



# DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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## ARTIST PRESENTATION

### Composer and participant of *#synergy* project Nina Perović presented part of her opus

**Dubrovnik, 21 July 2022** – Pianist and composer **Nina Perović** presented herself and part of her opus to the festival audience **last night, 20 July** in the Sponza Palace Atrium as part of the project ***#synergy: Sharpening the capacities of the classical music industry in the Western Balkans***, on which the Dubrovnik Summer Festival is partner. The moderator was composer and Croatian representative on the project, **Helena Skljarov**.

Nina Perović opened the evening with a performance of an unfinished piece that she has been working on for the past few weeks, a slightly atonal composition with a contemporary sensibility, with was a fitting introduction of the audience to her aesthetics and work. In a conversation with moderator Helena Skljarov, who as a composer is herself on the *#synergy* project, the musicians recognized three chronological and stylistic approaches in Perović's compositions. These included folklore, part of the composer's unique signature since the earliest days she purposefully chose with the aim of bringing contemporary music closer to a wider audience; secondly, compositions that are the result of many years of work for the KotorArt festival, and thirdly, the most recent aspect which is also the most experimental one.

– Every composer needs freedom and must not be exposed to any influences while composing, but of course we are influenced by so many things, so exploring and questioning this freedom is always pertinent. It's great that twelve composers with twelve different aesthetics, mostly very contemporary, were selected as part of the project. It is a brave step by the organizers and the festival that they agreed to do it. I am curiously waiting for the reactions of the audience, which seems to me to be more open to new directions after the pandemic – said Perović.

The goal of the two-week residencies, which currently host Nina Perović and Ardian Halimi introduced to the audience a few days earlier, is to get to know Dubrovnik's rich historical and cultural heritage in order to gain the inspiration needed to compose new musical pieces that will be premiered as part of the music programme of the 74<sup>th</sup> Dubrovnik Summer Festival.

The project ***#synergy: Sharpening the capacities of the classical music industry in the Western Balkans***, supported by the Creative Europe program of the European Commission, brings together six important festivals from the region: **KotorArt Don Branko's Music Days** (Montenegro), **Dubrovnik Summer Festival** (Croatia), **Belgrade Music Festival** (Serbia), **Ljubljana Festival** (Slovenia), **Vox Baroque Festival** (Albania), and the **Chopin Piano Fest Prishtina** (Kosovo). The project aims to strengthen the capacities and sharing of know-how on a regional and European level, to provide new skills and connect cultural professionals, primarily those who work in the music festival and classical music sector, to encourage composers to write new pieces inspired by the local heritage of partner countries, as well as to facilitate networking and collaboration between young musicians, composers, and classical music organizations in the Western Balkans.

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