

PERCUSSION TREAT IN FRONT OF ST. BLAISE'S

Percussion Club to start off the music programme of the 72nd Festival

Dubrovnik, 9 July 2021 – Brilliant percussionists **Ivana Kuljerić Bilić**, **Nikola Krbanyevitch**, **Francesco Mazzoleni** and **Luis Camacho Montealegre** who make up the **Percussion Club** will be opening the music programme of the 72nd Dubrovnik Summer Festival on Monday, 12 July at 9.30pm in front of the Saint Blaise's Church. Joining the quartet as guest percussionist is **Karmen Pervitić**.

On the programme of this unique musical event are **Trevino's** *atting ados*, **Gipsy Kings' Mosaique**, **Koshinski's** *erere*, *Paganini Variations* by Witold Lutosławski, *blion* by **Astor Piazzola**, *dagio* by **Samuel Barber**, and **Arturo Marquez's Danzón's** *anin* in the performance of which the Club's guest Karmen Pervitić will be joining. They chose these pieces specifically for open-air performance, striving for music that will communicate with the audience. Most of the arrangements the four did collaboratively, except 'Variations on a Paganini Theme' done by Ivana Kuljerić Bilić. In this performance the spotlight is on the keyboard percussions with added percussion, while the programme selection emphasizes the international spirit and the Mediterranean temperament of their ensemble as well as its diversity of performers and composers.

The four Club members have already collaborated in various ways and in different ensembles, but they also have thriving solo careers and projects. Their shared interests and inclinations led them into forming the quartet that is making its debut right here at the Dubrovnik Summer Festival. **Ivana Kuljerić Bilić** is a regular performer with various European orchestras and she participates in chamber, stage and crossover productions. Aside from also appearing frequently at international festivals, Kuljerić Bilić holds percussion masterclasses and serves as a jury member at marimba and percussion competitions. She performed as solo timpanist for years, first with the Croatian National Theatre Zagreb Opera Orchestra, and afterwards with the Croatian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra. The eponymous Ivana Bilić Marimba Week, an annual percussion festival held in collaboration with the Samobor Music Festival, was founded by her. Her illustrious career also boasts the fact that Kuljerić Bilić has won all the major Croatian performance and discography awards. Since 2014 she has been closely collaborating with Nikola Krbanyevitch, with whom she started the I.N.K. Experiment Duo dedicated to reinterpretation and fusion of classical music with rock, pop, traditional and experimental music. **Nikola Krbanyevitch** is a musician of French and Serbian origins whose creative output is influenced by the two different cultures. He is equally active across various music genres – contemporary, rock and traditional – and he performs in various ensembles, as a vocalist and percussionist. The particular interest Krbanyevitch has in multicultural projects has led to the founding of the Balkan Project Orchestra. Besides being a Full Professor of Percussion at the Evreux Conservatory, Normandy, he regularly holds numerous workshops.

Francesco Mazzoleni has participated in a number of courses and held a masterclass at the Croatian Music Youth International Cultural Centre in Grožnjan. He received the University of Zagreb Dean's Award in 2018 and he is also a member of the Croatian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra. During his studies, Mazzoleni and colleague **Luis Camacho Montealegre** started the award-winning Flam-a-Duo. Camacho Montealegre already as a student won first prize at the Perculliria International Percussion Competition. He received the Zagreb Academy of Music Dean's Award and currently is a member of the Croatian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra, as well as a Teaching Assistant at the Zagreb Academy of Music. Percussion Club's guest Karmen Pervitić studied at the Sarajevo Academy of Music under Joakim Anterot and Davor Maraus and has been a member of the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra since 2015.

Concert tickets are available for purchase at the Dubrovnik Summer Festival website www.dubrovnik-festival.hr or via www.ulaznice.hr ticketing service, and at the box office of the Festival Palace (Od Sigurate 1) every day from 9am to 9.30pm. Tickets will also be available on location two hours before the start of the performance. Purchases made with Mastercard® and Maestro® cards receive a 10% discount while all purchases and orders over 500HRK offer payment in instalments.

All 72nd Dubrovnik Summer Festival programmes are certified as *safe gatherings*, meaning the events will be organised according to current rules and recommendations by the national and local Civil Protection Headquarters and the World Health Organization, according to which maintaining physical distance of one seat with compulsory face masks has been deemed sufficient for audiences at low-risk events and the attendees are not obligated to present their EU digital COVID pass.

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 this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-neretva county and numerous other sponsors and benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

###

Kontakt za medije:

Karla Labaš

Ured za odnose s javnošću i marketing

M. 091 323 42 56 / T. 020 326 111

E. karla.labas@dubrovnik-festival.hr

www.dubrovnik-festival.hr