beyond the practice room, the stage or the applause.

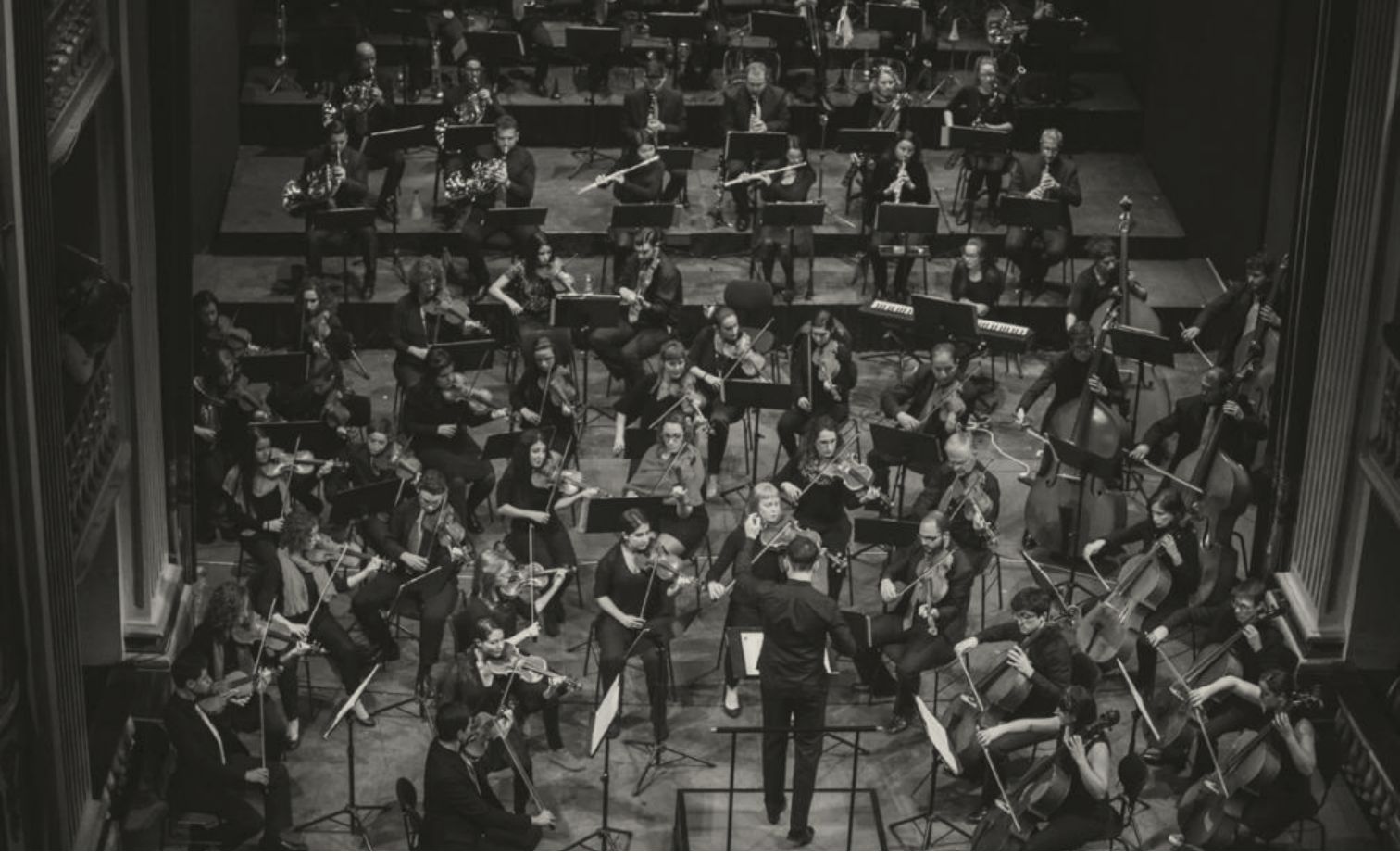
When a child learns music, the artistic mind expresses itself. This contributes towards the achievement of intellectual, spiritual and emotional balance. Few entities support this personal development as well as a youth orchestra. Music is a universal language which knows no boundaries and such a formation provides an unforgettable experience which lasts a lifetime.

As the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra continues to grow and develop, its brainchild, the Malta Youth Orchestra, has also witnessed several changes over the last few years. Maltese students have been fortunate to experience the unique world of orchestral and chamber music within a structured framework and have embarked on various remarkable projects, including international collaborations.

With the support of tutors from the MPO and other international mentors, together with outstanding conductors, the local talent is once again flourishing and our young musicians now truly believe that music is not merely an enriching pastime, but a career with limitless possibilities.

“Tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today”. In this respect, I look forward to working further towards nourishing our talented young Maltese musicians in my new role as Artistic Director with the firm belief that together we are laying the foundations for the MPO’s next generation of musicians.

José García Gutiérrez
Artistic Director



5 OCTOBER (SATURDAY)
NOTTE BIANCA OPENING CONCERT

7.00PM, 9.30PM
PJAZZA TEATRU RJAL
Valletta

27 DECEMBER (FRIDAY)
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

8.30PM
VENUE TBC

29 APRIL (WEDNESDAY)
MALTA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL CONCERT

8.00PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE
Valletta

AUGUST (DATE TBC)
SUMMER CAMP CONCERT

8.00PM
VENUE TBC

S
SEPTEMBER

06 SEPTEMBER
FRIDAY

MPOPENING NOTES

Season-Launch Concert presented in collaboration with the Valletta Cultural Agency

MICHELLE CASTELLETTI
Conductor

CLARE GHIGO
Mezzo Soprano

FEDERICA FALZON
Soprano

Programme to include:

Gioachino Rossini
William Tell, Overture (Finale)

Georges Bizet
Habanera from Carmen

Edward Elgar
Nimrod from Enigma Variations

Francesco Sartori
Con Te Partirò

Arturo Márquez
Danzón No. 2

The MPO launches its season with an open-air concert under the patronage of H.E. The President of Malta. With the participation of Clare Ghigo and Federica Falzon, the orchestra performs renowned musical numbers under the baton of Michelle Castelletti.

8.30PM
PJAZZA SAN ĠORĠ - Valletta

F

Clare Ghigo - *photo by Ben Tomlin*

14 SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY

THE RITE OF SPRING

presented in collaboration with the Mediterranean Conference Centre

SERGEY SMBATYAN
Conductor

ALEXEI VOLODIN
Piano

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18

Igor Stravinsky
The Rite of Spring

The premiere of the ballet in 1913 caused a scandal. Commissioned by Diaghilev, the work describes a pagan ritual where a virgin dances herself to death. The riots that ensued in the theatre were a reaction to Stravinsky's jarring rhythms and complex innovations, Nijinsky's exotic choreography and Roerich's bizarre settings.

The Piano Concerto by fellow Russian Rachmaninoff is contrastingly full of lyrical melodies. Often described as the greatest piano concerto ever written, the work is full of dialogue between the orchestra and the soloist.

8.00PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

Alexei Volodin - *photo by Marco Borggreve*

21 SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY

KUNĊERT TAL-INDIPENDENZA

presented in collaboration with Festivals Malta

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

CLIFF ZAMMIT STEVENS
Tenor

Programme to include:

Gaetano Donizetti
Una Furtiva Lagrima from L'Elisir d'Amore

Nicolo Isouard
Les Deux Maris, Overture

Léo Delibes
Coppélia Suite

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Capriccio Espagnol

MPO Resident Conductor Michael Laus leads the orchestra in a celebratory concert marking Independence Day. Featuring Maltese tenor Cliff Zammit Stevens, the programme includes renowned works by local and international composers.

8.00PM
SAN ANTON PALACE - Attard

F

28 SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY

ROCKESTRA

in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation

PAWLU BORG BONACI
Artistic Director

SIGMUND MIFSUD
Musical Director

The acclaimed yearly concert returns – with more energy than ever! The Malta Philharmonic Orchestra's foray into the rock-world features classics by the Queen, Led Zeppelin, Rolling Stones and Pink Floyd together with songs by Foo Fighters and Red Hot Chilli Peppers.

The singer line-up presents familiar Rockestra names: Kenneth Calleja, Errol Briffa and Ivan Filletti, together with several artists: Amber, Martina Borg and Ben Purple. This year's rock-concert shall also host internationally-acclaimed acts.

8.00PM
MALTA FAIRS & CONVENTION CENTRE - Ta' Qali

10
OCTOBER

04 OCTOBER
FRIDAY

VIENNA FOREVER

RAOUL LAY
Conductor

ROBERTO COMINATI
Piano

Ludwig Van Beethoven
Coriolan Overture in C minor, Op. 62

Arnold Schoenberg
Verklärte Nacht Op. 4

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 21

Franz Schubert
Symphony No. 8 in B minor, 'Unfinished'

Schubert's Unfinished Symphony, although consisting of only two movements, boasts extraordinary musical prowess. Its fearlessness may stem from the composer's experience of a world of darkness and pain. The work is complemented by Beethoven's Overture depicting von Collin's story, and Mozart's popular yet virtuosic Piano Concerto together with Schoenberg's early masterpiece in a late-Romantic style.

7.30PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

Roberto Cominati - *photo by Fabrizio Ferri*

12 OCTOBER
SATURDAY

LA BOHÈME

a Teatru Aurora production

COLIN ATTARD
Conductor

VIVIEN HEWITT
Director

LUKE AZZOPARDI
Costume Designer

Giacomo Puccini
La Bohème

For more reasons than one, Paris has lived up to its name of La Ville-Lumière ('The City of Light'). For more than just an innocent reason, Mimì ends up in darkness and asks Rodolfo to lend her a matchstick. That is where a new flame is born, in the Parisian attic on Christmas Eve.

7.30PM
TEATRU AURORA - Victoria

24/26 OCTOBER
THURSDAY & SATURDAY

IL TROVATORE

a Teatru Astra production

JOHN GALEA
Conductor

ENRICO STINCHELLI
Director

Giuseppe Verdi
Il Trovatore

Verdi's opera is a perfect storm of excitement: a poignant human story spiked with ferocious drama and fraught with conflicting deep-seated emotions and sharpened resolve. The most glorious music merges gallantry with the ethereal to reach truly astonishing heights in a masterpiece full of exquisite melodies.

7.30PM
TEATRU ASTRA - Victoria

24/25 OCTOBER

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

Homage to Astor Piazzolla

DIABLO Y ANGEL

presented in collaboration with Culture Venture

TANGO NUEVO QUINTET

Astor Piazzolla
Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas
Romance del Diablo
Michelangelo 70
Ave Maria
Escualo
Contrabajisimo
Concerto for Quintet

Astor Piazzolla was the foremost composer of tango music, who carried the signature sound of Argentina to clubs and concert halls around the world. After establishing the tango nuevo in the 1950s, he formed the seminal Quinteto Tango Nuevo, featuring the bandoneon alongside the violin, guitar, piano, and bass. Such a formation, he believed, represented an ideal reduced yet balanced orchestra.

8.00PM
ROBERT SAMUT HALL - Floriana

Fiorella Camilleri - *photo by Poppy Stevenson*

N

NOVEMBER

01 NOVEMBER
FRIDAY

FOUNDATION DAY CONCERT

presented by the University of Malta

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

GOLDBERG ENSEMBLE

Programme to include:

Gioachino Rossini
Il Barbiere di Siviglia Overture

Charles Camilleri
Maltese Dances

Franz von Suppé
Poet and Peasant, Overture

Anonymous
Gaudeamus Igitur

This concert – which has become an annual event in the MPO's season – presents an eclectic programme featuring a number of well-known local and international numbers with the participation of the Goldberg Ensemble. Rossini's Il Barbiere Overture and Suppé's Poet and Peasant Overture complement Camilleri's Maltese Dances and Pace's L-Imnarja.

7.30PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

F

Michael Laus - *photo by Gilbert Naudi*

08/09
NOVEMBER
FRIDAY & SATURDAY

EAST, WEST AND HALFWAY BACK

presented in collaboration with the Central Bank of Malta & Teatru Manoel

RAOUL LAY
Conductor

ROGER MURARO
Pianist

Dmitri Shostakovich/Rudolf Barshai
Chamber Symphony in C minor, Op. 110A

Charles Ives
Central Park in the Dark

Charles Ives
The Unanswered Question

Maurice Ravel
Concerto in G major for Piano

Barshai's orchestral arrangement of Shostakovich's autobiographical String Quartet No. 8 is complemented with Ravel's light-hearted Piano Concerto, composed "in the spirit of Ravel and Saint-Saëns". The central part of the programme features two works originally paired together as Two Contemplations. The first piece evokes "the sounds of nature and happenings" whereas The Unanswered Question offers an example of the universal religion Ives conceived.

7.30PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

Roger Muraro - *photo by Jean-Baptiste Millot*

15/16
NOVEMBER
FRIDAY & SATURDAY

ŻiguŻajg International Arts Festival for Children and Young People

ROBIN HOOD U MARIAN

TONI ATTARD
Director

SIMON BARTOLO
Playwright

ALEX BEZZINA
Musical Director/Arranger

This performance harks back to when theatres were different to those of our day and age. The story of Marian and her beloved Robin Hood is retold through stage machinery, a few costumes and a big dose of creativity.

In this co-production with ŻiguŻajg Festival the MPO performs a number of classics based on Simon Bartolo's new book for children to rediscover a great story that endured the test of time.

9.30AM, 11.30AM (Friday Schools Performance)
4.30PM, 6.30PM (Saturday Public Performaces)
VALLETTA PRIMARY SCHOOL - Valletta

Jeremy Grech - *photo by Elisa von Brockdorff*

21–27 NOVEMBER

MPO MOSCOW TOUR – A Union of Cultures

presented in collaboration with the European Foundation for Support of Culture

The orchestra's international tour for the 19/20 season, under the patronage of H.E. The President of Malta, shall present four events in prestigious concert venues around Russia's capital city, Moscow. The inaugural concert features Maltese tenor Joseph Calleja at the recently inaugurated Zaryadye Hall. The subsequent performances, under the baton of MPO Principal Conductor Sergey Smbatyan, explore a wide repertoire whilst exporting Maltese music to foreign audiences.

21 NOVEMBER (THURSDAY)

CONSTANTINE ORBELIAN
Conductor

JOSEPH CALLEJA
Tenor

Programme to include:

Giuseppe Verdi
Overture to Nabucco

Giacomo Puccini
Tosca 'E lucevan le stelle'

Giuseppe Verdi
Luisa Miller 'Oh Fede Negar Potessi'

Joseph Vella
Il-Kebbies tal-Fanali

Pablo Sorozabal
No Puede Ser

7.00PM
GRAND HALL, ZARYADYE HALL - Moscow

23 NOVEMBER (SATURDAY)

SERGEY SMBATYAN
Conductor

RAY CHEN
Violin

Christopher Muscat
Festival Overture

Alexey Shor
Phantasms

Camile Saint-Saëns
Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso, Op. 28

Pyotr I. Tchaikovsky
Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64

7.00PM
SVETLANOV HALL, MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF MUSIC - Moscow

25 NOVEMBER (MONDAY)

SERGEY SMBATYAN
Conductor

ALESSANDRO TAVERNA
Piano

Alexey Shor
Travel Notebook, Concerto for Piano and Orchestra

Nicolò Isouard
Du Medecin Turc Overture

Charles Camilleri
Mediterranean Dances

Albert Garzia
Suite from Bahr

7.00PM
PILLAR HALL, THE HOUSE OF UNIONS - Moscow

27 NOVEMBER (WEDNESDAY)

SERGEY SMBATYAN
Conductor

SHLOMO MINTZ
Violin

Christopher Muscat
Festival Overture

Alexey Shor
Seascapes for Violin and Orchestra

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov/Efrem Zimbalist
Concert Phantasy on "The golden cockerel" for Violin and Orchestra

Antonin Dvorak
Symphony No. 9 in E minor, "From the New World", Op. 95

7.00PM
GRAND HALL, MOSCOW STATE TCHAIKOVSKY CONSERVATORY - Moscow

Joseph Calleja ©Decca

Ray Chen - *photo by John Mac*

Alessandro Taverna

Shlomo Mintz ©Yonathan Weitzman

D
DECEMBER

PRESENTATION LICENSED BY

Disney CONCERTS

©Disney

07 DECEMBER

SATURDAY

DISNEY
THE LION KING

In Concert Live to Film

KEVIN ABELA
Conductor

Hans Zimmer
Musical Score for The Lion King

Jon Favreau's photorealistic computer-animated remake released in July 2019 was defined as "a roaring success". Featuring a voice cast including Donald Glover, Beyoncé and James Earl Jones with songs by Tim Rice and Elton John, the live-action film version is performed in Malta.

This family-friendly symphonic cinema event offers patrons a unique opportunity to experience the Disney classic whilst the MPO performs the enigmatic soundtrack live.

6.00PM
MALTA FAIRS AND CONVENTIONS CENTRE - Ta' Qali

11 DECEMBER
WEDNESDAY

FROM MALTA TO BOHEMIA

MPO STRING QUARTET

MICHAEL LAUS
Piano

Aleandro Spiteri Monsigneur
Les Mouches from String Quartet in C Minor

Joseph Vella
Tre Danze Antiche con Preludio Op. 98

Christopher Muscat
Clepsydra

Ruben Zahra
Movement 1 from High on Rapture

Antonín Dvořák
Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81

The MPO String Quartet presents works by contemporary Maltese composers. Michael Laus joins the performers for an oeuvre which "epitomizes more completely the genuine Dvořák style", a quintet of symphonic textures full of romantic melodies.

7.30PM
ROBERT SAMUT HALL - Floriana

15 DECEMBER
SUNDAY

JOSEPH CALLEJA CHRISTMAS CONCERT

presented by The BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation

DAVID CHAN
Conductor

JOSEPH CALLEJA
Tenor

FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

This is the annual fund-raising concert of the BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation, established to provide encouragement and assistance to exceptionally talented young persons in the field of the performing arts, and to use the power of music to assist vulnerable children.

The concert will feature Joseph Calleja and Foundation Scholars together with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by David Chan.

7.00PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

21 DECEMBER
SATURDAY

CHRISTMAS SERENADES

RAOUL LAY
Conductor

Anton Dvořák
Serenade for Strings in E major, Op. 22

Richard Strauss
Serenade in E flat Major, Op. 7

Richard Wagner
Siegfried Idyll

The MPO greets Christmas with a chamber orchestra concert presenting sweet melodies. Dvořák's Serenade reflects the happiness pervading his life at the time whereas Strauss's work, composed at the age of 13, anticipates the lyrical elements found in his more mature works.

Siegfried Idyll, Wagner's intimate tone poem, celebrates the composer's love for his wife.

7.30PM
THE GRAND BALLROOM, PHOENICIA HOTEL - Floriana

26-29 DECEMBER
THURSDAY - SUNDAY

Mood Indigo

ÇATAL DUO

FIORELLA CAMILLERI
Flute

AHMED DICKINSON CÁRDENAS
Guitar

Programme to include:

Eduardo Martin
Trazos en el aire
Suite Habana
Sones y Flores
Cancio de Octubre

Mood Indigo is regarded as Asia's largest college cultural festival. MPO flautist Fiorella Camilleri teams up with Ahmed Dickinson Cárdenas to present a concert of works by Cuban artist Eduardo Martin. Inspired by musical styles from different countries, notably his native land, his works present traits of folk, jazz and classical.

TIME TBC
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY - Mumbai

J
JANUARY

05 JANUARY
SUNDAY

THE PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR CONCERT

presented in collaboration with Festivals Malta

ALAN CHIRCOP
Conductor

MARVIC MONREAL
Mezzo Soprano

Programme to include:

Ludwig van Beethoven
Egmont Overture, Op. 84

Charles Camilleri
Knights of Malta Ballet Suite

Agustin Lara
Granada

Georges Bizet
Habanera from Carmen

Johannes Brahms
Hungarian Dance No. 5

The MPO greets 2020 with a concert in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation under the direction of Alan Chircop. Featuring Maltese mezzo Marvic Monreal, the programme presents a number of instrumental and vocal works apt for the festive season's celebratory mood.

TIME TBC
MEDITERANEAN CONCFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

11 JANUARY
SATURDAY

POCKET SYMPHONIES

ROBERT FERRER
Conductor

SVEN HELBIG
Electronics

CHARLENE FARRUGIA
Piano

Sven Helbig
Pocket Symphonies

Helbig belongs to the new generation of composers for whom there are no barriers between the classical orchestral world, experimental art and pop music.

His Pocket Symphonies, released under the Deutsche Grammophon label, are a coherent cycle of 12 compositions pursuing the idea of creating symphonic pearls in the form of songs.

7.30PM
ROBERT SAMUT HALL - Floriana

14 JANUARY
TUESDAY

INSPIRED BY BAROQUE

presented by the Valletta International Baroque Festival

RICCARDO BIANCHI
Conductor

Programme to include:

Richard Strauss
Divertimento for Chamber Orchestra after Keyboard Pieces by Couperin, Op. 86

Karl Fiorini
Ostinati

Gianfrancesco Malipiero
La Cimarosiana

Luigi Mancinelli
Suite Sinfonica: Scene Veneziane

The MPO returns to the VIBF performing works ranging from the 19th century to contemporary compostions. Strauss' oeuvre represents his expressive maturity, Malipiero tributes Cimarosa, whereas Fiorini gets inspired by traits of the Baroque era.

7.30PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

17 JANUARY
FRIDAY

HODON FJURI LIL SAN PUBLIJU

presented by Il-Furjana

RAY SCIBERRAS
Conductor/Composer

KIMBERLY GRECH
Soprano

CHARLES VINCENTI
Tenor

ALBERT BUTTIGIEG
Bass

DOROTHY BEZZINA
Singer

Ray Sciberras
Hodon Fjuri lil San Publiju

The Cantata was commissioned by the gazette Il-Furjana to mark the 4th centenary (1610-2010) since Bishop Gargallo declared St. Publius as patron saint and protector of Malta. It also marked the 200 years (1811-2011) since the Maltese sculptor Vincenzo Dimech carved the statue of St. Publius in wood.

7.00PM
ST PUBLIUS CHURCH - Floriana

22 JANUARY
WEDNESDAY

CHINESE NEW YEAR CONCERT

presented by the Chinese Cultural Centre

MIRAN VAUPOTIĆ
Conductor

ZHANG PEI
Zheng

BAI YU
Erhu

LI XINXING
Violin

TU SHANXIANG
Pipa

Programme to include:

Li Zili
Fisherman Harvest Song

Charles Camilleri
Village Festa from Malta Suite

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Grand Pas de Deux from The Nutcracker

Li Huanzhi
Spring Festival Overture

This concert is one of the numerous Chinese New Year celebration events taking place in more than 100 countries in January 2020. Featuring typical Chinese traditional instruments and music by Chinese composers, the event sets an example of cultural communication and presents an ideal opportunity for audiences to appreciate Chinese music and culture.

7.30PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

25 JANUARY
SATURDAY

GRAN PARTITA

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Serenade No. 10 for winds in B-flat Major, K. 361/370a, 'Gran Partita'

Although written to be performed in the homes of well-off music patrons, the Gran Partita is Mozart's longest most ambitious and technically complex wind serenade. The seven-movement exquisite tour de force commences with a sonata-form of symphonic dimensions before culminating in an elaborate set of variations and a forceful finale.

7.30PM
ROBERT SAMUT HALL - Floriana

F
FEBRUARY

08 FEBRUARY
SATURDAY

STRAUSS COMPOSER AND CONDUCTOR

presented in collaboration with the Mediterranean Conference Centre

RAOUL LAY
Conductor

ANNA GOCKEL
Violin

Jean Sibelius
Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, Op. 47

Richard Strauss
Sinfonia Domestica, Op. 53

This orchestral concert presents two masterpieces of the early 20th century. Although the musical depiction of one's personal life was not uncommon, Richard Strauss' work is a blatant realism of family life, including arguments with his wife and screams of young children. Indeed, this multi-movement continuous work describes a twenty-four hour life-cycle in the Strauss household.

Sibelius' childhood dream of becoming a violin virtuoso is reflected in this concerto, which can be coined as his first abstract work.

6.00PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

Anna Gockel - *photo by Celia Schaeffer*

15
FEBRUARY
SATURDAY

RUSSIAN SOUNDS

SERGEY SMBATYAN
Conductor

YE EUN CHOI
Violin

Sergei Prokofiev
Violin Concerto No. 1 in D Major, Op. 19

Alexander Scriabin
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 55

The MPO Principal Conductor leads the orchestra in a programme of Russian works. Scriabin's symphony was defined as "the new Bible" by Vassily Safonoff, at the time conductor of the New York Philharmonic. Ingeniously, the composer developed the sombre initial theme into a triumphant finale hymn, establishing a cyclic link between the movements.

The violin concerto by Prokofiev delights audiences with its romantic lyricism without shying away from the characteristic virtuoso traits, manifesting his enfant terrible personality.

7.30PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

M

Sergey Smbatyan

22
FEBRUARY
SATURDAY

KANTILENA

GILLIAN ZAMMIT
Soprano

FRANK CAMILLERI
Cello

BRITT AREND
Harp

Programme to include:

Henri Duparc
Chanson Triste,
Op. 2 No. 4

Gioachino Rossini
La Danza

Camille Saint-Saëns
Danse Macabre, Op. 40

Heitor Villa-Lobos
Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5

This chamber programme consists of a selection of most enchanting art songs as well as renowned works for cello and harp. Such a repertoire requires a degree of intimacy between the performers to transmit the emotions expressed in the poems and music.

The concert is also being presented at Carnegie Hall on Tuesday, 7 April 2020, in collaboration with Parma Recordings.

7.30PM
ROBERT SAMUT HALL - Floriana

27
FEBRUARY
THURSDAY

Intercultural Creation Session

THE MEDINEA PROJECT - VALLETTA

presented by ARC Research & Consultancy with the support of Arts Council Malta

FABRIZIO CASSOL
Project Leader

The Medinea Project is a multinational initiative created by the Medinea Network within the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence with the participation of five Mediterranean cities including, Aix-en-Provence (France), Istanbul (Turkey), Valletta (Malta), Nuoro (Sardinia) and Lisbon (Portugal). The project brings the diverse sounds of the Mediterranean to the concert platform through intercultural performances by a group of young musicians from different Mediterranean countries led by jazz saxophonist and composer Fabrizio Cassol. Over a period of three years which started in April 2019, Cassol and the rest of the musicians will experiment with the diversity of rhythms and melodies found in Mediterranean musical traditions through residencies and performances in the five cities involved in the project.

The Medinea Project is co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.

7.30PM
ROBERT SAMUT HALL - Floriana

M
MARCH

01/03/05/07
MARCH

OTELLO

a Teatru Manoel production

MARCO MENCOBONI
Conductor

VIVIEN HEWITT
Director

Gioachino Rossini
Otello

A newly designed production of this opera directed by Vivien Hewitt featuring Cliff Zammit Stevens in the title role with the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Marco Mencoboni. The opera by Gioachino Rossini, with an Italian libretto by Francesco Maria Berio di Salsa, is based on a French adaptation of the story and not Shakespeare's play Othello. It shall be sung in Italian with English and Maltese surtitles.

7.30PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

Cliff Zammit Stevens - *photo by Kris Micallef*

14
MARCH
SATURDAY

MAHLER'S SIXTH

presented in collaboration with the Mediterranean Conference Centre

LAWRENCE RENES
Conductor

Gustav Mahler
Symphony No. 6

Sometimes nicknamed "Tragic", the symphony has been described as "the first nihilist work in the history of music". According to Mahler's wife, the work is prophetically autobiographical, with the composer himself noting that "the hero is assaulted by three hammer-blows of fate, the last of which fells him as a tree is felled".

This mythical piece was Mahler's first four-movement purely instrumental symphony since his First as he engages with the formal conventions of the genre.

6.00PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

Lawrence Renes - *photo by Claudia Green*

21
MARCH
SATURDAY

MOZART'S HEAVENLY REQUIEM

presented by Fondazzjoni Kottonera

LAWRENCE RENES
Conductor

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Requiem in D minor, K. 626

Lawrence Renes leads the MPO in the performance of a masterpiece shrouded in mystery. Commissioned to write this work by a "stranger" who turned up at the door, Mozart, though in poor health, worked obsessively on the composition.

However, the only two movements completed prior to the composer's death were the Requiem and Kyrie. Although Süssmayer eventually finished the work, Beethoven commented that "If Mozart did not write the music, then the man who wrote it was a Mozart".

7.30PM
ST LAWRENCE CHURCH - Birgu

F

28
MARCH
SATURDAY

Gaulitana: A Festival of Music

SYMPHONIC OPENING

COLIN ATTARD
Conductor

Programme to include:

Ludwig van Beethoven
Symphony No. 5 in C Minor, Op. 67

The MPO opens the 14th edition of Gaulitana with a symphonic concert under the baton of Colin Attard, the festival's Artistic Director. The programme features Beethoven's 5th Symphony, a work which can be defined as classical music's calling-card, in view of its four-note opening statement.

7.30PM
VENUE TBC

F

A
APRIL

03
APRIL
FRIDAY

STRINGS IN SPRING

RAOUL LAY
Conductor

CARMINE LAURI
Violin

Brett Dean
Testament

Ludwig Van Beethoven
Romance No. 1 in G Major for Violin and orchestra, Op. 40

Max Bruch
Concerto No. 1 for Violin and orchestra, Op. 26

Ludwig Van Beethoven
Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92

Described by Wagner as the “apotheosis of the dance”, Symphony No. 7 opens with dark tones, later replaced by a lightness in texture and quality. A visceral feeling present throughout the symphony is mostly evidenced in the energetic finale. Maltese violinist Carmine Lauri joins the orchestra to perform Beethoven’s lyrical Romance and Bruch’s Concerto, a work balancing melodic simplicity and virtuosity.

8.00PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

Carmine Lauri

07
APRIL
TUESDAY

CONCERT IN AID OF THE ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL RESTORATION FUND

presented by St Paul Pro-Cathedral

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

CLAIRE MASSA
Alto

GOLDBERG ENSEMBLE

Programme to include:

Antonio Vivaldi
Sinfonia al Santissimo Sepolcro in B minor, RV 169

Gregorio Allegri
Miserere

Johann Sebastian Bach
Agnus Dei from B Minor Mass

Antonio Vivaldi
Gloria

The fundraising concert presents an evening of sacred choral and instrumental music. Allegri's sublime psalm-setting complements the Agnus Dei from Bach's choral masterpiece. Vivaldi's chromatic language in the Sinfonia contrasts the uplifting exuberance of his Gloria.

TIME TBC
ST PAUL PRO-CATHEDRAL - Valletta

Goldberg Ensemble - *photo by Kurt Catania*

17
APRIL
FRIDAY

JAZZ WITH STRINGS

ALEX BEZZINA
Musical Director

The MPO presents a night of jazz repertoire arranged for orchestra featuring music by Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Clifford Brown and Cole Porter amongst others. Led by musician Alex Bezzina, the set also explores a crossover of genres between classical music and jazz, improvisations on works by J.S. Bach and original compositions.

7.30PM
THE GRAND BALLROOM, PHOENICIA HOTEL - Floriana

25
APRIL
SATURDAY

OTELLO

a Gaulitana Festival production

COLIN ATTARD
Conductor

ENRICO CASTIGLIONE
Director

Giuseppe Verdi
Otello

The highlight of this year's Gaulitana: A Festival of Music presents Verdi's masterpiece. Based on Shakespeare's Othello with libretto by Arrigo Boito, the opera brought the composer to the peak of his dramatic power. Indeed, his sensitive and nuanced use of orchestration and harmony to underscore character and emotion characterises this seamless musical-dramatic experience.

7.30PM
TEATRU AURORA - Victoria

M

MAY

6/8/10 MAY

WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SUNDAY

MALTA INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

presented in collaboration with the European Foundation for Support of Culture

For the third consecutive year, the MPO maintains its collaboration with the EUFSC for another edition of the Malta International Music Festival.

The orchestra performs in 3 concerts presenting a varied repertoire including works by Alexey Shor. The final programme, under the baton of MPO Principal Conductor Sergey Smbatyan, includes Ravel's Bolero and Debussy's La Mer.

6 MAY (WEDNESDAY)

RUSTEM ABYAZOV
Conductor

VICTOR JULIEN-LAFERRIERE
Cello

8 MAY (FRIDAY)

JAROSLAV KYZLINK
Conductor

VERONIKA DZHIOEVA
Soprano

10 MAY (SUNDAY)

SERGEY SMBATYAN
Conductor

SERGEI DOGADIN
Violin

8.00PM
MEDITERRRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

16 MAY

SATURDAY

EDITH CAVELL

presented by Pjazza Teatru Rjal

DARIO SALVI
Conductor

Paolino Vassallo
Edith Cavell

Almost a hundred years since the composition of this opera, this Pjazza Teatru Rjal concert version production brings back to life this masterpiece in the same, albeit transformed, venue in which it received its première performance on 21 March, 1927 when it was immediately a sensation.

8.00PM
PJAZZA TEATRU RJAL - Valletta

22 MAY
FRIDAY

BEETHOVEN 2020

presented in collaboration with Teatru Manoel

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

CHARLIE SIEM
Violin

KORMALTA

Ludwig van Beethoven
Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61

The Ruins of Athens, Op. 113

The MPO joins the international celebrations marking Beethoven's 250th birthday anniversary with a concert at Malta's national theatre. Imbued with patriotic flair, The Ruins of Athens, are a set of incidental music pieces composed to accompany Kotzebue's play which commemorated a new imperial theatre built in Pest.

Beethoven's Violin Concerto, although written over a short period of time, eventually established itself in the core solo repertoire. Its renowned spirited finale exploits the melodic traits of the instrument in a virtuosic fashion.

7.30PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta

Charlie Siem

29
MAY
FRIDAY

MPO Family Fanfare

BEETHOVEN FOREVER

presented in collaboration with the Malta International Arts Festival

RUBEN ZAHRA
Curator/Director

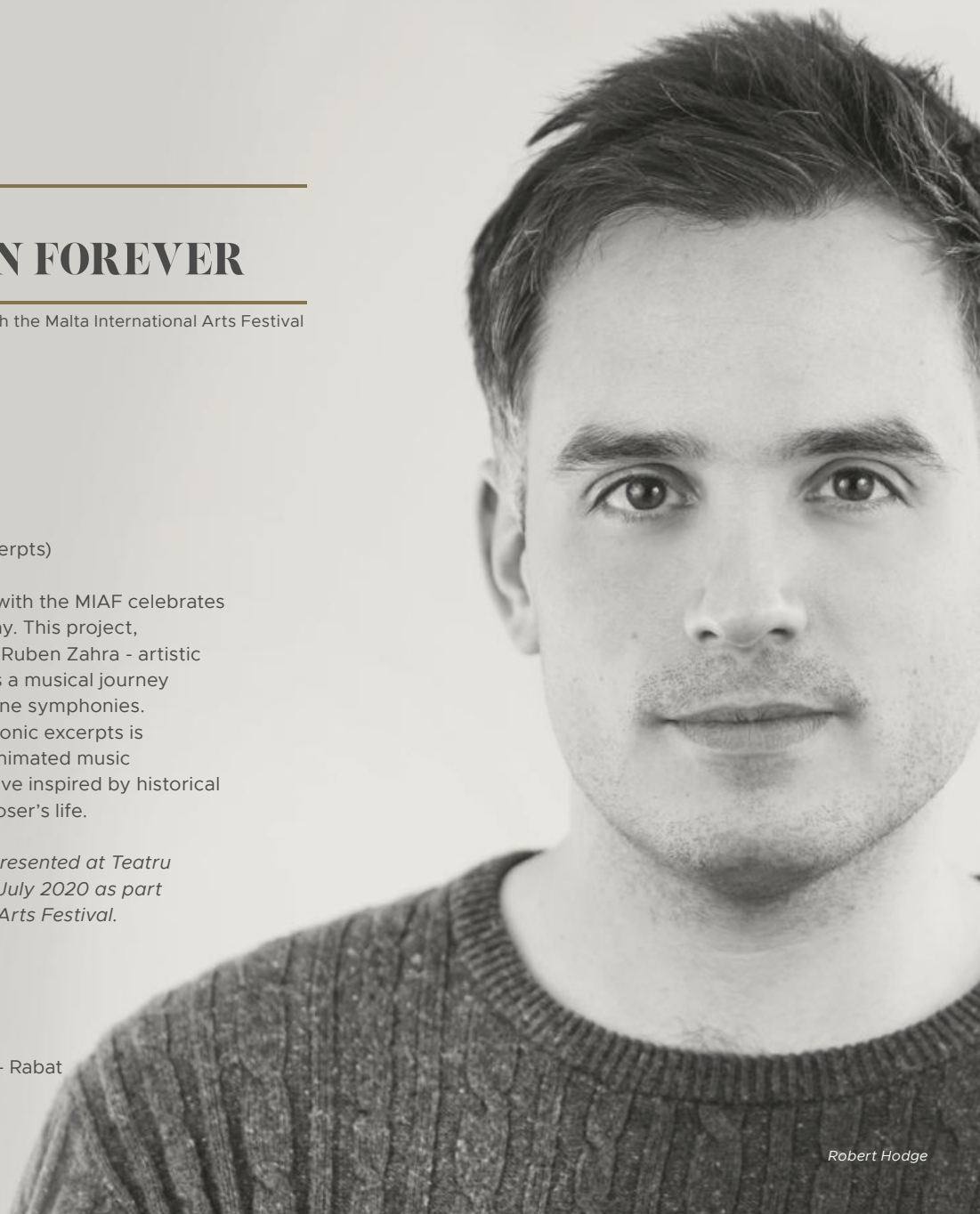
ROBERT HODGE
Conductor

Ludwig Van Beethoven
Symphonies No. 1 – 9 (Excerpts)

The MPO in collaboration with the MIAF celebrates Beethoven's 250th birthday. This project, conceived and curated by Ruben Zahra - artistic director of MIAF - portrays a musical journey through the composer's nine symphonies. This programme of symphonic excerpts is accompanied by vibrant animated music visualisations and a narrative inspired by historical anecdotes from the composer's life.

The project is also being presented at Teatru Manoel on Wednesday, 8 July 2020 as part of the Malta International Arts Festival.

9.30AM, 11.30AM
ST AGATHA AUDITORIUM - Rabat



Robert Hodge

J
JUNE

03
JUNE
WEDNESDAY

MUSIC BY MAESTRI DI CAPELLA OF THE MDINA CATHEDRAL

presented by the Mdina Metropolitan Cathedral

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

GILLIAN ZAMMIT
Soprano

GOLDBERG ENSEMBLE

CAPPELLA GREGORIANA JUBILATE DEO

Pietro Gristi
Messa Breve in D

Francesco Azopardi
Dixit Dominus in G

Giuseppe Vella
Kyrie a quattro voci; Graduale per il dì della Concezione

Christopher Muscat
Qui Cantat Bis Orat

Since its foundation in the 12th century, the Cathedral Archives were endowed with compositions from Maestri di Cappella. The programme includes a new commission by Christopher Muscat, recently appointed Director of Music at Mdina.

TIME TBC
ST PAUL CATHEDRAL - Mdina

F

10
JUNE
WEDNESDAY

Victoria International Arts Festival

INAUGURAL CONCERT

PHILIP WALSH
Conductor

LAUDATE PUERI CHOIR

Programme to include:

Ludwig van Beethoven
Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, 'Choral'

This year's 23rd edition of the Victoria International Arts Festival will focus on the works of Ludwig van Beethoven as it coincides with the 250th anniversary of the German composer's birth. For the opening concert, his Choral Symphony will be performed together with a work by Joseph Vella.

8.00PM
TEATRU ASTRA - Victoria

F

13
JUNE
SATURDAY

ROMANTIC SUMMER

ROBERTO BELTRAN ZAVALA
Conductor

MARVIC MONREAL
Mezzo Soprano

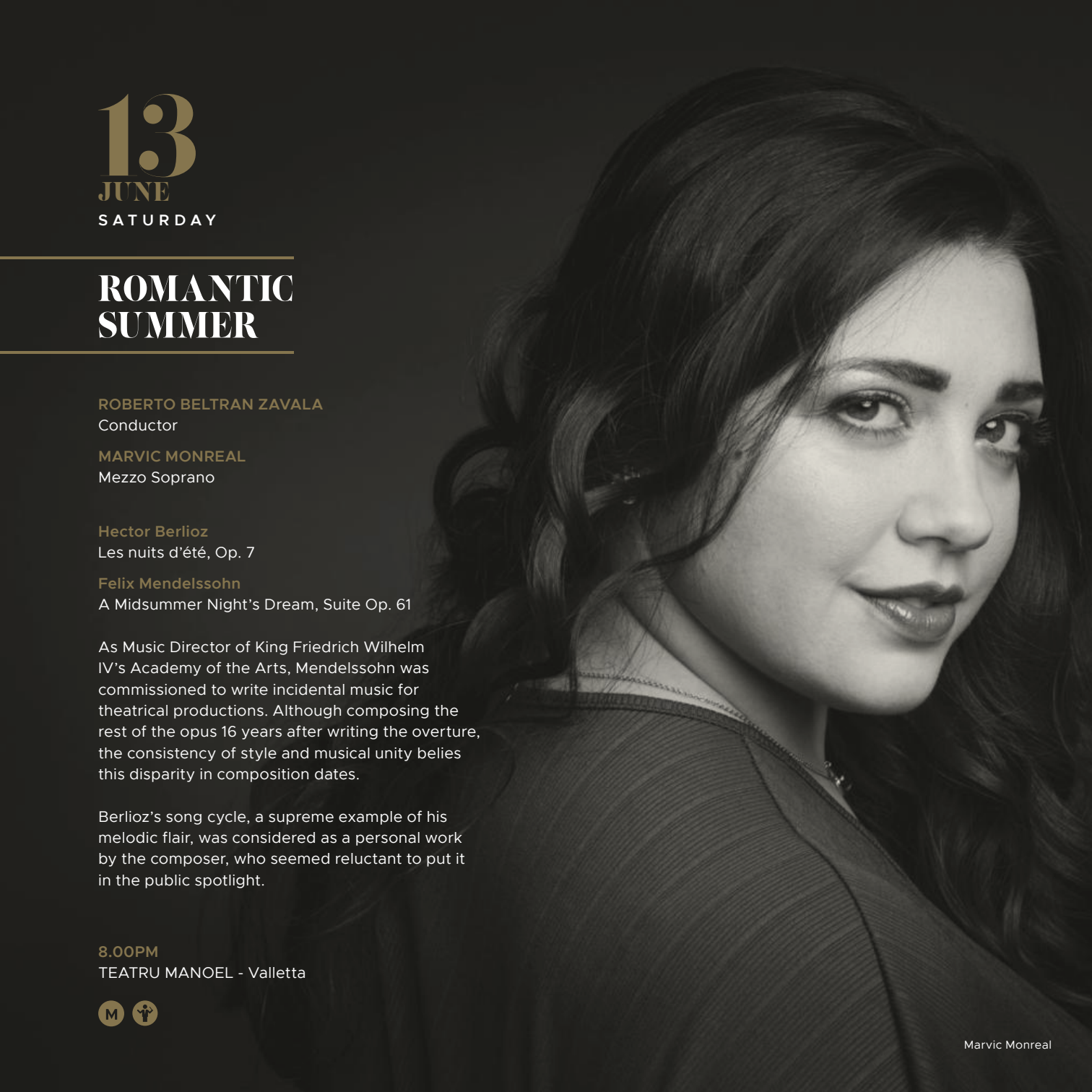
Hector Berlioz
Les nuits d'été, Op. 7

Felix Mendelssohn
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Suite Op. 61

As Music Director of King Friedrich Wilhelm IV's Academy of the Arts, Mendelssohn was commissioned to write incidental music for theatrical productions. Although composing the rest of the opus 16 years after writing the overture, the consistency of style and musical unity belies this disparity in composition dates.

Berlioz's song cycle, a supreme example of his melodic flair, was considered as a personal work by the composer, who seemed reluctant to put it in the public spotlight.

8.00PM
TEATRU MANOEL - Valletta



Marvic Monreal

17
JUNE
WEDNESDAY

ST JOHN'S DAY CONCERT

presented by the Maltese Association
of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

MICHAEL LAUS
Conductor

GOLDBERG ENSEMBLE

Under the direction of Michael Laus, the MPO performs a selection of sacred music, featuring the Goldberg Ensemble as part of the St John's Day celebrations. This fundraising concert is aptly presented in one of the finest examples of Baroque architecture in Europe - an iconic gem built by the Knights.

7.30PM
ST JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL - Valletta

20
JUNE
SATURDAY

FILM CLASSICS WITH THE MPO

presented in collaboration with
the Mediterranean Conference Centre

PETE HARRISON
Conductor

CHARLENE FARRUGIA
Piano

Programme to include:

Richard Addinsell
Warsaw Concerto from Dangerous Moonlight

Maurice Jarre
Lawrence of Arabia Overture

Hans Zimmer
Gladiator Suite

John Williams
Themes from Jurassic Park

John Barry
Main Title - Out of Africa

Travelling along a reel which spans a number of decades, this symphonic programme features soundtracks ranging from vintage blockbusters to recent box-office hits.

8.00PM
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE - Valletta

27 JUNE
SATURDAY

Malta International Arts Festival

AN EVENING IN RUSSIA

MPO – MYO Joint Concert

RAOUL LAY
Conductor

Igor Stravinsky
The Firebird, Suite

Modest Mussorgsky/Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
A Night on the Bald Mountain

Sergei Prokofiev
Romeo and Juliet, Suite No. 2

The annual joint concert between the MPO and the MYO presents symphonic dances from the East. This side-by-side project presents Stravinsky's suite from The Firebird, a ballet which brought the composer into the limelight and commenced his collaboration with Diaghilev.

Similarly, Prokofiev composed the ballet music for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, yet refrained from his original idea to alter the plot's ending. The programme also features Mussorgsky's poem which initially failed to attract public attention but attained great popularity following Rimsky-Korsakov's reorchestration.

9.00PM
PJAZZA TEATRU RJAL - Valletta

M

Raoul Lay - *photo by Agnès Mellon*

SUMMER
CONCERTS

04
JULY
SATURDAY

Malta International Arts Festival

NEW WAYS

PAVEL ŠNAJDR
Conductor

Programme to include:

Béla Bartók
Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta

Each year, the MIAF presents an innovative programme of 20th century and contemporary works. The 2020 edition shall include Bartók's ultimate masterwork, Music for String, Percussion and Celesta. Evidencing his mature style, this work embodies the composer's contradictory traits featuring strikingly innovative instrumentation.

9.00PM
PJAZZA TEATRU RJAL - Valletta

13
JULY
MONDAY

Victoria International Arts Festival

CLOSING CONCERT

PHILIP WALSH
Conductor

Programme to include:

Ludwig van Beethoven
Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 61

For the closing concert of the five-week-long Victoria International Arts Festival, Philip Walsh will conduct the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra in a concert of works by Beethoven, including his Violin Concerto, and other compositions by Joseph Vella.

8.00PM
ST GEORGE BASILICA - Valletta

F

(DATE TBC)
JULY

CLASSICS UNDER THE STARS

Organised under the patronage of the OPM, this annual free open-air concert by the MPO features a selection of popular classics from the symphonic and vocal repertoire. Held at the unique settings of the Girgenti Palace, an official residence of the Prime Minister of Malta, the event presents an evening of music, fireworks and spectacular views.

8.00PM
GIRGENTI PALACE - Siġġiewi

(DATE TBC)
AUGUST

JOSEPH CALLEJA

Annual Summer Concert

The final concert in the MPO Concert Season 19/20 is the yearly popular Joseph Calleja summer concert. Featuring the acclaimed Maltese tenor together with a number of internationally-acclaimed stars and local artists, the eclectic programme ranges from classical music to crossover numbers.

8.30PM
THE GRANARIES - Floriana

PLAN YOUR VISIT

We are aware that some may find the prospect of attending a classical music concert rather daunting, yet we strive to render the experience enjoyable, immersive and inspiring.

Whilst any queries may be forwarded to us on Facebook or via email, we are addressing some of the most frequently asked questions below.

Dress Code
For our productions, the only dress code envisaged is for the musicians on stage. Exceptions to this rule occur for third-party events, but these are few and far between.

Our patrons are free to dress up, yet casual wear is also perfectly acceptable.

Clapping
When to clap is a source of endless debate in classical music circles!

Traditionally, concertgoers clap at the end of a piece of music rather than after each movement. Although concert programmes may give an indication, the distinction between movements is not always clear. Hence, patrons may want to keep an eye on the conductor or simply wait for the rest of the audience to start clapping before joining in.

Audiences do clap between movements from time to time. That is perfectly fine, as long as our musicians' performance is not disrupted. Our musicians are happy to hear appreciation for their efforts.

Age Restrictions
Children are welcome to all our concerts (suggested age: 5+), and discounted rates apply. In addition we organise a number of concerts for young audiences, including our annual Family Fanfare concert.

Arrival at Concert Venue
Arriving 30 minutes before the start is recommended.

Latecomers
Ushers will show patrons to their seats during suitable breaks in the programme, such as the end of a movement, to avoid any disruption. Audience members can also leave tickets for collection at the box office should some members of their party arrive late.

Parking
Well aware that parking may pose a problem, we offer a free shuttle service, departing from next to the Phoenicia Hotel, Floriana, for our concerts at MCC. In addition, the MPO Platinum Membership also offers exclusive parking benefits.

Tickets at the Door
Tickets can be purchased at the door, as long as the event is not sold out. However, especially in view of the limited seating at Robert Samut Hall and Teatru Manoel, early booking is recommended.

Ticket Discounts
MPO members enjoy 50% discounts on our concert productions. Additional concessions are available for senior citizens, students and children. Different discount policies may apply for third-party events, such as operatic productions.

Programmes
Programmes for our concerts are typically provided free of charge, or against a small donation.

Intervals
Most of our concerts have intervals lasting around 20 minutes. These will be clearly indicated in your programme.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Booking methods for our performances vary, depending on the organisers, the venue and the event itself.

Online booking is available in most cases - the relevant site can be found through the event listing on our website. Booking for most MPO productions can take place through **www.showshappening.com**, but events at Teatru Manoel are handled through its own website. Physical tickets can usually also be purchased through the venues' box office. Contact details relevant to the main venues we perform at may be found below.

Mediterranean Conference Centre
Old Hospital Street, Valletta VLT1645
www.mcc.com.mt
T. (+356) 2559 5750/1 **E.** bookings@mcc.com.mt

Teatru Manoel
115, Old Theatre Street, Valletta VLT1426
www.teatrumanoel.com.mt
T. (+356) 2124 6389 **E.** bookings@teatrumanoel.com.mt

Robert Samut Hall
Sarria Street, Floriana FRN1460
www.maltaorchestra.com
E. events@maltaorchestra.com

Pjazza Teatru Rjal
Republic Street, Valletta VLT1110
www.pjazzateatrurjal.mt
T. (+356) 2247 8100 **E.** contact@pjazzateatrurjal.mt

Teatru Astra
9, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo VCT1012
www.teatruastra.org.mt
T. +356 2155 0985 **E.** bookings@teatruastra.org.mt

Teatru Aurora
100, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo VCT1017
www.teatruaurora.com
T. (+356) 2156 2974 **E.** teatruaurora@leone.org.mt

Ticket prices vary depending on the event, venue and organisers. MPO Membership Scheme discounts, as well as concession prices for seniors, students and children apply on all concerts organised by the MPO. Third-parties may apply different policies for their events, though similar concessions are generally in place.

Booking may also be required for free concerts.

Connect with us on social media to receive the latest updates about the orchestra.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us directly.

Malta Philharmonic Orchestra
1, Triq John Lopez, Floriana, FRN 1400
T. (+356) 2226 1900 **E.** events@maltaorchestra.com
www.maltaorchestra.com

Artists, programmes and dates are correct at the time of going to print. The MPO reserves the right to change them if necessary, as do third-party organisers. Kindly visit our website for the latest updates.

MPO MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

Join our family and become part of Malta's national musical ensemble

This season, we launched a revamped scheme allowing subscribers to support our Movements of Passion. The membership is divided into two tiers offering generous discounts and other benefits, including exclusive parking, for concerts organized by the MPO.

MPO Loyalty Card: €10
in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation
- limited tickets at €1 for concerts at MCC and Teatru Manoel
- 50% discount on all remaining tickets for MPO membership scheme concerts

MPO Platinum Card: €160 (Concessions: €80)
- MPO Loyalty Card Benefits
- reserved ticket for Classics Under the Stars
- 50% discount on MPO Disney concert
- limited exclusive reserved parking for concerts at MCC (pre-booking required)
- exclusive free shuttle service for concerts at Teatru Manoel

M Look out for the MPO Membership icon throughout this booklet. To join our membership scheme, download the online application or send us an email: **www.maltaorchestra.com / info@maltaorchestra.com**

MPO INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE PATRONAGE

MPO Patrons are first and foremost individuals who are passionate about music and want to share the MPO's vision of bringing the best quality music to the greatest amount of people.

Our patrons play a vital role in supporting our education and outreach programmes in the local community, enhancing the continuous professional development of our musicians, as well as sustaining the breadth and depth of our work.

To initiate a discussion on how you may offer your support, please contact us at **info@maltaorchestra.com**

SEASON CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Fri 6th	Pjazza San Ġorġ
Sat 14th	The Rite of Spring
Sat 21st	Kunċert tal-Indipendenza
Sat 28th	Rockestra

OCTOBER

Fri 4th	Vienna Forever
Sat 5th	MYO at Notte Bianca
Sat 12th	La Bohème
Thu 24th/Sat 26th	Il Trovatore
Thu 24th/Fri 25th	Diablo y Angel

NOVEMBER

Fri 1st	Foundation Day Concert
Fri 15th/Sat 16th	Robin Hood u Marian
Sat 9th	East, West and Halfway Back
Mon 21st/ Wed 23rd/ Fri 25th/Sun 27th	MPO Moscow Tour - Moscow

DECEMBER

Sat 7th	The Lion King
Wed 11th	From Malta to Bohemia
Sun 15th	Joseph Calleja Christmas Concert
Sat 21st	Christmas Serenades
Thu 26th-Sun 29th	Çatal Duo - Mumbai
TBC	MYO Christmas Classics

JANUARY

Sun 5th	The President's New Year's Concert
Sat 11th	Pocket Symphonies
Tue 14th	Inspired by Baroque
Fri 17th	Ħodon Fjuri lil San Pubilju
Wed 22nd	Chinese New Year Concert
Sat 25th	Gran Partita

FEBRUARY

Sat 8th	Strauss Composer and Conductor
Sat 15th	Russian Sounds
Sat 22nd	Kantilena
Thu 27th	The Medinea Project - Valletta

MARCH

Sun 1st/Tue 3rd/ Thu 5th/Sat 7th	Otello (Rossini)
Sat 14th	Mahler's Sixth
Sat 21st	Mozart's Heavenly Requiem
Sat 28th	Symphonic Opening

APRIL

Fri 3rd	Strings in Spring
Tue 7th	Kantilena – New York
Tue 7th	Concert in Aid of the Anglican Cathedral Restoration Fund
Fri 17th	Jazz with Strings
Sat 25th	Otello (Verdi)
Wed 29th	MYO at the MIMF

MAY

Wed 6th	MPO at the MIMF
Fri 8th	MPO at the MIMF
Sun 10th	MPO at the MIMF
Sat 16th	Edith Cavell
Fri 22nd	Beethoven 2020
Fri 29th	Beethoven Forever

JUNE

Wed 3rd	Music by Maestri di Cappella of the Mdina Cathedral
Wed 10th	Inaugural Concert
Sat 13th	Romantic Summer
Wed 17th	St John's Day Concert
Sat 20th	Film Classics with the MPO
Sat 27th	An Evening in Russia

JULY

Sat 4th	New Ways
Wed 8th	Beethoven Forever
Mon 13th	Concluding Concert
TBC	Classics under the Stars

AUGUST

TBC	Joseph Calleja Concert
TBC	MYO Summer Camp

All information is correct at the time of print. The MPO reserves the right to make changes as necessary. For the latest updates and information, kindly check our website.

THANK YOU

We are grateful for the support of the following cultural entities, corporate sponsors and individual supporters, which help us reach further and touch more lives than we ever could on our own.

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European Foundation for Support of Culture

VCA VALLETTA CULTURAL AGENCY

TEATRU MANOEL

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