



DUBROVAČKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL

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CONCERT DEDICATED TO VALTER DEŠPALJ

Esteemed Croatian musicians **Kajana Pačko** and **Danijel Detoni** perform tomorrow at the Rector's Palace

Dubrovnik, 22 August 2023 – Cellist **Kajana Pačko** and pianist **Daniel Detoni** will be holding the last **Rector's Palace** concert of the Festival season **tomorrow, 23 August at 9.30 p.m.**, with a programme consisting of compositions by Dubravko Detoni, Ludwig van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms, and Dora Pejačević. The musicians have decided to dedicate the concert to the recently departed musician, cellist, pedagogue, and former Dubrovnik Summer Festival music director Valter Dešpalj.

Opening the programme is the award-winning *Assonance 1, for Cello and Piano* by Croatian composer, pianist, and writer Dubravko Detoni, first performed at the Dubrovnik Summer Festival in 1970. Representing of Viennese Classicism is Ludwig van Beethoven and his *Sonata No. 1 in F major, Op. 5, No. 1*, dedicated them to Frederick William II, King of Prussia, who played the cello after which Johannes Brahms' *Six songs (Arranged by Norbert Salter/ David Geringas)* will be played before rounding off the concert evening with a piece by Croatian composer Dora Pejačević, *Sonata for Cello and Piano in E Minor, Op. 35*.

Kajana Pačko was born in Split, Croatia, and at the age of fourteen she entered the Academy of Music in Zagreb, where she studied under Valter Dešpalj. She continued her studies at the Hochschule für Musik 'Hanns Eisler' Berlin under Troels Svane and Frans Helmerson, and at the Universität Mozarteum Salzburg with Clemens Hagen. She has won first prizes in national, as well as international competitions; the Alpe-Adria International Competition in Gorizia, the Boris Pergamenschikow Preis Berlin, the Rector's Award, the Darko Lukić Award and the Judita Award, and represented Croatia at the Eurovision Young Musicians in Luzern in 2004. Her first albums, *Journey through Europe* (2014), with works of Grieg, Poulenc and Papandopulo recorded with pianist Danijel Detoni, and *Bach+* (2018), with works for cello solo, were released by Croatia Records. Since 2021 she has been the Artistic Director of the ZAGREBplus International Classical Music Festival of the Croatian Music Institute.

Danijel Detoni began his musical training under Olga Detiček at the Vatroslav Lisinski Music School in Zagreb, and studied under László Baranyay and Balázs Kecskés at the Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, and Itamar Golan at the Paris Conservatory. He learned from renowned artists such as Pnina Salzman, Emanuel Krasovsky, Hamsa al-Wadi, Felix Gottlieb, Pál Éder and Dénes Várjon. As a soloist and chamber musician, he appeared at major festivals and has collaborated with numerous renowned artists and ensembles. During the three years

of collaboration with Martin Draušnik and Pavle Zajcev as a member of the Zagreb Trio, he appeared at major music venues in Croatia. In 2008 he won the Jeunesses Musicales Croatia Best Young Musician Award. The same year Croatia Records released his solo album with selected works of Dubravko Detoni. He has served as an assistant at the Piano, Harpsichord and Organ Department at the Academy of Music, University of Zagreb, teaching piano since 2009 and chamber music since 2015. He is currently Associate Professor at the same Academy.

Concert tickets 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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