Challenge your barriers

Our world view is changing dramatically, and the Nordic spirit and our fundamental beliefs are being increasingly challenged – both favourably and adversely. This is reflected in this year’s festival programme.

We are experiencing a world at our doorstep as people cross borders both voluntarily and involuntarily. Barriers have been broken down and rebuilt. The dream of a great European fellowship has been replaced by chaos, both on our maps and in our minds.

Art has an inherent wish to be without limitations. It has a desire to break down barriers and create an understanding of the unexpected in order to craft a narrative for people in today’s world.

This year’s festival uses the theme “Barriers”: A theme clearly visible in art that defies global challenges, and if you dare to open your ears and eyes to discovery, you will see the theme unfold in a number of areas of our varied programme. The American composer and pianist Philip Glass is one such artist, who gathers musical inspiration from all cultures of the world to create music without artificial limitations. He is one of the major artists we highlight in 2016 and you can meet him during the festival.

The absolutely most important thing to us is our audience – of all ages. All with sky-high expectations for the festival – and rightly so. Our ambition is not only to meet these expectations, but to create magical moments when an audience experiences artistry that both enriches and transforms.

The Bergen International Festival aims to delight, challenge and include. We hope that in return you meet the festival’s many offerings with curiosity and an open mind. We disrupt the town and offer a substantial and diverse programme of music, theatre, dance, performance, debate, and much more. The festival creates a breathing space to inhale fresh air and think new thoughts.

We challenge you to confront your personal barriers, defy accepted rules, and expose yourself to a renewed perception of our wonderful world.

Welcome!

DNB values its partnership with Norwegian cultural institutions, sports associations and other non-profit organisations, both locally and on a national level.

For more than 60 years, we have sponsored the Bergen International Festival, one of Norway’s most dynamic cultural events. Through our sponsorship, we aim to make the arts accessible to as many people as possible.

DNB - Sponsor of cultural activities.
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Contemporary circus

Foundations

THE BEST OF THE BEST IN THE CLASSICAL ART TRADITION

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Opening Ceremony

The 64th Bergen International Festival opens with a grand outdoor event in the city square, Torgallmenningen, with teasers from Festival artists, speeches and surprises, and of course the traditional singing of Nystemten.

Her Majesty Queen Sonja will be present during the opening day.

We hope to see you there!

Supported by Rika AS, represented by Yvonne & Bjarne Rieber and the Kavli Trust

Sponsored by DNB and DNV GL

The full programme will be published on www.fib.no in May.

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The American legend Judy Collins embraces Grieghallen with heartwarming songs.

Collins made her recording debut in 1961, and is one of the greatest folk musicians of her generation. She is still active both as an artist and as a social activist and has made her own versions of songs by Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen among others. She is perhaps best known for Both Sides Now, a song, although written by Joni Mitchell, first recorded by Collins. Her focus is on good stories and gripping melodies and she has fallen for Norwegian songs including Jonas Fjeld’s Engler i snøen (Angels in the Snow,) and Thomas Dybdahl’s From Grace. The latter is included on Judy Collin’s duet album released last autumn.

Thomas Dybdahl has released six albums, sold over 400,000 records, won three Norwegian Grammys and fills concert halls both in Norway and Europe.

'That someone who has made a career of finding good songs and making them her own, has found my song is extraordinary,' Dybdahl has said. Both Sides Now is one of his all-time favourite songs.
Fargespill

with KORK

Effervescent musicality meets the ultimate in professionalism to create an extravaganza that nobody could have achieved alone.

“We are relentless in ambition when we gather up and thrust forward the voice, culture and history of the performers in Fargespill. (Kaleidoscope in English). Therefore, we select the best: a first-class symphony orchestra that has the flexibility and playfulness needed to make this concert a milestone in our history”, says Ole Hamre, one of two artistic directors of Fargespill. Joining Fargespill in the medley are two young classical soloists who will be playing instruments on loan from Dextra Musica.

Fargespill are masters of combining expressiveness and professionalism in order to create vivid dramatic art. Children and youths bring their unique expressiveness – a story to tell through their own cultural inheritance. Their story is given a professional framework in the form of top-drawer artistic and technical staff in order to elevate and give it momentum.

During the festival this principle is taken to new heights as a symphony orchestra of international standing meets an animated eruption of 100 children and youths from 35 countries – who together crash through social barriers and shatter musical boundaries.

---

The Norwegian Radio Orchestra (KORK)
Ingar Bergby conductor

Fargespill – 100 children and youths from around the world
Ole Hamre drums, artistic director
Sissel Saue choir master, song instruction, artistic director
Harald Dahlstrem keyboard
Yngve Ååld guitar
Jaser Sayun percussion, beatboxing
Mira Thiruchelvam tamil flute, jathees
Johanne Haugland violin
Andrés Maurette O’Brien viola
Elizabeth Guino-O’ choreography, staging
Britt Koldal sceneography, stage manager
Jan Henrik Vindenes sound design
Kåre Ivar Skjørestad lighting design
Kjersti Berge producer
Fraydis Moberg co-producer
Sigurd Rotvik Tunestveit musical consultant
Håkon Berge musical arrangement

Supported by The DNB Savings Bank Foundation – Dextra Musica and Grieg Foundation
Sponsored by DNB

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Séance

– the making of a murder mystery musical

A concert performance about spiritualistic séances and one of the most infamous criminal mysteries in Norway’s history.

Film director and playwright Harald Zwart, in collaboration with composers Karoline Krüger and Sigvart Dagsland and Veslemøy Ruud Zwart, guide the audience through the world premiere of a concert version of their coming musical, Séance. It is inspired by the historical battle between academia and new alternative forces and the true story of Ingeborg Kaber (1895–1977).

Kaber was one of Norway’s most famous mediums. In 1934 she was accused of planning and carrying out the drowning of her own father after first predicting his death during a séance. The case received considerable attention because the law, academia, church and science challenged each other’s values; to believe or disbelieve in the supernatural, and if it is possible for the living to communicate with the dead.

Harald Zwart grew up beside Ingeborg Kaber’s summer home on the island of Hankø, in the Oslo fjord. After Harald and Veslemøy met Sigvart and Karoline at Hankø and they went on a research excursion to the haunted house and the idea of the musical Séance was born.

Created by Harald Zwart
Karoline Krüger, Sigvart Dagsland music
Mike McGurk lyrics
Harald Zwart, Allison Robbins script
Veslemøy Ruud Zwart producer
Silje Sandodden Kise set design
Eline Sundal cello
Bjørn Holm bass
Steffen Isachsen keyboard
Jango Nilsen percussion
Harald Zwart, Karoline Krüger, Sigvart Dagsland, Veslemøy Ruud Zwart, Carrie Gibson, Matthew Oliva, Alex Bohlin and others contributors

Sponsored by Dagens Næringsliv
Angélique Kidjo

An African superstar with a big voice and an even bigger heart.

Angélique Kidjo has become a symbol of African creativity and energy. Her music is a unique combination of her western African roots with funk, soul and Latino music.

Angélique Kidjo is in more than one way one of the strongest voices of the African continent. She is politically active, particularly in relation to Africa’s present and future. She intentionally uses her music as a platform for communication between her own culture and the widely varying cultures around the world.

‘Electric and explosive’, ‘soul and funk’, ‘Africa’s Premier Diva’; these are just a few of the epithets in reviews of Kidjo’s music and stage presence. She has collaborated with great names in a variety of genres, including Alicia Keys, James Brown and Philip Glass. Her musical fireworks make it impossible to sit still and listen, while her power and musicality hit you straight in the heart.

Angélique Kidjo won the Grammy for Best World Music Album in 2016 for the album Sings.
Dreamers’ Circus

with Selene Muñoz

Dreamers’ Circus is folk music of 2016 – enthusiasm and innovation founded on tradition.

These three young musicians have set out on a dream journey in the world of folk music. A journey that includes detours to visit Sibelius, Vivaldi, Mozart, Grieg and Nielsen – and fortunately a visit to the Bergen International Festival.

On their way here the reputation of their energetic live performances has reached far and wide. Their concerts are attended not only by traditional folk enthusiasts but also by young indie and rock fans, who have had a new musical door opened for them.

‘Folk music is so strong that it can be used for anything, and it is in its element when challenged and developed,’ say the members of Dreamers’ Circus.

The group met in a pub during a folk festival in 2009. Rune Tønsgaard Sørensen (violin) was jamming with Ale Carr (citern). Nikolaj Busk happened in and joined in on the piano. This was Dreamers’ Circus first performance.

They are joined by award-winning dancer Selene Muños, who adds a fascinating visual aspect to the music.

—
Rune Tønsgaard Sørensen violin
Ale Carr citern
Nikolaj Busk piano, accordion

Selene Muños dance

Supported by the Oticon Foundation

Gabriel Fillet and the Writers

Songs of Bergen

World premiere of new Bergen songs – 225 years after the Bergen anthem Nystemten first was sung.

We really should sing the praises of our towns, especially Bergen. Although Bergen has a bountiful bouquet of songs narrating happenings and yearnings in streets and homes, many of the old favourites are timeworn.

In Songs of Bergen, musician and lyricist Gabriel Fillet has invited Frode Grytten, Stig Holmås and a number of other writers to create entirely new Bergen songs – tender and burlesque, sober and nostalgic.

Gabriel Fillet sets music to the lyrics and performs the songs with musicians Jørgen Sandvik, Kristoffer Chelsom Vogt and various treasures of musical guests. The wing-man for the evening is Bergen’s young, rhythmical poet Erlend O. Nødtvedt, who pens new texts for the occasion. He teases and lampoons the songs in his own uniquely perceptive style.

Gabriel Fillet has had a number of commissioned compositions and composed Åresong for the Bergen International Festival in 2010 with Jon Fosse.

—
Gabriel Fillet accordion, piano, vocal
Kristoffer Chelsom Vogt double bass, vocal
Jørgen Sandvik guitars, vocal
Erlend O. Nødtvedt rhythmic poet

Guests:
Arve Henriksen trumpet
Tora Augusted vocal
Irene Kinunda vocal

Lariba

A passionate mix of Latino, jazz and hip hop made for dancing.

Lariba combines salsa, rumba, Reggaeton, jazz, cumbia, hip hop, reggae and anything else that can be branded as “Latin rhythms”. They sing and rap in five different languages, their songs bubbling over with attitude, creativity and energy. This may seem to describe a random fusion of styles, but it actually sounds far from casual. The energetically professional and accomplished musicians play refined, they play effortlessly and they play from the heart.

The group comprises musicians from Cuba, Switzerland, Sicily and Brazil. In an inspired way they have managed to collect all of these musical threads into a collective expression of party, dance and fun.

The music has a drive and a pulse that simply entices the audience onto the dance floor, which is precisely their goal: “We came from the North, South, East and the West, to test the rhythms that we love the best. salsa, hip hop, jazz – the important thing is that you’re shaking your ass!”

—
Lariba
Simone Santos vocal, percussion
Rob Haçaturyan vocal, percussion
Alcides Toirac bass, vocal
Amilk Guerra trumpet
Carlos Irarragorri piano, cuban guitar, vocal
Alex Wilson piano
Juan Carlos Abreu drums
David Stauffacher percussion
Norwegian psalms meet jazz and Afghan poetry.

Tord Gustavsen and Simin Tander perform familiar Norwegian psalms freely translated into the Afghan language Pashto, and Sufi poetry which is translated into English. Afghan–German Tander is one of the most captivating voices on the European jazz scene, and they are joined by Gustavsen’s regular drummer partner Jarle Vespestad and the ground-breaking trumpeter Nils Petter Molvær.

Tord Gustavsen is acclaimed for his unique musical style and he creates creative and lyrical music that challenges the boundaries between modern and melodic jazz. Psalm melodies have shadowed Gustavsen from his childhood in churches and chapels, and, he says, serve as a powerful source of inspiration and new interpretations through life’s stages.

In Simin’s versions the familiar melodies take on a mystical dimension through the sound created in the beautiful Pashto language.

Prepare for a lively evening at Logen when eight innovative musicians are given free reign.

The Kuraybers and Silje Nergaard share a passion for blending musical styles. The Kuraybers have a multilingual musical vocabulary and a unique, brilliant, fresh and witty expression. They have strong ties with Norwegian and Balkan folk music, and bring musical elements from countries such as Ireland, Poland and Spain.

In this Late Night performance they are joined by Silje Nergaard, who also roams a landscape of various genres. The well-known and merited singer songwriter performs within jazz, folk pop, country and blues, but always with a recognizable expression that bears Nergaard’s unique signature.

Spicy, raw and unadorned version of music from a time when Europa stood on the brink of an abyss.

Norway’s uncrowned queen of cabaret Tora Augestad steals the audience back to Berlin during the interwar period. Cabaret as entertainment and art form played a significant and fabled role in those fertile and fatal years of European history.

From Bar to Barricades follows the threads of Arnold Schönberg’s cabaret songs, Brettì-Lieder, with servings of the 20th century’s most cutting-edge vocal work Pierrot Lunaire, also by Schönberg. In his search for topicality and a satirical view of his time it was biting in its irony and demanded honesty in its performance. Joining Tora Augestad for this concert is the versatile pianist Trygve Brøske in addition to her own ensemble Music for a While.

Music for a While Tora Augestad vocal Stian Carstensen accordion, pedal steel guitar Mathias Eick trumpet Martin Taxt tuba Pål Hausken drums, percussion

Trygve Brøske piano, pump organ, melodica

The interpretations also create political and theological controversy when the contents of psalm texts express a multi-faith universe when impulses from Sufism, Tantra and Christian mysticism are combined.

Norwegian psalms meet jazz and Afghan poetry.

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The Kuraybers Almir Mešković accordion Grzegorz Miszczynszyn accordion Daniel Lázár violin Ramon Figueras Alsius trumpet Espen Wensaaas guitar Bjørnar Kaldefoss Tveite double bass Boris lochev drums

Silje Nergaard vocal

From Bar to Barricades follows the threads of Arnold Schönberg’s cabaret songs, Brettì-Lieder, with servings of the 20th century’s most cutting-edge vocal work Pierrot Lunaire, also by Schönberg. In his search for topicality and a satirical view of his time it was biting in its irony and demanded honesty in its performance. Joining Tora Augestad for this concert is the versatile pianist Trygve Brøske in addition to her own ensemble Music for a While.

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The interpretations also create political and theological controversy when the contents of psalm texts express a multi-faith universe when impulses from Sufism, Tantra and Christian mysticism are combined.
Late Night Logen
LOGEN TEATER
DATE/TIME
Saturday 04 June at 22:00
DURATION
2:00 including interval
TICKET
Standard: 290
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30% discount
BT Fordel: 25% discount

Dakh Daughters

A chaotic but incisive cabaret from Ukrainian revolutionists.

The seven women in Dakh Daughters do as they please. They call the genre freak cabaret, and have positioned themselves in a no-man’s land between theatre and music. Every song is a spectacle and a story in itself. The attitude is punk, the dance is burlesque ballet and the music is electronica and folk.

With whitened faces, sooty eyes and blood-red lips they look as if they have stepped straight out of a silent movie. But Dakh Daughters do not make a habit of being silent or sitting still. The ensemble made a courageous, uncompromising decision in 2013 when they performed in Independence Square in Kiev during the protests, which eventually led to the Ukrainian revolution.

All of the members are both actors and musicians, and as the name of the ensemble suggests, they are all children of the DAKH Centre of Contemporary Arts in Ukraine. The responsibilities of the members of the ensemble include singing, screaming, speaking, dancing, acting, doing stunts and playing fifteen different instruments.

Vlad Troitsky direction
Solomiia Melnyk cello, accordion, piano, drums
Ruslana Khazipova drums, percussion, double bass, trembita
Tanya Havrylyuk piano, double bass, drums, flute
Natalia Halaneyvych double bass, percussion, piano
Natalia Zozul violin, trembita
Anna Nikiforova guitar, percussion
Nina Garenetska cello
TenpointVJ’s video design

RIFF

A bubbling melting pot of music, dance rhythms and messages from all corners of the world.

Yuzzo (pictured) and The Front Line Band mix reggae, hip hop and African music. They sing about love, but never take it for granted. It’s about hope and the battle for freedom, but also about dance and having fun on the way there.

Meelodi consists of multi-string-instrumentalist Ole André Farstad and painter Medi Farmani on vocals. Together with a number of guest artists they serve an eclectic mixture from all corners of the world.

Bergen Afro Cuban Jazz Orchestra guarantees festival music with irresistibly danceable rhythms spiced with a pinch of jazz. Here is a treat for those who want to dance and those who want to listen.

RIFF is being arranged for the third time and has at its foundation great words such as roots, identity, divergence and fellowship. But most importantly it is a limitless celebration of music for the feet, head and heart.

The evening is hosted by the dedicated cultural ambassador and dancer Chiku Ali and you will hear Sanjally Jobarteh on the African kora harp.

Chiku Ali compere
Meelodi
Yuzzo and the Front Line Band
Sanjally Jobarteh kora
Bergen Afro Cuban Jazz Orchestra

Presented in collaboration with Hordaland Joint Immigrant Council and Bergen International Culture Center.
A display of the trumpet’s many nuances and sides.

Even if Palle Mikkelborg is one of Denmark’s most innovative and original jazz musicians ever, the description, jazz musician, doesn’t quite cover it. His musical expression is formed just as much by composers like Ravel and Messiaen as musicians like Miles Davis and George Russell. Palle Mikkelborg is self-taught and has, since the end of the 1960s challenged conventions with his unique trumpet playing and crossover projects. Mikkelborg has developed a lyrical and dramatic style of playing, with a melodic and airy tone. In 1989 he produced and composed a concept album, Aura, for Miles Davis, which won a Grammy for the best instrumental jazz album of the year. In Norway he is perhaps best known for his collaboration with artists such as Karin Krog, Jan Garbarek, Terje Rypdal and Gunnar Andreas Berg. The group of Mikkelborg’s friends on stage at Logen Teater include pianist Carsten Dahl, harpist Helen Davies and the Ghanian percussionist Ayi Solomon.

Supported by the Oticon Foundation

Uniforms and sweet music in a dynamic and timeless opera.

It is not without foundation that Rossini’s The Barber of Seville is one of the world’s most performed operas.

Vibrant music from start to finish and a charming story of young Rosina, who, with the help of the ingenious barber Figaro, finally wins the man she loves. All this, and an abundance of jesting and intrigues too.

In 2016 it will be 200 years since the opera’s world premiere at Teatro Argentina in Rome. The Bergen International Festival, in collaboration with Opera Bergen and the Arctic Philharmonic, is proud to present a completely new production of this colorful opera.

Be prepared for both extravagant rococo and modern scenography. The cast includes recognized international and Norwegian singers collaborating with Arctic Philharmonic Orchestra and local choirs.

The production is staged by Slovenian Rocc, who has staged and designed more than 30 prominent opera productions in Czech Republic, Slovenia, Norway and Italy.

His previous collaborations with Opera Bergen include the 2015 production of Carmen.

Even 200 years after its world premiere, The Barber of Seville appears lively and contemporary. Rossini combined his best ideas in the opera. Our production maintains the rich baroque tradition while merging it with an exciting and contemporary visual expression. Scenographer Rocc promises us a backdrop of shrewd humor, which will still make us laugh – and reflect.
Absurd theatre meets slapstick comedy.
The set, which at first glance appears solid and static, comes to life, bringing Martin Zimmermann both opportunities and hindrances. The Swiss choreographer, set designer and clown manoeuvres himself through a landscape of constantly moving frames, boxes and lopsided rectangles. He alternately wears a long coat, a helmet, a bowler hat and a sheet, and occasionally takes time to do the vacuum cleaning. All in an attempt to find himself.
Objects come to life and fly around his head; magic fills the room and erases the border between fantasy and reality. Finesse and choreography combine with a feeling of chaos and the impression that anything can go wrong at any time.

Martin Zimmermann has appeared on stage for over twenty years and in Hallo he loses contact with reality, mistakes himself for his own mirror image, folds himself up and becomes a piece of scenery. All the while balancing on the fine line between mastery and catastrophe.
Breakneck stunts in a fascinating, beautiful and melancholic contemporary circus production.

Daring feats challenge gravity when performers spin through the air before landing on thin planks, or safely in the arms of other acrobats. The Swedish troupe stretches the limitations of what a contemporary circus can be, and what a person is capable of.

The production is not only about strength, precision and agility, but also trust and unity. Completely without a safety-net everyone is dependent on each other in order to succeed and to avoid falling. In classic Cirkus Cirkör manner, limitations of perspective are overthrown. With energy and focus on what is possible a world of fleeing, migration and new frontiers is balanced against the artists’ individual limits in terms of risk, pain, the limitations of the group and of the body. Stepping over boundaries is hard without moments of chaos and disorder, but the state of today’s world demands new approaches.

World-renowned acrobats fill the roles in Tilde Björfors’s production which is a continuation of Borders from 2015.

Limits

with Cirkus Cirkör

Tilde Björfors director, concept
Tilde Björfors, Fanny Senocq, Stefan Karlström, Joel Jedström and the ensemble scenography
Jonna Bergelin costume
Samuel Andersson music, sound design
Olle Strandberg choreography
Johannes Ferm Winkler, Per Rydnert/Visual Relief video design, scenography
Sara De Vylder, Amy Fee production

Manda Rydman, Einar Kling-Odencrants, Anton Graaf, Peter Åberg, Saara Ahola, Samuel Andersson artists

In collaboration with Bærum Kulturhus and Norsk turnénettverk for dans- og scenekunst.

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Sponsored by Atea
Welcome to the Festival Square!

The Festival Square (Festspillplassen) is the place to be during the Bergen International Festival. Here you will discover fantastic, fanciful and fun experiences from 11:00 until midnight – and easily accessible for everyone in town.

1. Melodonten
The main arena at the Festival Square with jam-packed day and evening programmes. Read more on p. 27–31 (evening/adult) and p. 32–35 (day/family).

2. Parabolen
Explore outer space (p. 32) and envelop yourself in colour and music – a sensory installation. Free.

3. Paraplyen
Innovative and tasty food and drink from Lysverket, stimulating conversation and festival atmosphere. Open every day at 11:00–24:00.

4. Tullemutten
Explore the ingenious homemade devices of The Strange Travels of Señor Tonet (p. 34) in this outdoor area for children and adults. Open every day at 11:00–17:00. Free.

Opening of the festival’s main arena with world-class Klezmer music.

Danish Mames Babegenush is famous for their spellbinding and intense live concerts where energy and melancholy go hand in hand.

Bonding together a fusion of traditional Jewish Klezmer music minted at weddings and parties, melted with rock and electronic music, they are once again our guests, this time to create a festival atmosphere during the opening of the main arena of the Festival Square.

Jassbox and Bergen Big Band challenge: Loosen tie. Lace-up dance shoes.

Since 2007 Jassbox has held monthly jazz club evenings in Bergen and Oslo, where they are on a mission to bring dance back to jazz, working hard to gather new recruits to the genre. In honour of the Bergen International Festival they have created a long-awaited collaboration between Bergen Big Band, jazz pianist Dag Arnesen and double bass player Magne Thormodsæter. Most of the music refers to danceable 1960s and 1970s compositions. The sizeable ensemble of horns and comp makes it possible to involve break-dancers, jazz-dancers, rappers and vocalists from Bergen’s underground scene.

There is a lot of young talent eager to show the incredible potential in the fusion of contemporary styles and big band jazz.

Espen Horne producer, DJ
Dag Arnesen orchestra leader, piano
Magne Thormodsæter orchestra leader, double bass
Bergen Big Band
Hester V75
Action Man
Stig Paa, Torb Roach breakdance
Kola Abidogun, Louis Pomfret jazz dance

In collaboration with West Norway Jazz Center

Jassbox and Bergen Big Band challenge: Loosen tie. Lace-up dance shoes.
**Hedvig Mollestad Trio & Moonpedro and the Sinking Ship**

A sonic storm with a new release from hyper Hedvig Mollestad Trio.

Hedvig Mollestad Trio are eager to liberate the melodies from their fourth album on this release concert in Melodonten. In this split gig, Moonpedro and the Sinking Ship also invite the audience into its eclectic world of music.

Hedvig Mollestad trio are renowned for their monumental stage presence, with guitarist Hedvig Mollestad’s lightning riffs, bassist Ellen Brekkens’s powerfully dynamic, lightly dancing bass lines and drummer Ivar Loe Bjørnstad’s hyperactive octopus arms. Jazz metal, or “Jazz Sabbath” as music magazine Classic Rock defined them, rock, freebag, doomjazz, stonerswing – for every album the trio releases, new genres and permutations are unleashed in an attempt to classify some of their music.

Poet, musician and writer Pedro Carmona-Alvarez has released music under the name Moonpedro and the Sinking Ship since 2007. The Chilean-Norwegian artist became known to many as vocalist of the band Sister Sonny in the 1990s. This February, Moonpedro and the Sinking Ship released the album Let’s, pig to great reviews.

_Hedvig Mollestad Trio_  
_Hedvig Mollestad_ guitar  
_Ellen Brekkens_ bass  
_Ivar Loe Bjørnstad_ drums

_Moonpedro and the Sinking Ship_  
_Pedro Carmona-Alvarez_ and band

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**Bach, Brann and Bacharach**

A musical evening on a tangent

Experience new musical perspectives when classical virtuosos expose their previously unseen sides.

Renowned musicians from the classical stage take their instruments into other arenas, and present pop, jazz, neoclassical and even football songs – Brann being the local team. We can expect playfulness enriched with humour, fantasy, charm and musical surprises, and you will experience how diverse music can be. We promise an entertaining atmosphere, frisky concoctions and nail-biting musical challenges for both musicians and audience.

To guide us through the evening is Audun Sandvik, solo cellist with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra (KORK) and expert saw player, also known for his unique brand of irreverence in his musical performance.

Participating artists will be announced at www.fib.no

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**Che Sudaka**

Overwhelming and energetic mestizo music to make you dance, reflect and dream.

Rebellious cumbia, lively rumba, ska with a hint of latino, in-your-face punk as well as personal and socially critical lyrics – Che Sudaka invites you to a party for the head, heart and stomach!

As illegal immigrants from Argentina and Colombia, the band members earned their living as street musicians in Barcelona. Since then the gang has become standard bearers for Mestizo music worldwide, with over 1500 concerts in 40 countries. Che Sudaka is a band with a mission: They see themselves as an instrument of collective conscience and use music as a weapon in a non-violent war for a caring society.

The band also knows how to wield a spatula and offers self-made food at Bien Snackbar Thursday 02 June. In a panel discussion, they will share their experiences of being illegal immigrants and present homemade culinary gems before serving the musical main meal and dessert at Melodonten Friday 03 June.

Leonardo Gabriel Fernández  
_vocal, Spanish guitar_  
Marcos Fernández  
_vocal_  
Sergio Adrián Morales  
_cleves, accordion_  
John Jairo Pineda Castro  
_guitar_  
Mario Alvira Sanchez  
_sound design_

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**Hedvig Mollestad Trio**  
_Hedvig Mollestad_ guitar  
_Ellen Brekkens_ bass  
_Ivar Loe Bjørnstad_ drums

**Moonpedro and the Sinking Ship**  
_Pedro Carmona-Alvarez_ and band
Festival Milonga

Tango party in three acts, open to both new and experienced dance enthusiasts.

Do you like to move to the sound of tango? Have you always wanted to try but never dared? Or perhaps you prefer to enjoy the dance and music as a spectator? Here is your opportunity as we invite you to Festival Milonga in Melodonten.

A milonga is a place or event for dancing tango. The festival milonga starts with a 40-minute introductory course. Participants need no previous skills, as dance instructors from the tango club Tango Abrazo will lead you safely through the session.

In session two a couple with rather more than 40 minutes’ experience take over the dance-floor with a striking tango display.

After this inspirational break, the dance floor is open to everyone and the third session of the festival milonga can begin. All tango enthusiasts, new and experienced, can participate in the art. Of course if you prefer, you can drink up the atmosphere without dancing yourself.

A DJ from Tango Abrazo provides the music and ensures that the tango atmosphere seizes you from the first beat.

In collaboration with Tango Abrazo.

Friends of Lysverket #10

A musical-culinary meeting crossing borders.

Cooks from the whole world meet local craftsmen, musicians, artists, farmers and fishermen as guests of chef Christopher Haatuft at Lysverket. Together they create a series of meals, with Haatuft as host. Many nationalities are gathered around the table, irrespective of language and other barriers, to find new perspectives through a common love for good food and drink.

The Bergen International Festival is delighted to pool resources for the tenth Friends of Lysverket meal on Tuesday 07 June. Join us and experience a dynamic meeting between culinary art of the highest class combined with a fantastic festival atmosphere.

Festival Milonga

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In collaboration with Tango Abrazo.
Colour and Music – a Sensory Space

Allow yourself to be enveloped in a self-made universe of light, sound and colour.

The mobile sensory space from the British Eye Music Trust is about opening the senses, stimulating creativity and awareness of how colour and music affects us.

By playing with movement and pressure sensors, the participant influences music and theatre lights. LED lights mix the colours onto the surface of large sails as participants create a new atmosphere in the room, which becomes enveloped in moving lines, music and colour.

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Free

Rhythms from Space

An exciting journey through the galaxy with drums, smoke and laser lights.

Rhythms from Space is a family show with interactive technology, lots of drums and exciting music. Two drumonauts who drum themselves through the galaxy. Suddenly, they find themselves in a life-threatening situation, quite alone, far out in the universe. A princess gives them a task: They must save her planet from a dangerous asteroid. With the help of break-dance, humour and a good dose of hip-breaking acrobatics, the Bergen-based crew show that growing old doesn’t have to mean becoming boring.

Absence idea, choreography
Andreas Roksvåg, Piero Issa, Daniel Grindeland, Halvard Haldorsen, Christopher Bottolfson, Ole Petter Knarvik contributors Kristian Brusletto Kjærholt sound, lighting technician Linn Therese Michelsen costume design Mette Noordt mask

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Free

Control the galaxy exactly as you wish!

Space is an interactive sound and video installation where you can, amongst other things, control the stars with your own movements. This is a unique opportunity for an out-of-this-world experience for both large and small, created by multitalented artist Peter Baden.

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Free

RIFF World Market

One day break-dancers Absence wake up to discover that time has passed by and they are in a retirement home. When they realize that they have grown old, they refuse to accept it. Even if the body isn’t willing, the six break-dancers in Absence rebel against time and the carers in the retirement home. Absence is a production about life’s joys and impermanence that puts life into perspective.

Absence idea, choreography
Andreas Roksvåg, Piero Issa, Daniel Grindeland, Halvard Haldorsen, Christopher Bottolfson, Ole Petter Knarvik contributors Kristian Brusletto Kjærholt sound, lighting technician Linn Therese Michelsen costume design Mette Noordt mask

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Free
Powerimpro

Everything was fixed and ready. Then this happens!

Powerimpro moves in the zone between theatre improvisation and music. You may hear a previously unknown adventure musical, a power ballad performed by aliens or a completely new lullaby. Powerimpro is a vitamin injection of energy, music, humour and reflexion in free flight.

Sveinung Nøss vocal, theatre improvisation
Bendik Lund Haanshus guitars
Knut Ola Vang piano

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Classic Buskers

Classical whirlwind of the world's strangest wind instruments.

Michael Copley plays his huge collection of recorders, clay whistles, flutes, pan pipes, crumhorn, early woodwind instruments, melodica, and lots more strange and exciting wind instruments. He also plays a rubber chicken! With Ian Moore on his unstoppable accordion, they play music of classical composers such as Mozart, Haydn, Rossini, Vivaldi, Handel, Bach, Tchaikovsky, Borodin, Chopin and Wagner.

Michael Copley various instruments
Ian Moore various instruments

Supported by Grieg Foundation and The Kavli Trust

Tales in the Tent

Playful musical adventure crossing linguistic boundaries.

Fortellerhuset (Storyteller House) bring tales from Arabic and African cultures to the festival and Melodonten. The tales are told in Arabic, Wulu, French and Norwegian and are woven together to be suitable for everyone irrespective of which language you use. Four storytellers play with rhythm, language and musicality, and engage with the children.

Fortellerhuset Charlotte Øster, Raymond Sereba, Beate Frostad storytellers
Ilham Twafig guest storyteller

Supported by Grieg Foundation

The Strange Journey of Sir Tonet

Take a journey of discovery in Sir Tonet's fantastic creations.

The Catalan company Tombs Creatius takes us on a journey of discovery in Sir Tonet’s fantastic creations. Visit Sir Tonet’s fantastic creations, Sir Tonet’s fantastic creations and Sir Tonet’s fantastic creations.

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Festival Youth Performance in Stord

Enjoy young performing arts – music, dance, theatre and visual arts at this open all-day performance.

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Festival Youth Performance

Enjoy young performing arts – music, dance, theatre and visual arts at this open all-day performance.

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Festival Youth Day

Experience young performing arts – music, dance, theatre and visual arts at this open all-day performance.

Supported by Grieg Foundation

Endorsements:
- Supported by Grieg Foundation
- Sponsored by Statoil
**The Tree**

Musical puppet theatre for younger children, about life in a tree.

What can you find in a tree? What happens in a day in the life of a tree? Birds, insects, larva, shoots and leaves – and maybe things that we can’t see?

A day in the life of a tree is like a fairground of life in all its forms. There is birth, laughter and sadness, there are battles and compromises, hope and disappointments – this is life.

The production is without words, but has a musical backdrop. Kompani 13 plays with simple, modern scenic expressions with the help of figures and in collaboration with music. A warm, safe and inspiring arena for younger children who are experiencing theatre for the first time.

**In Hertha’s Studio**

Excitement, mystery, humour and ceramics as classical pantomime theatre.

In *Hertha’s Studio* is a silent tribute to the Swedish ceramicist Hertha Hillfon’s irresistible creativity and artistry. Anything can happen when the clay is kneaded and formed by Hertha, played by pantomime master Bo W. Lindström. A mysterious friend, played by Alice Hillbom Rudfeldt, captivates the children with her naughty pranks in the studio, which may well lead to life and action in the sculptures!

In *Hertha’s Studio* is a wonderfully warm and humorous classic pantomime. Without words but with skillful physical precision, the production explores feelings of freedom, fantasy, love, grief and joy.

**Outdoors**

**Family Day at Siljustøl**

Enchanting Sunday close to nature in Søyervud’s own paradise.

The great family day at Harald Søyervud’s property is a valued and popular tradition. The composer’s property in Fana is wonderfully beautiful and Søyervud was fond of wandering in the bewitching surroundings at Siljustøl. Many new musical works found their inspiration here.

This Sunday at Siljustøl there will be displays of dancing, fun figures created by Dukkenikkernes theatre group and film-inspired music from the Kavli Trust.

**The Forest of Grimm**

Prize-winning enchanting puppet theatre with music as narration.

The Spanish theatre group La Maquiné presents a visual and musical feast of a production inspired by classical tales such as Red Riding Hood, Snow White and Tom Thumb. Physical theatre and puppets are presented silently while the piano tells the story.

The musical repertoire is built around parts of the composer’s property in Fana is wonderfully beautiful and Søyervud was fond of wandering in the bewitching surroundings at Siljustøl. Many new musical works found their inspiration here.

**Additional Information**

Please note that the festival does not provide transport to this event, although this is done for other festival events at Siljustøl.

**World Premiere**

**Musical Premiere**

**Teateret**

**DATE/TIME**

Saturday 28 May at 11:00, 13:00 and 15:00

**Duration**

0:30

**Recommended Ages**

9 and up

**Ticket**

Standard 150

Under 16. 60

Festival Card 30 % discount

**BT Fordel**

25 % discount

**CORNER: TEATERET**

**CAST**

Jorunn Lillau, Jan Holden, Steinar Thorsen

Supported by Grieg Foundation

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**CORNER: TEATERET**

**CAST**

Pantomimteatern

Victoria Kaha director, idea

Bo W. Lindström actor, idea

Alice Hillbom Rudfeldt actor

Sara Kander scenography, costume, masks, illustration

Cais-Marie Bjørnlof make-up, wigs

Torbjørn Svedberg music

Mikael Tham sound design, technical

Veronica Bedeck producer

Supported by Grieg Foundation

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**Family Day at Siljustøl**

A collaboration between the Bergen International Festival, Kompani 13 and Dukkenikkernes theatreverksted, Siljustøl Venner, Stiftelsen Siljustøl and Bergen kommune – Fana og Ytrebygdens kulturkontor.

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

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**The Forest of Grimm**

Supported by Grieg Foundation
Water theatre fills Lille Lungegårdsvann with wild, surreal and whimsical scenes in the darkness of night.

Water Fools is a production where the French theatre company Ilotopie blurs the line between fantasy and reality. A man wakes one morning to discover that his head is on fire. Soon he finds himself on an epic journey where everyday things become mystical creatures. Wonderful sights, flames and light reflect in the water and create dream-like scenes.

Water brings life to horizons and open spaces. Water, like mountains and forests, is a reservoir for the fantasy. These shimmering surfaces are unspoilt sanctuaries where town dwellers can allow themselves to be seduced into a perception of what can be found beyond the urbane.

The French theatre company Ilotopie sees water with all its mythologies and associations as a new arena on which to play. They find energy in the water’s primeval and continuously flowing form.

It is technically difficult for an actor to maintain expression and freedom of movement on a floating element. By overcoming these challenges, the artists made a discovery. They found that the divide between reality and fantasy becomes fluid when a dynamic stage is placed in the ever-changing water reflection. The stage is no longer implausible and new myths can be freely created. This is how Water Fools was formed – as water art with 15 actors and thousands of spectators.

The music, composed by Phil Spectrum, is classically inspired but also dark and carnival-like with fusions of opera and electronica. The dramaturgy and choreography in the performance are built around Spectrum’s original music. Lighting and pyrotechnics intensify the imaginative scenes in a performance that follows the short-lived, dramatic and utopic nature of mankind.

Theatre critic Lyn Gardner in The Guardian called the piece ‘a beautiful vision of hell’ and believes that if Lewis Carroll had created street art based on his visions, teaming up with Salvador Dalí and Hieronymus Bosch, he might have come up with Water Fools.

Bring something to sit on, borrow headphones from the festival and allow yourself to be seduced into fantasy when darkness sets in this Saturday!

Supported by H. Westfal-Larsen and Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsens Almennyttige Fond and Institut français de Norvège
Mimi Terris

Swedish retro jazz brought to life with charm, wit and elegance.

With humour and drive, darkness and melancholy Mimi Terris offers a lyrical and tragicomic portrayal of when life doesn’t go exactly to plan.

‘I love it when comedy and tragedy meet in a comforting balance – like a Chaplin film, Astrid Lindgren’s stories or when Billie Holiday sings. On the surface it’s feel-good, but when you look closer you discover all the nuances’ says Terris.

Mimi Terris’ compositions move effortlessly between swing, bossa-nova, ballads, jazz-waltz and blues – genres that may have lain dormant in a Swedish vinyl collection, and in the heart. The concert is timeless and seductive, so send regards to 1940s USA, or present day Skåne, Sweden if you will.

Her natural tone, crystal-clear phrasing and subtle lyrics grab the listener, and the legacy of icons such as Alice Babs, Olle Adolphson and Monica Zetterlund is passed on in mastery style.

Festivities

Outdoors

Admission free

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Festival on the Seven Mountains

DATE/TIME
Sunday 29 May at 07:00-20:00

This traditional seven-mountain hike is an attraction and a great day out. The Bergen International Festival contributes with musical vitamin injections along the route.

In collaboration with the Norwegian Trekking Association

In collaboration with Fløibanen AS

The Three Grains of Oats

DATE/TIME
Saturday 04 June at 11:30 and 14:00

Some familiar and some less familiar tales from Western Norway are retold by Hanne B. Oftedal. The stories are woven together with beautiful, eerie and diverse tones from the fiddle of Gro Marie Svidal. Fairytales and music are formed and refined over many hundred years. At Fløysletten they will be retold and conveyed in a way that is relevant for children and adults today.

In collaboration with Fløibanen AS

Damsgårdsgadene (Festival Days at Damsgård)

DATE/TIME
Friday 03 June at 11:30–14:00
Saturday 04 June at 17:30–21:00
Sunday 05 June at 12:00–17:00

Arranged by Stiftelsen Damsgårdagene in collaboration with Fyllingsdalen og Laksevåg kulturkontor.

In collaboration with Fløibanen AS

In three days packed with music, dance, theatre, boxcar races, boating activities, veteran cars, guided tours, markets, museums, games and other activities near Laksevåg Church.

This year the Bergen International Festival contributes with two events during Damsgårdsgadene. For more information please visit: www.damsgardsgadene.com.

DATE/TIME
Monday 06 June at 19:00

DURATION
1:30

OTHER
Allow 30 mins before the start of concert for the funicular from the lower station.
To avoid ticket queue, buy online: www.fløyen.no

TICKET
Standard 220
Under 30: 150

Tickets

30 % discount

In collaboration with Fløibanen AS and Fløien Folkereestaurant

Swedish retro jazz brought to life with charm, wit and elegance.

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Festivities
Festival Quarter

The Bergen International Festival a meeting place for artists of many genres. Each day you will meet some of them on the small stage at Torgallmenningen.

26 May Selene Muñoz
27 May Haga & Hagenrud
28 May Eivind Holtmark Ringstad
29 May TBA at www.fib.no
30 May Fangespill
31 May The Kuraybers
01 June Absence
02 June Che Sudaka
03 June Andreas Brantelid
04 June Sharon Bezaly
05 June Extracts from RIFF
06 June Tango Abrazo
07 June Ensemble 101

Wonderful Wood

Just like the Pied Piper of Hamelin, BIT20 percussionists will stand in Bergen centre and lure in 100 children placed around town, each with a pair of claves (wooden dowels). The alluring rain of rhythm that slowly gathers around the BIT20 percussionists gradually evolves into the children's own compositions that they have worked on during the week through BIT20's “We Compose!” programme for schools.

The starting point of the concert and the children's compositions is Ole André Farstad's concept work Wonderful Wood, which focuses on the sounds of wooden materials.

Ole André Farstad percussion
Francois Taillefer percussion

In collaboration with BIT20.

Festival Street

Music, theatre, dance and free fun in the streets.

The festival repeats its success and fills Skostredet with free concerts, dance, street theatre and other activities this Saturday. Activities for all ages both outdoors and indoors. Street corners and backyards will be swarming with life.

Please visit www.fib.no for updates.

Andrea Pellegrini & Bjarke Mogensen

Beautiful tones from an exceptional baroque duo.

Originating from different spheres, mezzo-soprano Andrea Pellegrini and Bjarke Mogensen on accordion make an unlikely duo, but on the stage it feels as if they were meant to perform together.

Andrea Pellegrini has inspired many opera productions with her humour and ability to communicate with an audience. Her interest in merging different art forms and bringing classical music into new contexts has followed her throughout her career.

Bjarke Mogensen is one of those rare talents who seems to have been born with an accordion strap over his shoulder. His repertoire is virtually limitless and embraces folk music, classical and newly composed works. The duo performs by, amongst others, Bach, Vivaldi and Handel.

Ole André Farstad’s concept work Wonderful Wood, originating from their different spheres, is “the sound of Buenos Aires”. The Piazzolla Orchestra's concerts are abundant with the swaying waltzes, dramatic songs and fiery fugues of the Argentinian composer Astor Piazzolla. The music is closely related to Argentina and its tango culture, and Piazzolla himself described it as “the sound of Buenos Aires”. The orchestra, mezzo-soprano Andrea Pellegrini and accordionist Bjarke Mogensen have devoted themselves 100% to Piazzolla’s music.

Reviewers have described Pellegrini’s voice as perfect for tango – dark, expressive and with numerous depths of intensity, and the orchestra are acclaimed for their refined and precise interpretation of Argentinean music.

Andrea Pellegrini mezzo-soprano
Bjarke Mogensen accordion
Philippe Benjamin Skow violin
Tanja Zapolski piano
Per Arne Ferner guitar
Jesper Thorn double bass

Supported by Hordaland County Council and the Oticon Foundation

The seductive temperament of the backstreets of Buenos Aires meets the islanders of Austevoll.

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Andrea Pellegrini mezzo-soprano
Bjarke Mogensen accordion
Philippe Benjamin Skow violin
Tanja Zapolski piano
Per Arne Ferner guitar
Jesper Thorn double bass

Supported by Hordaland County Council and the Oticon Foundation
Sonatas by German masters and a raging Bull.

Violinist Annar Follesø has created international attention with his Ole Bull interpretations, and has previously performed world premieres of Bull’s works at the Bergen International Festival. Follesø was the first Norwegian violinist to be invited to the Salzburg music festival in 1999. He has toured a number of countries as a soloist and chamber musician. With him at this festival concert is Julie Ye, who recently completed her education at the Guildhall School of Music in London.

Annar Follesø has issued three critically acclaimed albums where Bull’s compositions are well represented, including Ole Bull’s violin concerts in collaboration with Kringkastingsorkestret (The Norwegian Radio Orchestra).

Ole Bull composed the theme to Polacca Guerriera to please the monks in the Cloister Santa Maria Novella in Firenze, but the work was later revised and dedicated to the people of Poland. The music is colourful and humorous – a piece for a technical wizard.

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Flamenco evening

with Selene Muñoz

Passion and perfectionism.

The internationally acclaimed flamenco artist Selene Muñoz performs at traditional flamenco festivals in addition to other festivals around the world. At Oseana her performance will include sections of the self-choreographed pieces Ritmout and Wild Blooms.

Her personal and unique creativity within flamenco dance has unsurprisingly led to a growth in her popularity, especially in the home of flamenco – Spain.

Selene Muñoz was educated in Denmark and Spain and has been invited to participate as dancer in “Dressed to Dance” at Museo del Traje (museum for costume history) in Madrid and has been involved in this project at the Guggenheim Museum in New York. She has performed at the World Expo World Exhibition in Shanghai and has given masterclasses for artistes from Cirque du Soleil in France and the Royal College of Ballet in Denmark.

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Boomlo Theatre in collaboration with Bergen International Festival.

Produced by Bømlo Theatre in collaboration with Bergen International Festival.

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Supported by Hordaland County Council.
Impossible is just a fancy grown-up word.

The Heroes of Tomorrow. Statoil is a proud supporter of talent development in science, education, culture and sports. We believe that no matter what challenges the future may hold, the answers are already out there. Which is why we’re backing talented youth who show they can go the extra mile.

Statoil. The Power of Possible
Two staged masterpieces in a musical and moral borderland.

How does one describe a moment in a woman’s life where she desperately seeks through the forest for the man she loves? How does one capture the feelings that rage through her body?

Arnold Schönberg’s Erwartung stretches this moment into thirty passionate minutes. In this Bergen International Festival, Bergen National Opera and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra production, the soprano Allison Cook and British video artist Netia Jones takes us on a visual journey in Schönberg’s disquieting soundscape. Erwartung is one of the most dramatic monologues in music history and has served as a source of inspiration for Netia Jones. She has been named the most imaginative opera director in Great Britain, and many will remember her staging of the BNO production Marco Polo at the 2013 Bergen International Festival.

The psychological monodrama is a sharp contrast to the beautiful Verklärte Nacht. Here we meet the late romantic Schönberg and the atmosphere is brought on by the whole string section together with Jones’ video art. Forest and moonlight plays a key role in this piece inspired by Richard Dehmel’s poem by the same name. We join a woman into the forest where she shares her dark secret with her new boyfriend – she carries another man’s child. Verklärte Nacht caused a stir in its time. The text shows contempt towards the moral damnation of sexual urges, and the work points to a musical crossroads and moves into the borderland of tonality.

Netia Jones director
Marie Pappenheim libretto (Erwartung)

Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra
Baldur Brønnimann conductor
Allison Cook soloist (Erwartung)

ARNOLD SCHÖNBERG (1874–1951)
Verklärte Nacht, Op. 4
Erwartung, Op. 17

A co-production by Bergen International Festival, Bergen National Opera and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra.
CRESCENDO

Top Young Soloists

and BFO

Youth soloists test their bows with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra.

In order to make it as a soloist on the international scene you need brilliant technical skill, virtuoso performance and ‘that little extra’. Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad (viola), Guro Kleven Hagen (violin) and Kian Soltani (cello) will demonstrate why they have been selected for Crescendo – a new talent development programme at world class level.

In this concert in Grieghallen we hear them in works by Mozart and Haydn – a repertoire with infectious nerve and musical delight. The city’s own orchestra will also perform music by Philip Glass from the film The Hours.

The Crescendo programme provides musicians at the cusp of international careers the opportunity to participate in unique encounters with mentors – established international soloists – through ensemble performance, coaching and personal contact. In 2016 these three young musicians will work with Leif Ove Andsnes and Janine Jansen. Crescendo is a highly ambitious project running over several years initiated by the Bergen International Festival. Partners in this project, which has a start capital of 25 million kroner, are the Barratt Due Music Institute and the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Guro Kleven Hagen violin
Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad viola
Kian Soltani cello

Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra
Ole Kristian Ruud conductor

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756–1791)
The Marriage of Figaro, Overture, KV 492

SERGEI PROKOFJEV (1891–1953)
Violin Concerto no. 2 in G minor, Op. 63

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833–1897)
Piano Quintet, Op. 34

JANINE JANSEN
violin

Experience this fantastic meeting of masters!

Janine Jansen from the Netherlands is one of the most famous violinists in the world. The breadth of her repertoire is second to none, and she is highly acclaimed as both a soloist and chamber musician.

For her, making music involves listening and communicating with others. She is particularly fond of chamber music. ‘This is where the deepest emotions are aroused. Musical communication in chamber music format has been important for me ever since childhood,’ she has explained. She has her own chamber music festival in Utrecht in the Netherlands.

Janine Jansen works regularly with eminent orchestras and musicians worldwide. She has collaborated with Leif Ove Andsnes before, and was happy to continue to do so in the Crescendo programme, in which they are both mentors. In this concert they perform with the top young soloists Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad (viola), Guro Kleven Hagen (violin) and Kian Soltani (cello).

Throughout the history of music the tradition of master and apprentice has been a cornerstone. The Crescendo programme provides gifted musicians at the outset of their careers opportunities of unique encounters with mentors – international soloists – through ensemble performance, coaching and personal contact.

This evening’s concert sees the soloists focused on five works by Mozart, Prokofiev and Brahms.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756–1791)
Piano Quartet no. 2 in E flat major, KV 493

PHILIP GLASS (1937–)
The Poet Acts, from the film The Hours

JANINE JANSEN violin
Guro Kleven Hagen violin
Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad viola
Kian Soltani cello
Leif Ove Andsnes piano

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BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2016
051
Grieg's A Minor Concerto alongside mythical music depicting darkness, hope and the life force.

The Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra brings the 2016 Bergen International Festival to a close, joined in this imposing concert by two international soloists and the celebrated conductor Kazuki Yamada.

The myths of the Knights of the Holy Grail and their struggle against the evil of the secular world have been the subject of great works of art. Many have been inspired by Parsifal and his interminable quest for the realm of the Fisher King, where the Holy Grail is guarded.

Forceful music from the prelude to Wagner's last opera Parsifal are followed by Rolf Wallin's The Fisher King, composed for the trumpeter Håkan Hardenberger. This trumpet concerto depicts the experience of being in a dark, desolate landscape — a place familiar to all. Nevertheless, these works portray the hope and the urge to overcome limitations and to escape from the darkness.

‘Where can we find the grail?’ asks the knight Parsifal. The answer is that it is to be found in oneself.

The concert concludes with Edvard Grieg's A minor Concerto with the young British pianist Benjamin Grosvenor as the soloist. It is rare for music in a minor key to be so cheerful and energetic.
A performance on the way of the world, based on Bach’s cantatas.

He is known as one of the world’s leading operatic directors in recent decades. In 2016 the Bergen International Festival presents the world premiere of his latest production.

Peter Konwitschny has brought three of Bach’s fabulous cantatas to life on the stage, telling the story of a woman in three different stages of life. Youthful joie de vivre is gradually displaced by breakup, disappointment and loneliness. The final cantata finds her in a retirement home where the residents seem to have been deported from everyday society.

There are great expectations of this co-production by the Bergen International Festival, Theater Chur (Switzerland) and Teater Trier (Germany). Peter Konwitschny’s performances consistently surprise, delight and provoke. With the Swiss early music ensemble Le Phénix on historical instruments and singers headed by Norwegian soprano Christel Elizabeth Smith, the stage is set for a truly great experience.

World premiere
LOGEN TEATER
DATE/TIME
Thursday 26 May at 19:30
Friday 27 May at 19:30
DURATION
2:00 including interval
TICKET
Standard: 390
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount
BT Fordel: 25% discount

Peter Konwitschny director
Helmut Brade set design, costume design
Ute Haferburg dramaturgy
Christel Elisabeth Smith soprano
Christiane Boesiger soprano
Cornelia Kallisch alto
Hans Schöpflin tenor
Jacek Strauch bass
Le Phénix orchestra
Attilio Cremonesi conductor

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685–1750)
Falsche Welt, dir trau’ ich nicht, BWV 52
Mein Herze schwimmt im Blut, BWV 199
Ach wie flüchtig, ach wie nichtig, BWV 26

A co-production by the Bergen International Festival, Theater Chur and Teater Trier.
Great sonatas performed by one of the most charismatic pianists of our time.

Sir András Schiff was knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 2014 for his services to music. One of the most prominent characters in classical music, he tours worldwide, with the exception of his native country Hungary, which he boycotts in political protest, as ‘a great opponent of the political situation there now.’

Sir András Schiff is equally uncompromising in his music; he has two spare Steinway grand pianos which he is willing to take on tour with him in order to ensure the best possible conditions for concerts. Fortunately he is happy with the new piano in Håkonshallen, on which he will be the first to perform. He is known for his distinctive playing style, precise and attentive to the slightest detail in every note and chord, resulting in performances that conjure up every nuance in works by the great composers.

Sir András Schiff himself emphasises that all music is in the last analysis merely a game to bring out the man behind the music. ‘The audience … want to be swept off their feet – it’s about a kind of controlled letting go. Risk taking is part of it, and that requires courage,’ as he told Ilona Oltuski in August 2015.

Sponsored by DNV GL
Prize-winning young singer Bror Magnus Tødenes performs Grieg and Schumann with pianist Håvard Gimse.

This 22-year old tenor from Eiksund south of Ålesund in Norway has despite his comparative youth developed an extensive, varied operatic and lieder repertoire. In September 2015 he took first prize in the opera section of the Renata Tebaldi International Voice Competition. He also received the Audience Prize, which includes a one-year contract with the Vienna State Opera.

‘Bror Magnus Tødenes’s performance has a strength, a presence, a stage backbone and a voice that are quite exceptional,’ was the response of the critic in Stavanger Aftenblad to his role as Uria in Ståle Kleiberg’s opera/oratorio David and Bathsheba in Stavanger Cathedral.

He has several times been compared with the legendary Swedish tenor Jussi Björling. His debut album Remembering Jussi includes songs from Grieg’s opus 25 and opus 48, and these opuses will be performed in their entirety in his Bergen International Festival concert, along with Robert Schumann’s Dichterliebe cycle.

He is accompanied by pianist Håvard Gimse, who is not only a distinguished concert pianist but also the first choice as accompanist for many of Scandinavia’s foremost artists.

HÅKONSHALLEN
DATE/TIME
Monday 30 May
AT 19:30
DURATION
1:30 including interval
OTHER
Introduction in Danish by Henrik Engelbrecht at 18:55
TICKET
Standard: 390
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount

Supported by the Finnish-Norwegian Cultural Institute
Sponsored by DNV GL

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DATE/TIME
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AT 19:30
DURATION
1:30 including interval
OTHER
Introduction in Danish by Henrik Engelbrecht at 18:55
TICKET
Standard: 390
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount

Supported by the Finnish-Norwegian Cultural Institute
Sponsored by DNV GL
The start of a collaboration between the star cellist and the renowned chamber orchestra.

Truls Mørk is looking forward to performing with the Trondheim Soloists, something he has done only once before. This Bergen International Festival concert marks the start of a longer collaboration. Among the works played by Truls Mørk are two Cello Concertos by Luigi Boccherini.

'Boccherini was the first person to elicit the high notes from the cello, paving the way for the cello as an attractive solo instrument. His style is distinctively personal characterised by elegance, virtuosity and beautiful melody lines with a tinge of melancholy. Boccherini was a child prodigy, and composed the two cello concertos I shall perform, as a teenager,' Truls Mørk explains.

When Truls Mørk was a soloist in the anniversary concert of the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra earlier this year, a Bergen newspaper critic wrote: 'He has a special ability to make the cello sing, particularly in the highest registers (…) the audience gets veritably sucked down on to the stage.'

Truls Mørk, who was in 2002 the first Norwegian to win a Grammy award, has a long international career. In autumn 2015 he made a recording with the NHK Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo, and his programme for spring 2016 includes concerts with the Berlin Philharmonic and Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestras. He is currently Artist in Residence with the Radio France Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Trondheim Soloists

and Truls Mørk

The Vertavo String Quartet

and Birgitte Christensen

A dramatic disruption and a pearl from Mozart.

The year 1908 involved great upheavals for Schönberg, both artistically and personally. His wife Mathilde was having an affair, and Schönberg was troubled with jealousy when he resumed work on his second String Quartet. In the later movements he experimented with atonality, starting a new direction for his music. Incidentally, he also wrote in a soprano voice part. He looked to the works of the poet Stefan George for inspiration, which he found in themes of betrayed love and a yearning for death. Never before had Schönberg composed music of such intensity.

In this concert it is the soprano Birgitte Christensen who is devoured by the shadows. The Vertavo String Quartet also performs Mozart's 'Spring' Quartet in G major, the first of six dedicated to Joseph Haydn, who is considered the father of the string quartet form. A light, elegant melodic line appears in various variants, contrasting sharply with Schoenberg's music.

The Vertavo Quartet has since its inception over thirty years ago won numerous awards and made many critically acclaimed recordings. The quartet has appeared at the Bergen International Festival on many occasions, often collaborating with classical soloists such as Leif Ove Andsnes but also joining projects in other genres, teaming up with Hot Club de Norvège, Anne Grete Preus and a-ha.
Beethoven and a stormy Grieg landscape with this top Scandinavian duo.

The duo Brantelid and Hadland are said to capture Grieg’s restless soul, his fantasy and his vulnerability. Their 2015 album, which focused on Grieg, was received with great acclaim. Radio Bremen commented: ‘You can tell Brantelid and Hadland are playing music they really care about. Both are outstanding virtuosos – on cello and piano – but the important extra value of this recording is the emotional depth contributed by these young Scandinavian artists.’

This concert also includes the first cello sonatas Beethoven wrote. These works are full of surprising effects included by the composer to convince audiences of his extraordinary talent. Andreas Brantelid is widely considered one of the most promising young cellists in the world – ‘a thoroughbred virtuoso’, as the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation wrote in 2009, when Brantelid substituted for Truls Mørk at a Bergen International Festival concert.

During the festival Andreas Brantelid will also perform Bach’s Cello Suites in Grieg’s Villa. Christian Ihle Hadland will perform the Goldberg Variations in Håkonshallen, and will accompany flautist Sharon Bezaly at Troldhaugen.

A declaration of love to Schubert.

Leif Ove Andsnes has a special connection with Schubert. It has been said that he performs Schubert ‘chemically free from superficial ornament’. The Austrian composer’s music has a broad range covering the whole gamut of emotions.

‘I have great affection for Schubert, and in this concert we aim to present his many facets. The concert concludes with the popular Trout Quintet, a fantastic piece of subtle entertainment music,’ says Leif Ove Andsnes.

We will also hear John Harbison’s beautiful fantasy portraying Schubert’s death and his journey into the next world. The American composer commented that the work should focus on Schubert’s relevance today rather than retrospective nostalgia.

Leif Ove Andsnes is mentor this year to the talented young musicians Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad (viola), Guro Kleven Hagen (violin), Kian Soltani (cello) and Karol Ciesluk (double bass). On this occasion they are joined by pianist Håvard Gimse and double bass player Karol Ciesluk.
Mozart’s Clarinet Quintet and other chamber music goodies.

Mozart’s Clarinet Quintet is one of the first works ever written for the popular instrument, and the composer draws out the entire spectrum of its sound, from its wistful depths to its playful higher notes. Its attractive melodies and the interaction between the clarinet and the strings have made this one of Mozart’s most respected works.

The Danish clarinettist Mathias Kjøller says, ‘Mozart’s music constantly provides new possibilities and nuances, so this piece is one of my absolute favourites. With each string quartet I perform with, I discover new aspects of the work.’ He is looking forward to joining the Navarra String Quartet in Håkonshallen.

The award-winning ensemble, whose members come from England, Ireland and the Netherlands, has aroused enthusiasm for its innovative interpretations of the great string quartets. They are also known for their recording of Peteris Vasks’s music, written for the Latvian people. The quartet collaborated closely with the composer, and reviewers expressed admiration for how they captured the essence of the music, ranging from the powerfully mournful to the atmospherically lyrical, interspersed with folk music elements.

Navarra String Quartet

and Mathias Kjøller

Mozart’s Clarinet Quintet in A major, KV 581

Supported by the Oticon Foundation

Sponsored by DNV GL

HÅKONSHALLEN
DATE/TIME
Monday 6 June at 19:30
DURATION
2:00 including interval
OTHER
Introduction in Norwegian by Erling Dahl jr. at 18:55
TICKET
Standard: 400
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount

Mahan Esfahani harpsichord
Concerto Köln

In 2015 he was acclaimed Newcomer of the Year by BBC Music Magazine. He is currently in great demand, and his enthusiasm and audience contact have made him popular with audiences and critics alike.

Reviewing one of his four recordings, Time present and past, the Times wrote: ‘He emerges as a superstar whose musicianship, imagination, virtuosity, cultural breadth and charisma far transcends the ivory tower in which the harpsichord has traditionally been placed.’ In the concert in Håkonshallen he is accompanied by the ensemble Concerto Köln.

The star behind the comeback of the harpsichord as a mainstream instrument goes to the heart of Bach.

‘Lots of things are old. Lots of traditions are old. I like it because it’s beautiful. The harpsichord enables you to hear much more subtlety, and it has a sensual quality,’ says Iranian-American Mahan Esfahani.

He claims that he started playing the instrument as a youthful rebellion. His parents wanted him to become a doctor or lawyer, and he practised diligently. From childhood he was fascinated by Bach, and when he heard a recording played on the harpsichord his fate was sealed: this was the real ‘spirit of Bach’.

HÅKONSHALLEN
DATE/TIME
Tuesday 7 June at 19:30
DURATION
1:45 including interval
OTHER
Introduction in Norwegian by Annabel Guaita at 18:55
TICKET
Standard: 400
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount

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Bergen International Festival 2016

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A Recital with Jordi Savall

Peace message by an unsurpassed master of performance.

Now you can experience one of the greatest performers of renaissance music at close quarters in Logen Theatre.

Jordi Savall from Catalonia is a viol player, composer, conductor and archaeologist of early music. As his admiration for the viol has developed over more than fifty years, so has his interest in interaction between different cultures and religions through music and poetry. His burning commitment to building a peaceful world is apparent in all he does.

The Guardian wrote: 'Jordi Savall testifies to a common cultural inheritance of infinite variety. He is a man for our time'. He has also been named an 'Artist for Peace' by UNESCO and an ambassador for intercultural dialogue by the EU.

‘Music has always been a divine language. With music we can talk to one another,’ claims Savall. In his latest project Les Voix Humaines he likens the viol to the human voice through a series of short pieces of music. The concert reminds us principally of the need of humanity and co-humanity in our time.

Jordi Savall viol
Les Voix Humaines

Supported by Institut français de Norvège

CRESCENDO is a ground-breaking collaboration project between Barratt Due Institute of Music, Bergen International Festival and the Oslo Philharmonic, aiming to provide links between young classical talents and professional performers at the highest international level. Through coaching, interaction and by performing alongside their mentors, these young musicians develop a strong sense of self-awareness and artistic identity. Crescendo has three programmes: for young soloists, chamber groups and philharmonics.

The project is funded by contributions from Trond Mohn, Bettina Ford Jebsen, Hans Peter Jebsen, Sparebankstiftelsen DNB, Dextra Musica and Talent Norway.

#FESTSPILLENE16
LOGEN TEATER
TICKET
Standard: 190
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount
BT Fordel: 25 % discount

DATE/TIME
Thursday 02 June at 17:00

DURATION
1:00

Trios by Brahms and Beethoven performed by aspiring young chamber musicians.

At Logen you can meet the young DaNiBi Trio, whose musicality and technique have taken audiences by surprise. The members of the trio, aged between 14 and 16, have all won several national and international competitions for soloists. As students at the Barratt Due Music Institute they started playing as a chamber group in 2013.

For their Bergen International Festival performance the trio has been mentored by Konstantin Heidrich from the Fauré Quartet under the auspices of the Crescendo programme. This concert includes one of Brahms’s four chamber works for clarinet – opus 114 – and Beethoven’s B flat trio. The concert concludes with three solo works, giving the young musicians the opportunity to demonstrate their individual virtuosity.

DaNiBi Trio
Daniel Ivanov clarinet
Birgitta Oftestad cello
Nikita Khnykin piano

DATE/TIME
Friday 03 June at 17:00

DURATION
1:00

An afternoon with youthful interpretations of Beethoven and Schubert.

At this concert you will meet seven young chamber musicians interacting with the German cellist Konstantin Heidrich from Fauré Quartet. DaNiBi play Beethoven’s Clarinet Trio in B-flat Major, a work known as Gassenhauer Trio. Gassenhauer in this instance means a “hit” and illustrates that Beethoven included variations of an opera theme that many of his contemporaries hummed along with.

With Konstantin Heidrich, Opus13 play Schubert’s legendary string quintet, composed during the final summer of his life. This is regarded as one of the masterpieces of Romantic chamber music, particularly with the renowned addition of the second cello.

DaNiBi Trio
Daniel Ivanov clarinet
Birgitta Oftestad cello
Nikita Khnykin piano

DATE/TIME
Wednesday 01 June at 17:00

DURATION
1:00

Amusing miniatures and emotional string quartets.

The 21 miniatures by Sulkhan Tsintsadze were discovered by the young viola player Michael Grolid while vacationing in the composer’s home country, Georgia. His fellow musicians in Opus 13 agreed that the short, catchy movements were fun to listen to, and not least fun to play.

The young chamber ensemble, which was established at the Barratt Due Music Institute and currently participates in the Crescendo mentoring programme, has further selected Beethoven and Brahms for this Bergen International Festival concert.

Opus13 String Quartet
Sonoko Miriam Shimano Welde violin
Edvard Erdal violin
Michael Grolid viola
Frida Tharaldsen Skaftun cello

DATE/TIME
Tuesday 02 June at 17:00

DURATION
1:00

Trio by Brahms and Beethoven performed by aspiring young chamber musicians.

Crescendo is a mentor programme for young classical musicians and is a joint venture between the Bergen International Festival, Barratt Due Institute of Music and Oslo Filharmonien. The project is supported by Trond Mohn, Bettina Ford Jebsen, Hans Peter Jebsen, The DNB Savings Bank Foundation, Dextra Musica and Talent Norge.
Concerts in the homes of composers are influenced this year by a Norwegian repertoire under the curatorship of Peter Herresthal. Works by Grieg, Hall, Sæverud, Bull, Skouen, Kvandal and others lead towards the celebration next year of the 100th anniversary of the Norwegian Society of Composers.

Several young soloists are taking part in the Bergen International Festival for the first time, and in the spirit of Ole Bull there are also instruments of world-class quality in Bergen: Two Stradivarius instruments from Temporaries such as Schumann and Beethoven. Interestingly in the inspiration he derived from contemporary composers before him, and is interested in the inspiration he derived from contemporaries such as Schumann and Beethoven.

Irrespective of what he plays, ‘Lortie has it all’ — the verdict of the Daily Telegraph reviewer after a Louis Lortie concert in Wigmore Hall in March 2015. The French Canadian pianist has throughout a long career concentrated on a repertoire ranging from Mozart to Stravinsky, and has made over thirty recordings to prove it. He is often praised for his superb technique, but he himself is more concerned about playing from the heart. ‘Everybody plays well now. What matters is the concept, the mind and soul behind the playing,’ he said in an interview.

With a view over Nordås lake and Grieg’s composing hut, concerts in Trolsdalen are a special experience. On this occasion you can hear Grieg’s only Piano Sonata, which he wrote at the age of 22 – contemplative, coloured by German romanticism, inspired by his years of study in Leipzig. Louis Lortie also plays Brahms’s third Piano Sonata. He is convinced that Brahms’s music encompasses echoes from great composers before him, and is interested in the inspiration he derived from contemporaries such as Schumann and Beethoven.

Louis Lortie piano

EDVARD GRIEG (1843–1907)
Piano Sonata in E minor, Op. 7
JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833–1897)
Piano Sonata no. 3, Op. 5

Anders Sveas’ Charitable Foundation
Sponsored by Norwegian Hull Club

Christian Svarfvar violin
Helge Kjekshus piano

Supported by Anders Sveas’ Almennyttige Fond
Sponsored by Norwegian Hull Club

A dramatic string quartet with new energy:
Opus13 String Quartet was established in 2014 by young musicians from the Barratt Due Institute of Music. Opus13 has been specially chosen for the mentor programme Crescendo, and has been mentored by Konstantin Heidrich from Fauré Quartet in preparation for the concert. The four musicians have grown up listening to recordings of the Grieg Quartet, and are looking forward to presenting their own interpretation. The string quartet also explores the unique frene- tic resonance of the Kreutzer Sonata this evening.

Opus13 String Quartet
Sonoko Miriam Shimano Welde violin
Edvard Erdal violin
Michael Grolid viola
Frida Thalardsen Schaftun cello

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Opus13 String Quartet plays Grieg and Janáček

DATE/TIME
Tuesday 31 May at 17:00
DURATION
100

DATE/TIME
Sunday 29 May at 18:00
DURATION
100

Grieg’s ‘Norwegian Sonata’ in European company.
In this concert the Swedish-Norwegian duo performs Grieg’s second Violin Sonata, often referred to as the ‘Norwegian Sonata’. It was composed during Grieg’s intense honeymoon in Oslo.

‘We have a long and close relationship to Grieg’s sonata – it is pure inspiration and joy. For the Bergen International Festival concert we have put it alongside the sonata in which Schumann treats his own schizophrenia – fragmentary, melodic, virtuoso, intense and intimate all at the same time. The immensely beautiful third movement is amongst the most moving music Schumann ever wrote,’ the two musicians explain.

“Svarfvar and the ever-supportive Kjekshus capture it to perfection” Andrew Clark of Financial Times applauded upon hearing their rendition of Grieg’s second Violin Sonata on the album Grieg: Violin Sonatas. “This gifted violinist has done us – and Grieg – a big favour” the FT critic concluded, mentioning “Svarfvar’s fearless expression, rock- solid technique and stylistic acumen.”

Christian Svarfvar violin
Helge Kjekshus piano

Supported by Anders Sveas’ Almennyttige Fond
Sponsored by Norwegian Hull Club

Louis Lortie
Irrespective of what he plays, ‘Lortie has it all’ — the verdict of the Daily Telegraph reviewer after a Louis Lortie concert in Wigmore Hall in March 2015.

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Piano Sonata in E minor, Op. 7

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833–1897)
Piano Sonata no. 3, Op. 5

Anders Sveas’ Charitable Foundation
Sponsored by Norwegian Hull Club
Joachim Carr

DATE/TIME
Friday 27 May at 22.30
DURATION
1.00

A special home concert with Grieg’s Cello Sonata and other favourites.

‘Edvard Grieg’s Sonata for Cello is one of my favourite pieces, and it is a privilege to be able to play something that beautiful in his own home,’ says Sandra Lied Haga, who is praised by her teacher, Truls Mørk, for her powerful playing.

Its gripping melodic line and the combination of deep melancholy and frantic light-headedness have ensured that Grieg’s sonata has a special place in the minds of many cellists.

Sandra Lied Haga wants to explore the interpersonal aspect of Grieg’s works, and has also chosen to contrast it with Frédéric Chopin’s Polonaise.

The evening’s programme is thus full of exciting contrasts.

‘Adès approaches tradition in a fascinating and thought-provoking way. He is one of few contemporary composers to write idiomatically for the piano,’ he continues.

Joachim Carr from Bergen evinces great emotions in an intimate format.

Schubert’s six Moments musicaux constitute some of the most beautiful and most moving music for piano ever written. Grieg’s own living room is a highly appropriate intimate space for it,’ says Joachim Carr, who also plays Grieg’s masterpiece Ballade in G minor and mazurkas by Chopin and Adès.

Enjoy a soirée of the suites interpreted by Andreas Brantelid and enhanced by the intimate atmosphere of Edvard Grieg’s own sitting room.

Andreas Brantelid plays Bach’s Cello Suites

DATE/TIME
Friday 03 June at 22.30
DURATION
1.00

Honest, bare and beautiful. Bach strikes the deep notes in us.

Bach’s Suites for unaccompanied Cello are cornerstones for any cellist. They attempt to reach the core of the music – to find their own Bach. The sound of the cello moves most people. Is this because it resembles the human voice? Bach’s suites have a special ability to move, simultaneously calming the mind and making the lifeblood boil.

Sharon Bezaly made her debut at the age of fourteen with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, and ever since reviewers have vied to surpass one another in superlatives. Her numerous solo recordings have also received coveted awards. Sharon Bezaly is one of a handful of international stars on the flute, and as such has contributed to the creation of new works for the instrument.

Bezaly’s performance has been likened to a life-affirming, redeeming spring wind – reflecting her characteristic breathing technique and her energy. She particularly enjoys playing nineteenth century composers, but has premiered numerous works. Composers find it enjoyable to write for her, as she seems to consider nothing impossible.

On this particular spring evening we can hear excerpts from Solo III for solo flute by the Finnish composer Kalevi Aho alongside Grieg’s Romances. Aho composed the work specifically for Bezaly. The Israeli flautist has lived in Stockholm with her family for over fifteen years, and has in that time developed a special relationship to Nordic composers. Accompanying her on the piano is Christian Ihle Hadland, who considers Bezaly to be one of his favourite musicians.

Sharon Bezaly

DATE/TIME
Saturday 04 June at 22.30
DURATION
1.00

Golden notes captured by a spring breeze

She has been referred to as God’s gift to the flute; the flute she plays is of pure gold.

Joachim Carr

DATE/TIME
Saturday 28 May at 22.30
DURATION
1.00

Sandra Lied Haga

DATE/TIME
Friday 27 May at 22.30
DURATION
1.00

Sandra Lied Haga, cellist
Ole Christian Haagenrud, piano

Joachim Carr

DATE/TIME
Saturday 28 May at 22.30
DURATION
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Joachim Carr

DATE/TIME
Saturday 28 May at 22.30
DURATION
1.00

Sandra Lied Haga

DATE/TIME
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**Ole Bull’s home**

The beautiful villa on Lysøen – the Island of Light – was built in 1873 as a summer residence for Ole Bull. It is something of a fairy-tale castle with its onion domes and intricate ornamentation. For many, the boat journey to the island culminating in a concert in Ole Bull’s unorthodox sitting room is a valued tradition.

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**David & Julie Coucheron**

**LYSØEN**

**DATE/TIME**
Saturday 28 May at 11:30 & 14:30

**DURATION**
1:00

The Coucherons come home to Bull.

Did you know that Norway has a concert master in one of the USA’s foremost orchestras?

David Coucheron started in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 2010 as the younger concert master in the USA. He is also an experienced soloist and chamber musician.

As children the brother and sister team charmed audiences in Norway before venturing out. David trained at the Curtis School in Philadelphia and the Juilliard School in New York, while Julie was at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Julie’s international career is based in London, Atlanta and New York. In Ole Bull’s fairy tale villa they perform a highly varied programme with room for virtuoso sibling love.

David Coucheron violin

Julie Coucheron piano

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**Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad**

**LYSØEN**

**DATE/TIME**
Saturday 29 May at 11:30 & 14:30

**DURATION**
1:00

A romantic sojourn in Bull’s fairy tale castle.

‘Ole Bull’s music is incredibly captivating and not least beautiful. To be able to play it in his own home is fabulous,’ says Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad, one of Norway’s most impressive young talented musicians.

The young viola player has arranged works by Brahms, Elgar and other composers for his instrument, and in this concert he plays favourites by Franz Schubert, Ole Bull and Edvard Grieg. He has also chosen to play excerpts from the film music suite Gadfly, in which we see Shostakovich from his entertaining side.

Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad (1994–) took first prize in the 2012 Eurovision Young Musician Competition – the first Norwegian to do so. He is a student at the Barratt Due Music Institute, and is one of three virtuoso performers in the Crescendo program at the 2016 Bergen International Festival.

Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad viola

Håvard Gimse piano

Sponsored by Statoil

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**Charlie Siem**

**LYSØEN**

**DATE/TIME**
Saturday 04 & Sunday 05 June at 11:30 & 14:30

**DURATION**
1:00

Passion and worldly-wise westerly wind.

British-Norwegian Charlie Siem is today one of the most highly profiled young classical musicians in Britain, well established as an international soloist. In 2014 he released his fourth solo album to date, Under the Stars. At Lysøen he will perform favourites by Beethoven, Grieg and Bull, accompanied by the distinguished pianist Sveinung Bjelland.

Beethoven’s work, dedicated to the violinist Radolphe Kreutzer, later gave name to Tolstoy’s famous novella, which describes how the prurience of the Kreutzer Sonata results in a crime of passion. A possessive husband hears his wife and her violinist lover playing together, and becomes obsesssed with the thought of their concealing their lovemaking from him.

‘The Kreutzer Sonata is iconic. It makes special demands both on the pianist and on me, and I wanted to combine it with music by the great sons of the west coast, Grieg and Bull. We chose to play Grieg’s late romantic sonata, which reflects both the German style and the Norwegian spirit, and to play Bull’s Paganini-inspired Cantabile doloroso e Rondo giocoso. I am a huge Bull fan – both of his personality and his violin playing,’ says Siem, who has a family connection with the charismatic virtuoso.

Charlie Siem violin

Sveinung Bjelland piano

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**Supported by Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation**

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**Festival Card:**

30 % discount

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**Ticket**

Standard: 610

Under 30: 150

**Other**

Transportation included in the ticket. More information on page 105
In Harald Sæverud’s beautiful home

Gunilla Süssmann

Festival Card: in ticket, see page 105
Transport included
Under 30: 150
Standard: 270

Siljustøl

Diploma concert with Daunytë, Shim & Nystad
Gunilla Süssmann piano
Gjermund Larsen & Frode Haltli

Meet two of Norway’s best traditional performers – a whirlwind combination.

In this concert these two folk musicians will perform pieces of their own invention alongside compositions dedicated to Ole Bull, music by Ole Bull himself and traditional tunes.

Gjermund Larsen has trained at the Ole Bull Academy at Voss and the Norwegian National Academy of Music. He has been a solo performer with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra, the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra and the Trondheim Soloists and has made critically acclaimed recordings and composed several commissioned works.

Frode Haltli is one of Norway’s best known accordionists, well versed in contemporary music, improvisation and folk music. He trained at the Norwegian National Academy of Music and the Royal Danish Conservatoire, has appeared with orchestras worldwide and has received numerous prestigious awards.

Te Deum

A legendary song of praise sung by the cathedral choirs of Oslo and Bergen.

Te Deum, also known as the Ambrosian Hymn, is one of the oldest and best known Christian songs of praise. Bergen and Oslo Cathedral Choirs have chosen the Te Deum as the thematic framework for this first collaboration. The text has inspired numerous artists and composers through the ages.

Cantor Kjetil Almenning says, ‘Walton, Vasks, Britten and Pärt all have unique signatures and write very differently for voices. We are looking forward to performing four very varied works with practically the same title.’

Bergen Cathedral Choir
Oslo Cathedral Choir
Sigurd Melvær Øgaard organ
Vivianne Sydnes conductor

Oslo Cathedral Choir perform the cantata Die Himmel erzählen die Ehre Gottes by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Bach wrote more than 200 church cantatas. Die Himmel erzählen die Ehre Gottes is one of the larger cantatas with trumpets and large choral movements. The cantata was written shortly after Bach’s commencement at Leipzig as Director of Music for the city’s four main churches. This cantata was possibly intended to impress listeners. Oslo Cathedral Choir is joined in this powerful work by a baroque orchestra and four soloists.

Oslo Cathedral Choir
Vivianne Sydnes conductor
Soloists

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) Die Himmel erzählen die Ehre Gottes, BWV 76

High Mass with Bach Cantata 76

Bergen Cathedral (Bergen Domkirke)

Bach cantata

Die Himmel erzählen die Ehre Gottes

Te Deum

Coronation Te Deum
Pétris Vasks (1946–)
Te Deum per organo
Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)
Te Deum in C
Arvo Pärt (1935–)
Te Deum

Bergen Cathedral Choir
Oslo Cathedral Choir
Victoria Touring Orchestra
Benedictine Monastery of St. John the Baptist (1006–1683)
Coronation Te Deum
WILLIAM WALTON (1902–1983)
Te Deum

Sunday 5 June
at 11:00
Free entry

Die Himmel erzählen die Ehre Gottes, BWV 76
Drop In Concerts

In collaboration with the Grieg Academy – Department of Music, University of Bergen

DURATION
100

TICKET* 50

*Sold at the door only, in the Grieghallen foyer. Free entrances in Bergen Domkirke and Gunnar Sævig’s Hall.

The Academy’s Selection

The Grieg Academy – Department of Music, University of Bergen has the pleasure of welcoming you to a concert in which the Academy’s students, teachers and young talents present their activity on a larger scale.

The Grieg Academy presents excerpts from a variety of collaborative musical projects its students have participated in during the past year.

Young Talents of the Grieg Academy

DATE/TIME
Saturday 28 May at 12:00

DURATION
130

The Young Talents class of the Grieg Academy belongs to the national programme Young Musicians.

Master-classes

With Liisa Pohjola and Håvard Gimse

In collaboration with the Jifi Hlinka Grand Piano Academy and Rekstensamlingene, Bergen International Festival presents Masterclasses open to the public with Finnish piano legend Liisa Pohjola and Håvard Gimse at Rekstensamlingene.

Rekstensamlingene

DATE/TIME
Thursday 02 June at 12:00–17:30 (interval 15:00–15:30)
Saturday 04 June at 12:00–17:30 (interval 15:00–15:30)
Masterclasses with Liisa Pohjola

Friday 03 June at 10:00–12:00
Masterclasses with Liisa Pohjola

Friday 03 June at 12:00–13:30
Masterclasses with Håvard Gimse

Saturday 04 June at 10:00–12:00
Masterclasses with Håvard Gimse

Monday 06 June at 12:00–15:00

Supported by the Finnish-Norwegian Cultural Institute

Master-class Concert

REKSTENSAMLINGENE

DATE/TIME
Sunday 05 June at 14:00

DURATION
100

TICKET

100

Supported by Herman Friele

The Dance of Death

Celebrated Swedish actors in Strindberg’s timeless Ménage à trois.

Mikael Persbrandt, Lena Endre and Thomas Hanzon are seriously impressive as a married couple and their relative in this Strindberg classic. They present a steamy portrayal with icy gusts and the scenography is sensual.

After 25 years of marriage, retired artillery captain Edgar and his wife routinely infuriate each other. They are drained of joy and spend their time peppering each other with cynical comments. It’s as if they have become each other’s prison guards on an isolated island, abandoned by their friends. But what happens when suddenly one day they are visited by a relative from America?

August Strindberg (1849-1912) script
Stefan Larsson director, adaptor, scenographer
Kajsa Larsson costume
Helena Fälldin Wiberg make-up
Jens Sethzaman lighting
Mártin Bejting stage manager, technical coordinator
Agnes Villman producer
Mikael Persbrandt, Lena Endre, Thomas Hanzon contributors

Supported by Herman Friele

Norwegian premiere

DEN NATIONALE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Saturday 28 May at 19:00
Sunday 29 May at 19:00
Monday 30 May at 19:00

DURATION
2:30 including interval

LANGUAGE
Swedish

TICKET

Standard: 490
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount

“Dødsdansen bubbles with laughter” – DAGENS NYHETER
FRIC-TION

RECKLESS AND SHREWED, EXPERIMENTING AND EXPLORING.
NEW TECHNOLOGY AND BOUNDLESS ARTISTIC LANDSCAPES.

PAGE 81 - 98

www.norclub.no
A cult film with a full orchestra and Philip Glass on stage.

The Bergen International Festival opens with the second part of the film trilogy by Godfrey Reggio and Philip Glass, which is based on the Hopi word for life – Qatsi. The legendary composer Philip Glass appears in collaboration with his own ensemble and the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra. Powaqqatsi designates something which drains the life force from other individuals for its own survival. This cult film from 1988 describes how developing nations are exploited by rich countries. Powerful and beautiful depictions of work and tradition in African, Latin American and Asian societies contrast with portrayals of reality in western cities. The film collage is accompanied by Philip Glass’s rhythmical and characteristic music, inspired by diverse musical cultures.

Philip Glass, born in 1937, is probably the best known classical composer of recent decades, partly owing to his film music. He was nominated for Oscars for Kundun, The Hours and Notes on a Scandal. He has also had a wide variety of collaborators, from Twyla Tharp to Allen Ginsberg and from Woody Allen to David Bowie. Philip Glass visited the Bergen International Festival in 2010, when the first part of the Qatsi trilogy received enthusiastic audience and media acclaim.

Her Majesty Queen Sonja will be present during the opening performance.
A tragic soul gains new life on the Day of the Dead.

Julia Pastrana was born in Mexico in 1834 with two extremely rare syndromes. One resulted in a protruding jaw and the other, dense hair growth over her whole body. She was called “the ape woman” and performed throughout Europe. After her death her embalmed body ended up in Norway as a fairground attraction at Lunds Tivoli.

She was later preserved at the University of Oslo until, after a long political battle her body was buried in Catholic tradition in Mexico in 2012.

Apparatjik text, music, stage design
Concha Buika text, music
Void stage design

Supported by the Oticon Foundation

World premiere
GRIEGHALLEN PEER GYNT-SALEN
DATE/TIME
Friday 03 May at 21:00
DURATION
1h 15
OTHER
Standing room only
TICKET
Standard 290
Under 30 150
Festival Card: 30 % discount
BT Fordel: 25 % discount

PGE Retro:
Philip Glass Ensemble (1969–1983)

One of the greatest composers of our time presents selected works from an illustrious career.

Philip Glass wrote music that no one wanted to perform. It was described as minimalistic, without reference to the historical traditions and frameworks followed by his European counterparts. In 1966, after two years in Paris, Glass returned to New York, where traditional orchestras and theatres showed no interest in his music either. Consequently he started the Philip Glass Ensemble and gave concerts in various lofts and galleries.

‘We had to find our own places to perform our music. To start with it was out of necessity, but as time went on I started to appreciate it. I liked not needing anyone’s permission to give a concert,’ says Philip Glass.

His music is often pigeon-holed as minimalistic, but Philip Glass prefers to describe it as ‘music with repetitive structures’. He explains: ‘I had an epiphany when I realised I could use rhythms as a tool to create structure in music.’

Glass’s work in the 1970s and 80s was not exclusively minimalistic however: it included operas – Einstein on the Beach and Akhnaten – and the film trilogy Quatsi with Godfrey Reggio. At the Bergen International Festival concert the Philip Glass Ensemble performs works from all of these periods.

Philip Glass composition, keyboard
Michael Riesman musical direction, keyboard
Lisa Bielawa keyboards, voice
Dan Bora live sound mix
David Crowell soprano, alto and tenor saxophone
Jon Gibson flute, soprano saxophone
Ryan Kelly onstage audience engineer
Eleonor Sandresky keyboards
Andrew Sternman flute, piccolo, bass clarinet
Yousif Sheronick, Frank Cassara Guests musicians, percussion

Text, music, stage design
Concha Buika
Void

The Day of the Dead is a colorful Mexican festival that eases the spiritual passing of those who have died. This festival is central when Apparatjik, in collaboration with Void and Mexican artists Laura Andersen Barbata and Concha Buika, present a staged concert production to honor Julia Pastrana both as an individual and an artist.

Apparatjik is a multi-disciplinary and flexible collaboration founded in 2008 by Jonas Bjerre from Mew, Guy Berryman from Coldplay, Magne Furuholmen from a-ha, and celebrated producer Martin Terefe.

For this concert, Apparatjik is comprised of Concha Buika, Jonas Bjerre, Magne Furuholmen, Martin Terefe and Void.

Supported by the Oticon Foundation
Our Short Life On Earth

A distinctive concert about life and life’s end with Edvard Grieg Kor.

The evening’s programme comprises of collected thoughts around the cycle of life. We are born, we live, we die. The texts are about this cycle of life – from the newly composed work “Fra verdens begynnelse” (from the world’s beginning) through middle-age life and living, to dance and life’s highs, and to life’s end here on earth with the world premiere of David Lang’s “Last Spring”.

Edvard Grieg Kor
Håkon Matti Skrede musical leader

Supported by the Finnish-Norwegian Cultural Institute
Sponsored by DNV GL

This will be a distinctive concert with atypical seating and a cappella singing from the choir.

We will hear pieces by, amongst others, Arvo Pärt, Jaakko Mäntyjärvi and Gösta Nystrem.

Edvard Grieg Kor is a professional ensemble based in Bergen. Since its creation as KorVest in 2002 the choir has been a valued partner for Bergen National Opera and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as being a regular performer in the annual Bergen International Festival.

The Nine Worlds

Musical tales from Norse Mythology

Pierre Thilloy has used the Younger Edda (a collection of poems) to create music and prose for a concert performance The Nine Worlds, which has been created in collaboration with Institut français de Norvège. They are joined by brass and woodwind quintet Woods of Norway; five master’s degree students from The Norwegian Academy of Music, and narrator Magnus Berg.

In The Nine Worlds the audience meets Norse mythology through characters best known from modern comics or films. Hence, the audience gains insight into a common cultural inheritance built up along the Silk Route and across land borders that we also share today.

Sit Ozfårs Wysr

The Wizard of Oz performed in the language Fritzn by the national theatre company on the sinking iceberg Fritzngård.

Global warming poses a threat to the tiny nation Fritzngård, which consists of an iceberg floating around in the Arctic Ocean. The country is melting away, and a hoard of anthropologists are on their way towards the Fritzn people in their CO2-producing vessels in order to get a glimpse of the sinking culture.

The anthropologists are given accommodation by members of the national theatre. Anxious about the melting, the anthropologists leave the iceberg relatively soon, leaving behind a DVD of The Wizard of Oz. So when a laptop floats ashore in Fritzngård some time later, the Fritzn people get to see it twice before the battery runs out. They are so taken with it that they create their own theatre performance based on the film, and call it Sit Ozfårs Wysr. This is the version performed by the French vocal group Ensemble 101.

Sit Ozfårs Wysr and Ensemble 101
Sàpmi

with Torgeir Vassvik

Throat singing, joik and Sámi drums express the sounds of Arctic nature-jazz.

Torgeir Vassvik crosses the border between traditional and modern music. He has created a powerful and distinct expression by fusing joik, Sámi drums, Siberian throat singing and the sound of Arctic nature. Joik is possibly the oldest song tradition in Europe, but performed by Vassvik our thoughts are guided towards avant-garde jazz.

“Dark as pitch, light as the sun, and it hits you full on. “, “Torgeir Vassvik is a unique and magnetic live artist, and one of the most fascinating proponents of modern Sámi music. A true original.”

Vassvik was described thus after presenting his mystic and atmospheric sound to the European public.

Vassvik is renowned for his intense stage presence and comes from Gamvik, in the far north of Norway and Sàpmi. He views the rugged climate and barren landscape as a clear inspirational source for his music.

Music to challenge the familiar and the private spheres of the musicians.

Since they were formed in 2002, Asamisimasa has combined electronics and video with a repertoire of avant-garde and classical music. The ensemble has made their mark internationally with their distinctive artistic profile, high quality and ability to place a repertoire in new contexts.

With a group of five renowned composers and music with the Real they create a multimedia artistic expression using our familiar surroundings in new ways.

During the festival will be the world premiere of the works of Henrik Hellstenius and Carola Bauckholt, where both integrate audio-visual devices.

Henrik Hellstenius’ work explores and challenges the barriers between the musicians’ lives off and on stage through sound and pictures from the musicians’ private spheres.

Bauckholt creates an awareness of the sounds that are found everywhere around us but are often overlooked and seldom heard in a musical context.

Kristine Tjøgersen clarinets
Håkon Stene percussion, electronics
Anders Føridal guitars
Ellen Ugelvik piano, electronics
Tanja Orning cello
Thorolf Thuestad sound, video
Marius Neset tests the scope of the Royal Norwegian Navy Band in a rhythmical world premiere.

For a long time, The Royal Norwegian Navy Band (SFMK) has hoped for a collaboration with saxophonist and composer Marius Neset. With support from Det norske komponistfond (The Norwegian Composers’ Fund) Neset has now composed a work especially for SFMK and this year’s Bergen International Festival.

In this commissioned work, Neset explores the turmoil between intellectual, tightly arranged and composed music, and the impulsive, improvisatory, playful and spontaneous.

‘It is extra thrilling to experiment when you have such a large orchestra at your disposition and can create such contrasts,’ say Neset.

‘The possibilities for utilizing this scope together with the huge sound resonance and dynamic potential of this orchestra means that one has the time to allow the music to develop without losing intensity,’ says Neset.

Drummer Anton Eger and bassist Petter Eldh who, with Neset form his regular trio, contribute to realizing Neset’s unique ideas of advanced rhythmic music for a large orchestra such as SFMK. Marius Neset has composed works for several larger ensembles including DR Big Band, Oslo Sinfonietta and Trondheim Jazz Orchestra.

Marius Neset saxophones
Anton Eger drums
Petter Eldh bass

The Royal Norwegian Navy Band
Lars Erik Gudim conductor

MARIUS NESET (1985–) conductor

Angel of the North
LARS ERIK GUDIM (1965–) The Castle
MARIUS NESET (1985–) Prelude – arr. Lars Erik Gudim
Saxophone Intermezzo Jaguar with Marius Neset trio
Old Poisson XL Marius Neset – solo
CHRISTIAN ELSÄSSER (1983–)
Above All – solo Marius Neset
MARIUS NESET (1985–) Commissioned work – title to be announced

In collaboration with Royal Norwegian Navy Band and Marius Neset.

The fascinating violinist plays for the forgotten and forlorn.

Peter Sheppard Skæerved is a true virtuoso, communicator and storyteller. With his violin at the ready, he surprises and enthrals, while introducing the instrument to a new audience.

During the Bergen International Festival he makes use of St Jørgen’s Church, where he balances between Tartini’s meditative eighteenth century works and modern works by Helmut Lachenmann, Philip Glass and others.

‘The moment I walked into the chapel I knew I had to bring Tartini’s music here. I have spent a lot of time alone here, improvising, absorbing my surroundings and the memories of those who lived and died here,’ he explains.

The main concert is on Thursday evening, but you will encounter Peter Sheppard Skæerved if you visit the Lepra museum on Wednesday or Thursday in the daytime. He is there to bring music to the awe-inspiring melancholic mood of the old hospital building.
Lull

Over 12 days Ekko and Lydgalleriet present Sound Art and experimental music in the form of a thematic programme consisting of a new sound installation, world premieres, concerts and a small gathering at Østre. The principle work and framework for the project is Lull by Camille Norment.

Curated by Ekko and Lydgalleriet

Produced in collaboration with Østre

Colleen + exhibition Lull

French Cécile Schott balances between various music traditions and fuses them, without compromising her musical ambitions and personal expression. Silence, repetition and timbre are fundamental elements of her work.

Curated by Ekko and Lydgalleriet

Produced in collaboration with Østre

Camille Norment Trio + exhibition Lull

By examining perceptions of beauty and noise, harmony and dissonance, we become aware of the collective sensuality and cultural acoustics of the electric guitar, Hardanger fiddle and glass harmonica.

Camille Norment glass harmonica, vocal, electronics
Vegard Vårdal Hardanger fiddle
Håvard Skaset guitar

James Holden & Camilo Tirado incl. Sound Club Special and exhibition Lull

James Holden is a mathematician, musician, DJ and producer and is one of the UK’s foremost figures within experimental, rhythmic dance music. Outdoor Museum of Fractals is an homage to composer Terry Riley, who, in his time set a new standard within minimalist music, both relating to compositional methods and zen-like atmosphere and soundscape.

James Holden electronics
Camilo Tirado tablas

Sound Club Special

Through random arrangements, Ekko og Lydgalleriet, examine the wrapping and presentation of programme events and atmosphere around Østre. The quirky and the commercial, the surprising and the exciting – all have their rightful place here.

Ekko & Lydgalleriet DJs and guests electronics, turntables and more

Dialogue

A conversation with Camille Norment: Meet the artist behind the sound installation Lull.

GRIESENALLEN

World premiere

DATE/TIME
Friday 27 May

DURATION
0.45

OTHER
Free entry to vernissage at 18:00 and concert at 19:00 on Friday.

TICKET
Standard 170
Under 30: 150
Festival Card 30 % discount

by carte blanche

A quivering eclectic meeting between dancers and Anneli Drecker’s unique musical universe.

by carte blanche is a series of performances created by the entire Carte Blanche company. By eliminating choreography, they challenge the customs and traditions of dance culture and expose themselves to new expressions of concepts and aesthetics.

Dancers stage themselves after a continuous group process of negotiation and accept. This complex compromise meets with various musical guests. Thus a performance is created where a fusion of two artistic expressions leads to unique stage performance moments.

In this festival performance the dancers meet the sensational cross-over artist Anneli Drecker who, for over 25 years has thrilled audiences with her chillingly enigmatic voice. Drecker sang herself into Norwegian music history with the band Bel Canto who were pioneers of the electronic genre and influenced a whole generation in Norway. Anneli Drecker collaborated with Røykspor for 10 years and has had a number of solo projects.

During this festival performance we will be hearing completely new material as well as new arrangements of songs from the three-times Spellemann-prize nominated album Rocks & Straws specifically tailored for this performance. The dancers and musicians will meet each other only hours before the performance.

Welcome to a plunge into the spontaneous!

Created and performed by everyone in Carte Blanche
Anneli Drecker & band
Per Roar
Jens Sethzman
Indrani Balgobin

Designed by
Enrich Bertran, Timothy Bartlett

Dancers
Navarra Vilasaló, Ole Martin Meland, Sara Kjærsund, Mathias Stoltenberg, Núria Lorentzen, Magnus Eide Myhr, Marianne Marmelada, Irene Vesterhus Theisen, Jack Petersen, Guro Rimeslåtten, Hugo Indrani Balgobin

Lighting Design
Jens Sethzman

Music
Carte Blanche

Created and performed by everyone in Carte Blanche

Supported by Institut français de Norvège

#FESTSPILLENE16

WWW.FIB.NO
Embodyment, cannibalism, ritual, movement of the masses, the school of fish – lingering, then suddenly a shift of direction, unruliness, the spirit of the masses. WE ARE HERE TOGETHER.

We are here together. You are the audience with names, bodies and opinions, and you come from your places. We are dancers, technicians, choreographers and administrators who arrived earlier. We move from our places and meet at this place, at this time, now, and start our movements together. You sit on your chairs, think, contemplate and are moved, while we are on the stage and move ourselves, and you.

For our double production We Are Here Together we have invited choreographers Mia Habib and Marcelo Evelin, two sensational people with large appetites for confrontation and challenge, who are willing to confront and challenge their own and other’s opinions and go into the bodies of others.

Habib and Evelin have a raw and naked choreographic language. The piece can seem unrefined, but their work is shrewdly carried out and they work actively, consciously and consistently to maintain direction in the language of movement, until the moment it is performed for the audience. Their relation to the body is that the body has memories and thoughts, a story, it has lived in a ritual. The body exists in a mass and it is wild!

Mia Habib, Marcelo Evelin choreography
Ingeborg S. Olerud lighting design
Indrani Balgobin, Marcelo Evelin costume design
Gunnar Innvær, Show Takiguchi sound design, music
Guro Rimeslåtten, Caroline Eckly, Núria Navarra Vilasaló, Sara Enrich Bertran, Irene Vesterhus Theisen, Miryam Garcia Mariblanca, Ole Martin Meland, Mathias Stoltenberg, Hugo Marmelada, Christopher Flinder Petersen, Dawid Lorenc, Jack Lorentzen/Harald Beharie dancers

A collaboration between Bergen International Festival and Carte Blanche.
A Place in the Sun

Dear Europe

The Ambassador

World premiere
DEN NATIONALE
SCENE
LILLE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Friday 27 May–Saturday 04 June
Daily at 19:30
Saturday at 16:00 and 18:00

DURATION
1:00

LANGUAGES
Norwegian
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Discussion on the stage after the early performance Saturday 04 June

Dear Europa is not a traditional production. Director Uwe Cramer encourages the actors to use their own lives in an effort to understand the crisis in the Mediterranean. Reality replaces fiction. The texts are written specifically for this world premiere and are based on research, interviews, fiction and reality. This is the situation in Europe just now and the world invades the theatre.

60 million people seeking refuge in the world today

In Santiago Frode Nilsen protected many people from military rule, including giving them asylum in the embassy. Director and playwright Rodrigo Malbrán has himself had his life shaped by Frode Nilsen’s good deeds.

I wanted to write a play about this man because he means so much, not just for those who fled from Chile to Norway in exile, but also for me.’

All roles are played by graduate students from the Theatre Production and Acting Programme at Nord University, formerly HINT.

Produced by the Theatre Production and Acting programme at Nord University.

World premiere
DEN NATIONALE
SCENE
LILLE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Monday 06 June
Tuesday 07 June
Wednesday 08 June

DURATION
110

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

Kristian Lykkeslet Strømskag, Christian Lollike, Uwe Cramer

Dear Europa

LANGE Uwe Cramer director
Ellen Birgitte Winther, Morten Espeland, Siren Jørgensen

In collaboration with Kristian&Uwe, Dramatikkens hus and Den Nationale Scene.

In collaboration with Kristian&Uwe, Dramatikkens hus and Den Nationale Scene.

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World premiere
DEN NATIONALE
SCENE
LILLE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Monday 06 June

DURATION
1:40

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

European premiere
FANA KULTURHUSET

DATE/TIME
Monday 06 June at 19:30
Tuesday 07 June at 19:30

DURATION
140

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

Dialogoue

Who was Frode Nilsen?
Monday 06 June at 18:15 at Fana kulturhus

The performance is unsuitable for persons with limited mobility.

Who was Frode Nilsen?
Who was Frode Nilsen?

Do you have the courage to take a fresh look at your surroundings?

Theatre company Kamchátka from Barcelona is back. Fugit is a story about escape. About those who have left and those that are going to leave their homes. It’s not an escape of avoidance, but of fighting against. Fugit is an homage to everyone who has had the courage to leave the superfluous, abandon the familiar and move on in the hope of a better world.

Kamchátka creates intense, moving and uneasy meetings with the streets as a stage. They move between the realms of theatre, roleplay and reality, and have given the public in many European towns a fresh look at their surroundings. Complete involvement in the experience requires good shoes, resolve and the ability to move about.

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World premiere
DEN NATIONALE
SCENE
LILLE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Saturday 28 May
Sunday 29 May

DURATION
1:30

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

Outdoors
Norwegian premiere

DATE/TIME
Saturday 04 June at 18:15

DURATION
1:10

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

Fugit

Barcelona is back. Fugit is a story about escape. About those who have left and those that are going to leave their homes. It’s not an escape of avoidance, but of fighting against. Fugit is an homage to everyone who has had the courage to leave the superfluous, abandon the familiar and move on in the hope of a better world.

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World premiere
DEN NATIONALE
SCENE
LILLE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Monday 06 June

DURATION
1:10

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

Dear Europa

LANGE Uwe Cramer director
Ellen Birgitte Winther, Morten Espeland, Siren Jørgensen

In collaboration with Kristian&Uwe, Dramatikkens hus and Den Nationale Scene.

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World premiere
DEN NATIONALE
SCENE
LILLE SCENE

DATE/TIME
Monday 06 June

DURATION
1:40

LANGUAGES
Norwegian

The Ambassador

LANGE Uwe Cramer director
Ellen Birgitte Winther, Morten Espeland, Siren Jørgensen

In collaboration with Kristian&Uwe, Dramatikkens hus and Den Nationale Scene.

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Produced by the Theatre Production and Acting programme at Nord University.
Festival Exhibition 2016

Fredrik Værslev

An exploration of the painting’s ability to define or converse with the exhibition space.

Værslev treats the painting like an object on a level with other objects, and works are often created through a laborious process where both time itself and external factors become active collaborators in the artistic process.

He has let several series of paintings stand outdoors over time so that weather and weather has influenced the final result. The work is often somewhere between abstract painting and illusionistic copies of terrazzo flooring and other suburban surfaces.

His acclaimed series of “markisemalerier” (canopy paintings) have textile-like stripes reminiscent of those found on marquees and canopies conventionally found in homes and public buildings. In common with an actual awning, Værslev’s paintings were also exposed to sun, moisture and weather over a period of time.

‘Værslev is an artist who brings new energy, ambition and intellectual integrity to painting, in addition to exciting collaborations with many of his fellow artists,’ says curator and director of Bergen Kunsthall Martin Clark.

Nordic Council Music Prize

Concert with Svante Henryson, winner of the Nordic Council Music Prize 2015, and announcement of the nominees for the 2016 prize.

For this concert Svante Henryson presents a program for solo cello. The Nordic Council Music Prize celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015 and is one of Europe’s biggest and most prestigious music prizes. The prize is awarded every other year to a professional musician or ensemble, and alternate years to a composer. 2016 is the composers’ year, and this evening in Apollon Platebar the nominees will be revealed.

Svante Henryson cello

In collaboration with the Nordic Council Music Prize

Dance and the critic: Traversing boundaries

How does the dance critic relate to a complex and diverse dance expression? Choreographers Mia Habbib and Marcelo Evelin from Carte Blanche’s We Are Here Together (p. 84) meet dance critics to discuss this and more. In collaboration with Kritikerlaget (Norwegian Critics’ Association).

Women’s rights and identity in the Middle East

In collaboration with the Rafto Foundation for Human Rights you are invited to a conversation with Caroline Ayyub, Maryam al-Khawaja, Amal Basha and Farida Nekzad.

Borders

Meet the artist behind the sound installation Lull (p. 92).

A Conversation with Angélique Kidjo

Meet the winner of the Holberg Prize and the Nils Klim-Prize at this evening of celebration. See: www.holbergprisen.no.

Holberg Prize celebration

Meet the winner of the Holberg Prize and Alumni Association of Sciences Po Paris, in a conversation about political and geographical borders in an international and particularly European perspective.

A conversation with Camille Norment

Meet the artist behind the sound installation Lull (p. 92).
**Accessibility**

The Bergen International Festival uses around 40 different venues. Some of these are very old and/or are former private residences.

The following venues/events may be challenging/unmanageable for wheelchair users:
- Håkonshallen
- Lysøen
- Siljastul
- Flåien restaurant
- Performance Fugit

Griegsalen in Griegsalen has an assistive listening system and Den Nationale Scene has induction loops on all stages. Ticket office staff will be happy to advise on best seat placement in relation to listening systems.

For more information on accessibility, transport, parking, toilets etc., see www.fib.no/venues. For information on rates for companion tickets, see www.fib.no/venues.

**Talk to us**

Please contact us if you have any questions. We welcome your feedback. What would you like us to do differently and what do we do well?

You can contact us in the following ways:
- [www.fib.no](http://www.fib.no)
- E-mail: info@fib.no

We answer your questions on chat every day from 10:00 to 15:00, and have extended opening periods when necessary.

**SMs:** end a text message to us with code-word FIB MENING followed by your comment to 2077.

**E-mail:** info@fib.no  
**Tickets:** +47 55 21 61 50  
**Other questions/groups:** +47 55 21 06 30

**Volunteers**

Do you want to join us?

Artist and audience hosts, ticket sales and stage building are amongst the tasks that our approximately 230 volunteers undertake during the festival. Your help is immeasurable for the development of one of Norway’s largest cultural arrangements. As a volunteer with Bergen International Festival you gain a completely different perception of the festival, and with the other volunteers, an inspiring and enjoyable experience to take home with you. To register your interest and receive more information, contact: www.fib.no/volunteer.

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**Listen to TIDAL**

The festival has its own playlist on TIDAL. Both the festival director’s recommendations and highlights from the programme are available. You can get a sneak preview or relive your festival experiences after the events.

**Visit us online**

At www.fib.no you will find videos, background information and the latest news on concerts and productions. Keep yourself updated and receive personal offers by registering for our newsletter. A digital version of our festival catalogue is also available. The newsletter is available in English/Norwegian (only).

@Festspillene  
Facebook.com/Festspilleneibergen  
#Festspillene / #Festspillene16  
festspillene

**Venue map**

Venues:
- Apollon Platebar  
- Bergen domkirke  
- Bergen Kunsthall  
- Bergen Offentlige Bibliotek  
- Den Nationale Scene  
- Festspillplassen with Melodoten, Parabol, Paraplyen and Tuilemutter  
- Grieghallen  
- Gunnar Sævigs sal/Grigakademiet  
- Håkonshallen  
- Lille Lungegårdsvann  
- Litteraturhuset  
- Logen Teater  
- Skostredet  
- St. Jørgen kirke, Lepramuseet  
- Studio Bergen  
- Torgallmenningen  
- Østre

**Venues outside the map**

Baronet Rosendal  
Bien Snackbar  
Byfjellene  
Corntestreet  
Fana Kulturhus  
Flåien Folkrestaurant and Flåyesletten  
Foldsnes kyrkj  
Grieg museum (Troldsalen and Grios Villa)  
Hengjo i Bekkarvik  
Herløs kyrkje  
Hegda boligen i Bergen  
Kulturhuset Stord  
Lakesevåpenparken  
Musta Aali  
Musæet Lysean  
Nygårds parken  
Oseana Kunst og Kultursenter  
Rekstensamlingene  
Siljastul museum  
Stavanger konserthus  
Universitetsaulaen

**Map legend**

- Boat to Lysøen  
- Bus to composers’ homes  
- Tourist information  
- Car park  
- Ticket sales  
- Festival Office

More info www.fib.no/arenakart

**Festival lounge**

Logen Teater is a hive of festival activity during the festival period. In the large hall there will be concerts and other productions, and the bar becomes a festival lounge for the festival visitors and all involved in the festival. Another great place for relaxing and refuelling is Paraplyen and Tullemutten for festival visitors and all involved in the festival. Another great place for relaxing and refuelling is Paraplyen and Tullemutten, which turns into the festival lounge for the festival. Another great place for relaxing and refuelling is Paraplyen and Tullemutten, which turns into...
Prices

- Full price tickets
  Regular ticket prices (ticket fee included) are listed for each event in NOK.

- Under 30 years
  Maximum NOK 150 per ticket.

- Children
  Children’s tickets are sold at children’s and family performances. Children under the age of 2 go free if sitting on an adult’s lap. Exception: All children must have their own ticket to Treet (recommended age 0–3 years).

Den Nationale Scene have specific guidelines for babies in the theatre. For more information, please see www.dns.no/billettinfo/#babyer-
teatret

- Senior
  10 % discount per ticket.

- Companion Ticket
  If you require an assistant, you can get one free ticket for your companion at our sales offices in Grieghallen, Den Nationale Scene and at the Festival ticket booth on the Festival square.

  Ticket service is available at other Billettservice outlets for the price of NOK 16 (due to booking charges). For more information on accessibility at our venues, please visit www.fib.no/venues.

- Festival Card
  The Festival Card includes the following benefits:
  - 40 % discount on tickets bought on or before 22 March 2016
  - 30 % discount on tickets bought on or after 23 March 2016
  - Satisfaction guarantee
  - Receive one free programme by presenting your card at the venue
  - 20 % discount at Festival restaurants
  - The best seats at Grieghallen and DNS (for early bookers).

  sundaysandmoondays票务服务 www.fib.no/buytickets

  - Festival Card
    NOK 430
  - Offer

  - Discounted Tickets
    • When claiming discounted tickets, a valid ID must be presented when purchasing the ticket and at the venue.
    • Discounts are only given on ticket prices over NOK 100.
    • Discounts do not apply to the ticket fee, which must always be paid in full. The fee is calculated based on the discount ticket price.
    • On certain performances there is a limited number of discount tickets available.

  • For more information on ticket accessibility at our venues, please see www.fib.no/venues.
  • For more information on ticket accessibility at our venues, please see www.fib.no/venues.

- Other Offers

  - Gift vouchers
    Order at www.fib.no/giftvoucher, by phone (+47) 55 21 06 30 or e-mail bestilling@fib.no and we will mail you the voucher at no extra charge. You may also purchase gift vouchers from our ticket booth at the Festival square. Gift vouchers are valid for one year from the date of purchase.

  - Groups
    Groups of more than 10 people get a 20 % discount on tickets. Contact the Bergen International Festival on (+47) 55 21 06 30 or siri@fib.no for programme recommendations, ticket offers or assistance with table reservations, VIP room rental at the venue and food and drinks at the festival restaurants.

- Discounted Tickets

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  • On certain performances there is a limited number of discount tickets available.

  Subject to change

WWW.FIB.NO
Combine your visit in Bergen with beautiful West Coast scenery. Please contact us on +47 55 21 06 30 for group bookings or any questions regarding your visit.

Bergen has many hotels and different types of accommodation for travelers. For more information, visit: www.visitbergen.com

For a complete overview, go to Visit Bergen at www.visitbergen.com/transport

Bergensbanen (The Bergen Line) between Oslo and Bergen has several daily departures. For more information, visit www.nsb.no. You can also travel to Bergen by bus or boat. Wideroe offer a 10 % discount for travelers to Bergen International Festival. Submit event code NO20161328A when booking your tickets. See www.wideroe.no/transport

Festival Restaurants

The Bergen International Festival collaborates with a number of restaurants, all of them located close to our festival venues. Here you will find quality food in different price ranges and a wide selection of menus. The Festival Card gives 20 % discount on food. www.fib.no/restaurants.

Accommodation

The festival hotel Radisson Blu Hotel Norge is located in the middle of Bergen city centre. It is within walking distance of most of our venues. For booking, contact Hotel Norge at (+47) 55 57 30 00 or visit: www.radissonblu.com/hotelnorge-bergen

Radisson Blu Hotel Norge offers package deals on accommodation at Bergen International Festival. Visit www.bergenhelg.no (in Norwegian).

Festival taxi

Are you in need of a taxi to and from performances? Call our festival partner Bergen Taxi on (+47) 55 99 70 00.

Transport to Bergen

There are many routes to Bergen. For a complete overview, go to Visit Bergen at www.visitbergen.com/transport

Bergensbanen (The Bergen Line) between Oslo and Bergen has several daily departures. For more information, visit www.nsb.no. You can also travel to Bergen by bus or boat. Wideroe offer a 10 % discount for travelers to Bergen International Festival. Submit event code NO20161328A when booking your tickets. See www.wideroe.no/transport

Bus to Siljugstul (Round Trip)
The bus journey is approx. 30 min. The bus leaves promptly on time.

CONCERT AT 15:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 14:15. Return from Siljugstul, departure at 16:30

The festival does not provide transport to the Family Day at Siljugstul (p. 37).

Transport to Composers’ Homes

Bus to Troldhaugen (Round Trip)
The bus journey is approx. 30 min. The bus leaves promptly on time.

28 MAY
CONCERT AT 19:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 18:15. Return from Troldhaugen, departure at 20:30

29 MAY
CONCERT AT 18:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 17:15. Return from Troldhaugen, departure at 19:30

31 MAY
CONCERT AT 17:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 16:15. Return from Troldhaugen, departure at 18:30

Bus to Griegs villa (Round Trip)
The bus journey is approx. 30 min. The bus leaves promptly on time.

CONCERT AT 22:30
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 21:45. Return from Troldhaugen, departure at 24:00

Boat to Lyseen (Round Trip)
The boat journey is approx. 50 min. The boat leaves promptly on time.

CONCERT AT 11:30
Departure from Dreggekaien at 10:00. Return from Lyseen, departure at 14:00

CONCERT AT 14:30
Departure from Dreggekaien at 13:00. Return from Lyseen, departure at 16:15

Boat to Lysøen (Round Trip)
The boat journey is approx. 50 min. The boat leaves promptly on time.

CONCERT AT 11:30
Departure from Dreggekaien at 10:00. Return from Lysøen, departure at 14:00

CONCERT AT 14:30
Departure from Dreggekaien at 13:00. Return from Lysøen, departure at 16:15

Festival tax}

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The Festival thanks

Trond Mohn

Through his continued support of the Bergen International Festival, Trond Mohn has helped invest in the development of the festival. In the years to come we will expand our activities and have defined new goals and ambitions for the Bergen International Festival. People have great expectations of the Bergen International Festival, and express a desire that we should work to release the potential of other cultural institutions through ambitious projects. We want to influence the international art scene through our work. In order to do this we need committed and ambitious festival ambassadors that recognise the value of a strong Norwegian cultural scene and contribute to affirming our position as a leading European arts festival.

Trond Mohn is one of these ambassadors and we appreciate his support for the Bergen International Festival. It enables us to reach our goals for the benefit of our visitors, the city of Bergen, Western Norway and the country as a whole, as we continue to inspire and challenge the audience.

Bergen International Festival would like to thank Trond Mohn for his support.

The Festival thanks

Rika AS, represented by Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber

For many years, Rika AS / Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber have invested significant amounts in the Bergen International Festival, which is and should continue to be an important cultural event and a boost for the cultural scene in Bergen, Norway and abroad. Their support is crucial to the festival's ambitious projects that connect tradition and renewal, that challenge and entertain the audience and make culture accessible to more and more people.

We are grateful that Rika AS, represented by Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber, share our conviction that the festival will strengthen its position and continue to develop in the years to come, and that they support our investments in new projects and our aim to make an impact in the European cultural scene.

Their support enables us to present samples from the diverse festival programme at the opening ceremony on 25 May.

Bergen International Festival would like to thank Rika AS, represented by Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber for their contribution.
The Festival thanks

The Kavli Trust has supported the Bergen International Festival for a number of years, and in recent years the Kavli Trust has supported the festival’s outdoor programme; a variety of events that are free and open to everyone.

The Kavli Trust also continues its collaboration with Bergen Red Cross, Robin Hood House and many other organisations that make the festival accessible to people who, for various reasons, are not able to experience the programme at the regular festival venues.

Thanks to the support from the Kavli Trust, festival concerts will once again be arranged at some of Bergen’s hospitals, nursing homes and senior centres this year. The following locations will be visited by festival artists to entertain the patients, residents, users, staff and relatives: Åstveit sykehus, Ulset sykehus, Hordnæstunet sykehus, Midbygd sykehus, Arna Helseheim, Skjoldtunet sykehus, Kalfaret sykehus, Middeheimen sykehus, Øvtunheimen sykehus and Ladegården sykehus.

Support from the Kavli Trust ensures that the festival can offer a free opening ceremony (p. 6) for the whole town to enjoy.

We would like to thank the Kavli Trust for their contribution and involvement in creating festival experiences available to more people.

GC Rieber Funds allocate funds to social and cultural objectives with focus on Bergen. In addition, the fund provides for and contributes to medical and other research. Amongst many worthy cultural projects, the fund has prioritized young talent, especially within music. The objective of this is to secure the development of a comprehensive cultural future for Bergen.

Support for music therapy is another significant area, including the establishment of a Master’s programme in Music Therapy at Grieg Academy in Bergen. With funding from The GC Rieber Fund, the Bergen International Festival can offer several arrangements free of charge with focus on music and its effects on suffers of Dementia: Sanger fra smitt og smau, Mini lecture and book launch of Musiktherapi og eldrehelse and Å leve med demens – som pårærende.

The Bergen International Festival is grateful to GC Rieber Funds for their support.

With support from the fund the watery arena of Lille Lungegårdsvann is filled with wild, wonderful and lyrical scenes in the darkness of night, when the French theatre company Iliotopie present their production Water Fools (p. 38–39).

The Bergen International Festival thanks H. Westfal-Larsen og Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsens Almennyttige Fond for their contribution, making it possible for this unique water artistry to bring joy to the whole town.

Herman Friele

Herman Friele is a renowned businessman and politician with his heart in both Bergen and the festival, and who wishes to contribute to the further development of the festival.

The production of August Strindberg’s classic, Dødsdansen (p. 79) is made possible by the support of Herman Friele. The production has its Norwegian premiere at DNS Saturday 28 May and runs for three evenings.

The Bergen International Festival is grateful to Herman Friele for his support.

H. Westfal-Larsen og Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsens Almennyttige Fond

H. Westfal-Larsen og Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsens Almennyttige fond is a charitable foundation that aims to support the promotion of initiatives that benefit Bergen as a city and its cultural scene.

With support from The Fritt Ord Foundation the continuation of Dialogues (p. 99), a programme of debates, which reflect on and raise important tendencies and current issues based on the festival’s extensive programme.

The Bergen International Festival is grateful for The Fritt Ord Foundation’s support.

The purpose of the Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation (ASAF) is to contribute to charitable initiatives and initiatives that benefit the general public – for instance by supporting young Norwegian musicians through scholarships and loan of string instruments. ASAF owns a collection of string instruments that are primarily lended to up-and-coming Norwegian talent.

The Bergen International Festival invests in performers and audience alike, also in our classical programme. Through our concert series in composers’ homes, the festival futhers and renews the European salon concert tradition, and with support from ASAF we continue our increased focus on young musicians.

The Bergen International Festival is grateful for ASAF’s support for concerts with young performers in the homes of the great composers.
The Festival thanks

The Bergen International Festival is dependent on many different supporters to continue spring’s big adventure. All the help you have extended has enabled us to make the experience a greater one.

[Image of a hand holding a festival program]

A BALANCING ACT

At DNV GL (formerly Det Norske Veritas), we value safety, quality and integrity. We are now 15,000 people in 100 countries committed to one common goal: to have a global impact for a safe and sustainable future. Often, we take on the role of balancing the needs of business and society. We call it the balancing act. Our partnership with Festspillene, one of Norway’s finest and most international cultural institutions, underpins our commitment to society. Because culture and society go hand in hand.

That is why we are proud to be a main sponsor of Festspillene in Bergen.

Learn more about us on www.dnvgl.com
The Festival receives public funding from the Ministry of Culture, the City of Bergen and Hordaland County.

Trond Mohn  Rika AS, represented by Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber  Grieg Foundation

Bergen International Festival is under the patronage of HM King Harald V

The Festival receives public funding from the Ministry of Culture, the City of Bergen and Hordaland County.