



DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

OD SIGURATE 1 · 20000 DUBROVNIK · HRVATSKA · TEL. ++385 (0)20 326 100 · FAX: ++385 (0)20 326 116
E-MAIL: SECRETARIAT@DUBROVNIK-FESTIVAL.HR · INFO@DUBROVNIK-FESTIVAL.HR
WWW.DUBROVNIK-FESTIVAL.HR

VIRTUOSO PLAYING AT THE PALACE

Eckart Runge, Martina Filjak and Gordan Tudor held a concert to remember

Dubrovnik, 13 August 2023 – A special Festival evening of music was held **last night, 12 August** by the cellist **Eckart Runge**, pianist **Martina Filjak** and saxophonist b, who wowed the sizeable audience gathered **in the Rector's Palace atrium** with their virtuoso performance of pieces by Ástor Piazzolla, George Gershwin, Nikolai Kapustin and Gordan Tudor.

The concert began with a performance by all three outstanding musicians who, with their virtuosity and passion, conveyed the magic of *Winter* and *Spring* from the famous cycle *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* from the pen of Argentinian composer Ástor Piazzolla, and were welcomed by thunderous applause and ovations from the festival audience. *Three Preludes, for saxophone and piano* by George Gershwin followed, encompassing a wide spectrum of feelings, from rich to tender tones, intertwining in a magical dance between these two instruments, while *Elegy and Burlesque, for cello and piano* by the Russian composer Nikolai Kapustin simultaneously brought elegance and lively burlesque, creating an intriguing contrast in expression. The work of Gordan Tudor, saxophonist and composer, *Sonata for saxophone and piano*, was also on the repertoire before the musicians returned to Piazzolla and his *Le Grand Tango for cello and piano* and the remaining pieces from the *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* when, in an appropriate twist to the planned programming, the virtuosos concluded the Festival musical journey with *Summer* rather than *Autumn*, earning a strong, echoing applause. In addition to passionate musicianship, the trio communicated with the audience during the concert. Through announcements and descriptions of individual compositions, they created an extremely intimate atmosphere within the Palace, further enriching the musical experience for those present, enabling them to have a deeper understanding and connection with the music itself.

The next concert in the Rector's Palace atrium as part of the 74th Festival's music programme will be held by Polish violinist Martyna Pastuszka and her {oh!} Orkiestra on Wednesday, 16 August at 9.30 p.m. The ensemble specialises in historically informed performances and appears regularly at renowned festivals and concert halls, while tickets for their Dubrovnik debut 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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Media contact:

Katija Krečak Jarović

PR and Marketing Department

M. 095 323 20 52 / T. 020 326 111

E. katija.krecak.jarovic@dubrovnik-festival.hr

www.dubrovnik-festival.hr