



DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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TRUE TONAL AESTHETE OF THE HIGHEST ORDER

Violinist Kristóf Baráti with the Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra in the Rector's Palace

Dubrovnik, 8 August 2023 – Hungarian violinist **Kristóf Baráti** is recognised increasingly across the globe as a musician of extraordinary quality with a vast expressive range and impeccable technique, and Festival audiences will have an opportunity to see him in concert **on Thursday, 10 August in the Rector's Palace atrium, at 9:30 p.m.** where he will be joined by his compatriots, the **Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra**. On the programme are pieces by **Mendelssohn, Mozart, Saint-Saëns and Bartók**.

This musical evening in the Rector's Palace will be started off with the one movement *String Symphony No. 10 in B minor* by **Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy**, after which **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's** Violin Concerto No. 5 in A major, known as a large and exceptionally technically demanding piece, will be performed, as well as **Camille Saint-Saëns' Introduction et Rondo capriccioso, op. 28**, dedicated to the brilliant Spanish violinist Pablo de Sarasate. Lastly, two pieces by **Béla Bartók** are on the repertoire, the 'lighter', neoclassical *Divertimento, Sz. 113* and folk inspired *Romanian Folk Dances, Sz. 56*.

Hungarian violinist **Kristóf Baráti** is recognised for the poetry and after spending much of his childhood in Venezuela where he played as soloist with many of the country's leading orchestras, he returned to Budapest to study at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music and was later mentored by Eduard Wulfson, himself a student of Milstein and Menuhin. Still residing in Budapest today, Baráti performs regularly across Hungary and together with István Vardái, he is Artistic Director of the Kaposvár International Chamber Music Festival. Baráti plays the 1703 "Lady Harmsworth" Stradivarius, by kind arrangement with the Stradivarius Society of Chicago.

The **Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra** was founded in 1985 in Veszprém, the historic Hungarian city with rich musical heritage. The orchestra has been led since then by its artistic leader and violin soloist **Péter Kováts**. Their repertoire ranges from Baroque to contemporary music, and even to jazz. They made the premiere and/or the Hungarian premiere of a significant number of contemporary compositions as well. The International Auer Music Festival was launched in 2014 by the Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra. Both the MCO and Péter Kováts were honoured with one of the most prestigious art prizes of Hungary, the Bartók–Pásztory Prize, in 2010.

Tickets for the concert are available via the festival website www.dubrovnik-festival.hr or the service www.ulaznice.hr, at the box office in the Festival Palace (Od Sigurate 1) every day from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and in front of the DTS building (Vukovarska St) from Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival – the centre of Croatian and global spirit and culture, a place of creation and not just a place of visit, a place of community, ideas and new artistic expressions, is traditionally supported once again this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, Dubrovnik Tourist Board and numerous sponsors Mastercard, Dubrovnik Airport, ACI club, ALH, Euroherc, Studenac, HEP, Croatian Lottery, Coca-Cola, MG Motors, Kraš, Croatia Airlines, and donors OTP bank, Atlantska Plovidba alongside other benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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