Who are we?

In a time of immense global changes and challenges, the question of who we are or who we want to be is of the highest relevance. When encountering the unfamiliar and those unfamiliar to us, we are confronted with other worldviews and identities, which may sometimes strike us as provoking, sometimes as gratifying.

The arts field presents us with powerful attempts at depicting differences and diversity as an enriching force. They all contribute to the recognition that what is different and unknown may be quite normal – as well as essential, innovative, and inspiring.

One of arts’ traits is just that; it creates a feeling of community across differences. Through art we may come together in a way that bridges the gap between people from different cultures and social classes, with our different languages, religions, and cultures. Song and music, literature and theatre have the ability to encourage freedom and create a sense of identity not as protection, but as an opening towards The Others.

The 2017 Festival Composer and Artist in Residence is Finnish Kaija Saariaho, whose artistic and personal identity has been moulded in her encounter with all the characteristic qualities of France and the French culture. She has been living in France for large parts of her life and moves naturally between cultures. Saariaho speaks through her music and she wishes to contribute to a more open, including, and richer human fellowship through her art.

The question of identity also applies to the Bergen International Festival. Does the Festival maintain an identity that is invariably unchangeable and valid? Of course not. The Festival is always in motion and in critical dialogue with itself as well as its near and distant surroundings. My concern is to ensure there is artistic room and openness allowing the audience to encounter something new and different we might not yet have words for.

Identity is the overall theme for the 2017 Bergen International Festival. We invite the audience to a voyage of discovery across the various art forms in our comprehensive programme. You will find a multitude of complex identities among the performing and creative artists, who are always on the move towards new places. Meet them on their journey – and perhaps you might also meet yourself.

Welcome!

Anders Beyer
Festival Director
Twitter: @AndersBey

PROUD SPONSOR OF DIVERSITY

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.

dnb.no
See also the programme calendar.

**FAMILY (INDOORS)**
- 029 AlgoRitmo
- 029 Festival Youth Day
- 029 Festival Youth Performance
- 030 Beatles for Babies
- 030 Solitude
- 031 Infinita

**OUTDOORS**
- 030 Family Day at Siljusjøen
- 032 Bicyclopedia – A bicycle symphony
- 032 Festival Quartet
- 032 Festival on the Seven Mountains
- 033 Papagayene
- 033 Morganfrosken
- 034 Nothing is Less Certain

**DANCE**
- 021 Festival Milonga
- 023 Patina – to age with flying colours
- 024 Acosta Danza: Debut

**CONTEMPORARY CIRCUS**
- 026 Reversible

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**006** Kaja Saariaho – Festival Composer and Artist in Residence

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**Foundations**

**THE BEST OF THE BEST IN THE CLASSICAL ART TRADITION**

**OPERA**
- 036 Peter Grimes

**MUSIC**
- 038 Lang Lang
- 040 Mozart. Life, Love & Lust
- 042 Closing Concert
- 044 Bergen Philharmonic Youth Orchestra
- 045 Richard Goode
- 046 Crescendo: Alisa Weilerstein & Jonathan Biss
- 047 Janine Jansen with Denis Kozhukhin & Alisa Weilerstein
- 048 Kjeller, Brantelid, Shirinyan & Hanslip
- 049 Jakob Kullberg with Alissa Neige Barrière
- 050 Crescendo: Weilerstein, Biss & Young Soloists
- 051 Masterclasses and Masterclass Concert: Beethoven’s Piano Sonatas
- 052 The Norwegian Chamber Orchestra through 40 years
- 055 Trolldalen: Crescendo: Octets with Jansen, Weilerstein, Biss & Young Soloists
- 056 Trolldalen: So Many Things
- 058 Trolldalen: Vertavo Quartet
- 059 Trolldalen: Crescendo: Opus 13 with Vertavo Quartet
- 060 Trolldalen: Finland 100

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**061** Trolldalen: Lydia Hoen Tjøre & Ingrid Andnes

**062** Trolldalen: 1B1 Ensemble with Sonoko Miriam Welde

**063** Trolldalen: Tomter, Kam & Ilie Hadladian

**064** Griegs villa: Sergio Tiempo

**065** Griegs villa: Kathrynn Stott

**066** Lysee: Camilla Kjell & Gunilla Süssman

**067** Lysee: Sonoko Miriam Welde & Sergio Tiempo

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**THEATRE**
- 086 887
- 088 The Tiger Lillies: Edgar Allan Poes Haunted Palace
- 093 Albert & Anna
- 093 Familien som kunne snakke om alt
- 093 Vinter

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**DANCE**
- 090 Carte Blanche: While they are floating

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**DRAMATISED CONCERT**
- 091 Sustain
- 092 La Passion de Simone

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**Other**

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**
- 009 Venue map
- 010 Festival Restaurants
- 012 Tickets
- 097 Accommodation and Transport

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**Friction**

**RECKLESS AND SHREWD, EXPERIMENTING AND EXPLORING**

**MUSIC**
- 076 Shakespeare’s Sonnets
- 078 Hugsiá
- 080 Nordvegen
- 084 Crescendo: London Sinfonietta
- 094 Peter Sheppard Skærved: Signs. Runes for Jan Groth
When she was a little girl, Kaija Saariaho had so much music flowing from her pillow she had to ask her mother to turn it off so she could sleep.

Today the world is certainly grateful that music kept flowing from that little girl’s head. Kaija Saariaho has since long been considered one of our most outstanding composers, her list of achievements including a number of awards and distinctions and her compositions being performed on the world’s most prestigious arenas.

The Finnish composer was born in Helsinki in 1952, where she became a student at the Sibelius Academy. Her studies later brought her to Paris and IRCAM, where she focused on computer-based composition. During this year’s festival we give prominence to the totality of her artistry.

– Bergen International Festival’s ambition is to present world class art. Kaija Saariaho is a leading figure within modern music, and I am proud to present her as our 2017 Festival Composer and Artist in Residence. The audience will experience Saariaho’s art both in the symphonic form and chamber music format, and her musical drama is also represented. Besides, it is a great pleasure for the Festival to take part in Finland’s 100 years celebration by highlighting Finnish music in a series of concerts, dialogues, and introductions, says Festival director Anders Beyer.

Kaija Saariaho is renowned for creating stirring, almost physical works with luminous, dense acoustic patterns that are continually changing. The audience tend to experience the music as visual, as colours or atmospheric paintings, whether they are listening to works for smaller ensembles, symphony orchestras, or the opera stage.

The oratorio La Passion de Simone, performed at Cornerteateret (p. 92), is ‘a magical union of words, music and theatre; a creation of great beauty and drama ...’ according to The Independent on Sunday. Saariaho’s compositions are also a central part of the Closing Concert (p. 42) and the extensive concert programme for the composers’ homes. (p. 54–68). She also participates in the Dialogues programme (p. 96), gives the opening introduction to the world premiere of the commissioned work Concordia (p. 49), and gives a masterclass for students (p. 71).

– Bergen International Festival is a cornerstone in Nordic music life, celebrating the past, present, and future of the arts. To me it is inspiring to be given prominence as Festival Composer and Artist in Residence, says Kaija Saariaho.

Opening Ceremony

Their Majesties the King and Queen will be present during the official opening of the Bergen International Festival 2017, which takes place Wednesday 24 May at 12:30 in the city square, Torgallmenningen.

The Opening Ceremony offers teasers from Festival artists, speeches and, of course, the traditional singing of Nystemen.

This year’s Festival speaker is Her Majesty Queen Sonja.

A full programme for the Opening Ceremony will be published at www.fib.no in May.

Welcome

Supported by the Kavli Trust

Sponsored by DNB and DNV GL
**Bergen International Festival 2017**

**Festival Restaurants**

Combine cultural and culinary experiences at the festival.

Our Festival Restaurants are conveniently situated in relation to the festival venues so as our audience might comfortably enjoy a full evening of superb culinary and cultural experiences.

Our Festival Restaurants offer excellent food in a wide range of prices and cuisines for you to explore. As a Festival Card holder you receive a 20% discount on food at our Festival Restaurants – and you never know; perhaps there might just be a pop-up festival concert to complement your meal.

**BARE Vestland**

Tapes bar and restaurant where you are treated to Western Norway’s exquisite tastes of the season, with a focus on local high quality ecological ingredients.

**Colonialen Restaurant**

Colonialen Restaurant is located in large and tasteful, newly refurbished premises in Kong Oscars gate. From the outset, the restaurant’s chefs have won praise for their combination of tradition and innovation based on the season’s best produce.

**Cornelius Sjømatrestaurant**

Cornelius serves the most exotic seafood the western archipelago has to offer. Their famed fresh from the sea Meteorological Menu is created in line with the day’s weather and the kitchen’s team’s inclinations and inspirations. This is innovative cuisine from chefs with a genuine passion for seafood.

**Escalón Fløien**

Bergen’s first tapas restaurant, located next to Fløienan funicular’s lower station. This restaurant has been an institution for gourmets in Bergen since 1998.

**Escalón Veien**

Tapas restaurant and bar with spacious outdoor seating facing the theatre.

**Holbergstuen**

Ever since 1927, Holbergstuen has had the pleasure of fulfilling the locals’ and visitors’ desires: tasty food and drinks in nostalgic surroundings with a homely atmosphere.

**Lysverket**

A restaurant and bar with lunch and dinner service, presenting a modern Norwegian cuisine. Lysverket’s set 4 and 7 course menus focus on local seafood, but include local meat & vegetable dishes as well. The kitchen also offers an à la carte dinner menu in the generous bar area.

**Royal Gourmetburger og Gin**

Enjoy a gourmet burger in a hospitable and informal atmosphere and take your pick from Norway’s largest selection of gin.

**Roast Restaurant og Bar**

At the top floor of Scandic Ørnen you will enjoy a spectacular view of the city and a menu of the season’s finest ingredients, with grilled meat, fresh fish, and seafood.

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Tickets and 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
Maximum NOK 100. Children's tickets are sold at children's and family performances. It is required children have a separate ticket even when sitting on an adult's lap. Den Nationale Scene has specific guidelines for babies in the theatre. For more information, please see www.dns.no/billettinfo/#babyer-i-teatret

Den Nationale Scene

OPENING HOURS
Mon–Fri 09:00–20:00
Sat 11:00–18:00
and one hour before performances.

PHONE
(+47) 55 60 70 80

Grieghallen

OPENING HOURS
Mon–Fri 10:00–17:00
Thu 10:00–19:30
Sat 11:00–14:00

OPENING HOURS DURING THE FESTIVAL
24 May 10:00–19:00
25 May 10:00–19:30
26 May 10:00–17:00
27 May 11:00–18:00
28 May 10:00–13:00 & 17:00–18:00
29 May 10:00–20:00
30 May 10:00–20:00
31 May 10:00–20:00
01 June 10:00–19:30
02 June 10:00–17:00
03 June 11:00–15:00 & 18:00–19:30
04 June 11:00–15:00 & 18:00–19:30
05 June 11:00–15:00
06 June 10:00–17:00
07 June 10:00–18:00

PHONE
(+47) 55 21 61 50

PHONE, HOTEL PACKAGE DEALS
09901 (regular rate)
www.revyogteater.no

At the door
Uncollected tickets are available at the venue one hour before the event. At sold-out performances, uncollected tickets will be sold 15 minutes before the performance starts.

Accessibility

The Bergen International Festival takes place at around 40 venues. Some of these are very old and former private residences. The following venues/events may be challenging/unmanageable for wheelchair users:
- Håkonshallen
- Lysean
- Sjølyst
- Fleien Folketermina
- Ibelsen at Engen

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

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

Buy your tickets here:

- www.fib.no
Buy your tickets online from your computer, tablet, or smart phone.

- Festival Ticket Booth at Torgallmenningen
OPENING HOURS 19 MAY–07 JUNE
20 May – 06 June: 09:00–19:30
07 June: closed

- Ticketmaster
www.fib.no/buytickets
PHONE (CALL CENTRE)
(+47) 815 33 133 (regular rate)
OPENING HOURS:
Mon–Fri 08:30–16:00
Sat 10:00–14:00

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 Torgallmenningen. 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.

BT Fordel
Bergens Tidende subscribers receive 25 % discount on selected performances. A maximum of 2 discounted tickets per subscriber per event. Discounted tickets are limited in numbers and subject to availability.

DN Fordel
Dagens Næringsliv subscribers receive 15 % discounts on selected performances. A maximum of 2 discounted tickets per subscriber per event. Discounted tickets are limited in numbers and subject to availability.

Discounted Tickets
- A valid ID must be presented when purchasing discounted tickets and at the venue.
- There are no discounts on ticket prices of less than 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 only a limited number of discount tickets are available.
- The Festival Card discount does not apply to the event Etterfest: Hugsjå

Festival Card 2017

NOK 430
The Festival Card includes the following benefits:
- 30 % discount on tickets
- One free programme when presenting your card at the venue
- 20 % discount at Festival Restaurants for the holder of the card

Subject to change
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 get in touch with us via:

- www.fib.no
- E-mail: info@fib.no
- Tickets: +47 55 21 61 50
- Other questions/group bookings: +47 55 31 06 30
- Twitter: @Festspillene
- Facebook.com/bergeninternationalfestival
- #Festspillene / #festspillene17

We answer your questions via our chat service every weekday from 10:00 to 15:00, and extend our opening hours at times. Just check our website to see if we’re online!

SMS: Send a text message to us with code word FIB MENING followed by your comment to 2077.

Visit us online

At www.fib.no/en you’ll find a digital edition of this programme catalogue. Take a look at videos of the Festival programme, and book your tickets directly from the catalogue. At www.fib.no you will find more videos, background information and the latest news. Keep up-to-date by signing up for our newsletter and receive personal offers.

Festival lounge

Logen is a hive of Festival activity! In the main hall there are concerts and performances, and the bar upstairs is a Festival lounge for all those involved – members of the audience, volunteers, artists and staff. See you there!

Listen

Get ready for the Bergen International Festival with our playlists at TIDAL and Spotify. We understand choosing might be difficult, and we are here to help! We have created a playlist with some of the 2017 highlights, and the Festival Director presents his favourites. Get to know the music before the Festival, and relive the experience afterwards!

You’ll find our playlists by searching for ‘Festspillene i Bergen’ at both TIDAL and Spotify.

Volunteer

Would you like to join us?

Artist and audience hosts? Production or office assistant? These are some of the tasks our 200 volunteers undertake during the Festival. Their help is crucial to the production of one of Norway’s biggest cultural events. As a volunteer, you get an insider’s view of the Festival and inspiring experiences together with the staff and other volunteers.

More information and registration at www.fib.no/volunteer.
Rufus Wainwright

with guests Anne Sofie von Otter and Brooklyn Rider

A magnificent voice from an artist who refuses to be labelled.

Wainwright’s warm and rich voice and playful musicality have brought along collaborations with a great number of artists, among them Burt Bacharach, David Byrne, and Robbie Williams. Anne Sofie von Otter and the string quartet Brooklyn Rider will also appear on stage in Grieghallen and perform, among other numbers, a version of Go Leave, written by Wainwright’s mother Kate McGarrigle.

Rufus Wainwright vocal, piano, guitar
Anne Sofie von Otter mezzo-soprano
Brooklyn Rider
Johnny Gandelsman violin
Colin Jacobsen violin
Nicholas Cords viola
Michael Nicolas cello

Sponsored by DNB
As a folk singer Sondre Bratland has been renowned for decades, not least, perhaps, for his interpretations of religious folk tunes.

This evening in Logen you will experience another side of the singer.

– I will play a collection of songs that reflects my development, from old tunes from Telemark via country and Irish inspired songs to songs for which I have either written the lyrics or composed the melody. The lyrics I pick are what I will call words of wisdom from well-known writers such as Olav H. Hauge, Jacob Sande, and Hank Williams.

He brings with him, in his own words, ‘the good helpers from the fairy tales’ – among them guitarist Knut Reiersrud and fiddle player Annbjørg Lien, his musical partners of many years with whom he has collaborated in various constellations on a number of recordings and concerts.

Sondre Bratland

Sondre Bratland vocal
Tore Bruvoll guitar
Knut Reiersrud guitar
Annbjørg Lien keyed fiddle, Hardanger fiddle
Hans Fredrik Jacobsen flutes
Ole Marius Sandberg bass
**Late Night Logen**

**LOGEN**

**DATE/TIME**
Tuesday 06 June at 22:00

**DURATION**
1:30

**TICKET**
- Standard: 290
- Under 30: 150
- BT Fordel: 220

**Festival Card:** 30% discount

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**Sinne Eeg**

Melancholy and playfulness from Denmark's great jazz singer.

Spontaneity, improvisation, and the pure joy of making music are key words for Sinne Eeg. Her distinctive voice and emotional expression have won her many awards, among others the Danish Music Awards for 2014, and she has sung her way into the hearts of audiences both at home and throughout the world. "Eeg's balanced sound, intuitive timing, and skillful phrasing are of a rare calibre," the jury observed when she received Queen Ingrid's Honorary Award last year.

Artists like Nancy Wilson, Betty Carter, and Sarah Vaughan are of profound inspiration to her as a singer while she simultaneously possesses a distinctive character and soft and melancholic darkness in her expression. Sinne Eeg also has a close relationship to Ella Fitzgerald, who would have turned 100 years this year, and she has performed a great number of songs from the repertoire of the American queen of jazz.

"- When I'm in front of the audience I often forget myself and let go of all shyness and vanity. To me, that's when the magic of the music appears," she says.

---

**Ida Nielsen & band**

Funky festival night with some serious bass.

Danish Ida Nielsen got her life turned upside down when Prince discovered her on the Internet in 2010. Shortly after she joined his band and toured with him with The New Power Generation and later 3rdeyegirl until the iconic artist passed away last year.

For Ida Nielsen the time she got to work with Prince was ‘the most magic and instructive journey ever’ and something she has brought with her in her solo career. The bass player, composer, and singer has released three albums this far. The last one, **TURNITUP**, was released this autumn and is dedicated to Prince. The music may best be described as a mix of good old-fashioned funk, with a dash of hip hop, reggae, and world music – garnished with catchy tunes. And of course a lot of bass.

Ida Nielsen will also appear as a soloist at the first performance of Norwegian composer Rolf Wallin’s new work on the concert with London Sinfonietta in Håkonshallen 02 June (p. 84).

At Logen it is all about Ida, her bass, and her band, and she promises us a funk show filled with energy, good vibes, and groove.

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Supported by the Oticon Foundation

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**Festival Milonga**

Tango party in three acts, open to all dance enthusiasts.

New to tango, or an experienced dancer? Either way, you are invited alone or as a couple to join us in creating a mini-Buenos Aires in Bergen – a Buenos Bergen!

The evening starts out with a display of Argentinian tango as inspiration for the following introductory course: Learn about Argentinian tango and seize the opportunity to try it out yourself – no previous experience is required. At 21:30 the milonga begins. Get on the dance floor, or just sit back and enjoy the music, dance and atmosphere.

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

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In collaboration with Tango Abrazo

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FLØIEN FOLKE-RESTERANT

DATE/TIME
Wednesday 31 May at 20:30

DURATION
1:00

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Allow 30 mins before the concert starts for the funicular from the lower station. To avoid the ticket queue, buy online at www.floyen.no

TICKET
Standard 220
Under 30: 150
Standard: 220

Festival Card: 30% discount

30% discount

Festival Card:
BT Fordel: 170
Under 30: 150
Standard: 220

TICKET
at www.floyen.no

queue, buy online

Before the concert starts for the

dance floor.

Hang out at the bar – or preferably – hit the
dance floor!

End the Festival evening on the
dance floor!

The DJs at Lysverket’s night club get inspired by the mighty music programme that fills the city during the Festival weeks, and present disco, funk and soul mixed with a pinch of Kaija Saariaho and Rufus Wainwright – or something completely different. Expect entertaining and intense combinations based on a wide selection of locally sourced musical ingredients of the highest quality.

Hang out at the bar – or preferably – hit the dance floor.

Produced by Lysverket

1B1 is something of a house band during this year’s Festival: They are playing two concerts at Trolldalens (p. 62) in addition to performing at the Festival Quarter (p. 32) and in a number of Bergen's nursing homes and institutions.

In collaboration with Fleibanen AS and Fløyen Folkereastaurant.

Classical at the club: 1B1

Club music on string instruments.

Stavanger-based 1B1 Ensemble has a thing for trying out new musical fields.

On this special concert at Fløyen Folkereastaurant, the ensemble is exploring Norwegian electronic's relationship to disco on classical string instruments. They present music from several of Norway’s leading club musicians and producers, in addition to excerpts from classical works. 1B1 favours a band approach to every kind of music, which is evident in their exhilarating musical expression.

Take the funicular or walk up to Fløyen for an intense concert experience with local DJs, improvisation, open bar, and musical surprises. The DJs start playing in the bar at 19:00 and continue to play after the concert.

Patina – to age with flying colours

A tribute to our mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers.

It is never too late to take to the stage. The ladies of Patina are a powerful demonstration of that. Almost thirty women aged 64 to 83 sparkle in this dance theatre performance in Griegsalen. To a soundtrack spanning from the music of their youth and up until today, they perform dance scenes where life itself is displayed in all its joy, vulnerability, and wonder.

The creator of this moving and poetic performance is former Carte Blanche manager and choreographer Arne Fagerholt. His ambition was to make older ladies shine in a dance performance unlike anything the world has ever seen before and pay tribute to a generation of women that so often put others’ needs before their own. The first performance took place in Orkdal in 2012 and the ladies were a great success, with a guest performance at the Norwegian National Opera & Ballet, a USA-tour, and a documentary by the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation. Several local performances around the country have followed, and now it’s time for the Bergen ladies to strut their stuff.

Arne Fagerholt idea, script, choreography
Stephanie Mowinckel rehearsal director
Steinar Lohne lighting design

Dialogues
Leve – Mestring – Bevegelse – GRIEGHALLEN GRIEGSALEN
DATE/TIME
Friday 02 June at 13:00
DURATION
1:00

TICKET
Standard: 170 – 390
Senior: 155 – 355
Festival Card: 30% discount

1000 tickets will be given free to people over the age of 67, institutions and care facilities.

Free tickets can be reserved and picked up at the Grieghallen ticket office or at the Festival ticket booth during the Festival period.

More information:
www.fib.no/patina

Festspillnachtspeil

at Lysverket

DJ Gymbag
(Tribal/Torggata Bar
/Club Oho)
Saturday 27 May at 22:00

DJ Trond
(Soul Shank/Back To Beat)
Thursday 01 June at 22:00

DJ Henrik Svanekvist
(Bergen Soul /Novelly Sounds)
Friday 02 June at 22:00

DJ Kahun
(Beatserve/PLOINK)
Saturday 03 June at 22:00

DURATION
3:00

Free admission

Free tickets can
be given free to
locality’s relationship
to disco on classical
string instruments.
Carmen with a Cuban heart, choreographed by iconic ballet dancer Carlos Acosta.

In the wake of his outstanding international career, Carlos Acosta gathered Cuba’s leading dancers and established the dance company Acosta Danza. In Grieghallen they will perform Acosta’s own version of Bizet’s classical ballet suite Carmen. The performance is a fusion of classical and modern dance, reflecting the rich and distinctive Cuban culture. The story’s universal and timeless themes are laid bare in a sparse and powerful setting with spectacular designs and lighting, accompanied by Royal Ballet Sinfonia conducted by Paul Murphy.

On this evening in Grieghallen, Acosta will also present us to other aspects of their unique combination of classical and contemporary dance. The company has associated with a stellar team of choreographers: Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Marianela Boán, Goyo Montero, and Russell Maliphant. Carlos Acosta himself performs Maliphant’s mesmerizing and intense solo piece Two.

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Acosta Danza
Carlos Acosta artistic director

Marianela Boán choreography, El Cruce
Sobre El Niágara (The Crossing Over Niagara)
Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui choreography, Faun
Russell Maliphant choreography, Two
Goyo Montero choreography, Alrededor No Hay Nada (There is Nothing Around)
Carlos Acosta choreography, Carmen

Royal Ballet Sinfonia
Paul Murphy conductor

Produced by Sadler’s Wells London and Valid Productions.

Made possible by Aud Jebsen

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**Acosta Danza: Debut**

GRIEGHALLEN
GRIEGSALEN

DATE/TIME
Saturday 03 June at 19:30

DURATION
2:30 including interval

TICKET
Standard 190-600
Under 30: 150

Festival Card:
30% discount

Carmen with a Cuban heart, choreographed by iconic ballet dancer Carlos Acosta.

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Carlos Acosta choreography, Carmen

Royal Ballet Sinfonia
Paul Murphy conductor

Produced by Sadler’s Wells London and Valid Productions.

Made possible by Aud Jebsen
Pure elegance and flows of adrenalin in a stirring contemporary circus performance.

Imagine your grandparents at your age. What were their lives like? The performers from Canadian Les 7 doigts de la main have searched their own roots and unveiled past stories as well as skeletons in the closets that affect their own identities and lives today one way or another. The result is Reversible, a captivating mix of circus, dance, theatre, and acrobatics, dedicated to a generation who forged the world we live in today. Can their stories be a guide in our search for a better future? This is explored in a melancholy performance guaranteed to give you goose bumps, where everyday lives blossom into spectacular universes filled with beauty, emotions, and hope.

Les 7 doigts de la main are back in Bergen with a brand new performance after last having visited the Bergen International Festival in 2014 with the great success Traces. The company does 500 performances a year all over the world, one of them a performance at the Olympics opening ceremony in Sochi in 2014.

‘Truly magnificent’
– RADIO ÉNERGIE
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

www.facebook.com/MorgendagensHelter
Family Day at Siljustøl

**Beatles for Babies**

- **RECOMMENDED AGES**: All
- **DURATION**: 4:00
- **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**: Please note that the festival does not provide transport to this event.
- **Free admission**

**Solitude**

- **RECOMMENDED AGES**: 0-3 years
- **DURATION**: 0:40
- **TICKET**: Standard: 150 Children: 100 BT Fordel: 120
  - Festival Card: 30% discount

It is never too early to introduce the youngest members of the family to the Fab Four.

This is a warm and exciting tribute to the Beatles, adapted for the little ones by four musicians and a dancer. The children are invited to dance, clap their hands, drum, look at the instruments, and move about – to the sound of immortal songs like Yesterday, Let it Be, and Hey Jude in new arrangements.

The Beatles songs are performed on violin, cello, clarinet, and percussion, written by Jan Erik Mikalsen and staged for children for the Bergen International Festival.

In an abstract universe of sound, light, and movement violinist Ingerine Dahl, accompanied by members from the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, presents a concert performance that incites fantasy and wonder in children and adults alike. Solitude is a brand new work for solo violin, string instruments, and percussion, written by Jan Erik Mikalsen and staged for children for the Bergen International Festival.

**Norwegian premiere**

**DATE/TIME**: Sunday 04 June at 14:30 and 16:00 Monday 05 June at 11:00, 12:30 and 14:00

An enchanting sphere of music, impressions, and perception.

In an abstract universe of sound, light, and movement violinist Ingerine Dahl, accompanied by members from the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, presents a concert performance that incites fantasy and wonder in children and adults alike. Solitude is a brand new work for solo violin, string instruments, and percussion, written by Jan Erik Mikalsen and staged for children for the Bergen International Festival.

**World premiere**

**DATE/TIME**: Thursday 01 June at 18:00 Saturday 03 June at 10:30 and 12:00

Please visit www.fib.no for the complete credit list.

**La petita malumaluga**

- Please visit www.fib.no for the complete credit list.
- Supported by Grieg Foundation

A collaboration between the Bergen International Festival, Ingerine Dahl and Stavanger Concert Hall.

**Solitude**

**DATE/TIME**: Thursday 01 June at 18:00 Saturday 03 June at 10:30 and 12:00

Supported by Grieg Foundation

**Infinita**

- **FESTIVITIES BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2017**
- **WWW.FIB.NO/EN**

A wordless, yet eloquent masque.

The German ensemble Familie Flöz have specialised in entertaining performances for the whole family, and their productions are a mix of physical comedy, masque and mime. Without spoken words, but with breathtaking body language and expressive masques, the audience is drawn into their dark and humorous tales. In 2015, the ensemble performed Hotel Paradiso at the Bergen International Festival.

Infinita deals with the puzzle of life and death, of its first and last moments, presenting us with four magnificently masked figures, a very crafty game of shadows and some truly enchanting music.

We witness a vigorous succession of scenes picturing the inevitable fate of the human being, in this game of transience, of being born and of growing old. Life itself – that creative force that lets us triumph and fail – plays the star role.

Infinita is a tangible mosaic of life, simply and virtuously composed; a brief insight into the eternity of death and everything else that is odd.

**Norwegian premiere**

**DATE/TIME**: Thursday 25 and Friday 26 May at 18:00

FESTIVITIES BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2017

See you at Siljustøl.

FREE ADMISSION

**DATE/TIME**: Sunday 28 May at 12:00 Opening ceremony at 13:00

**DURATION**: 4:00

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**: Please note that the festival does not provide transport to this event.

**Outdoors**

**SILJUSTØL**

It is an odd.

Eternity of death and everything else that is virtuously composed; a brief insight into the infinite. Infinitas is a tangible mosaic of life, simply and perceptually. Music, impressions, and perception.

We witness a vigorous succession of scenes picturing the inevitable fate of the human being, in this game of transience, of being born and of growing old. Life itself – that creative force that lets us triumph and fail – plays the star role.

Infinita is a tangible mosaic of life, simply and virtuously composed; a brief insight into the eternity of death and everything else that is odd.

At the end of a performance one could swear that the actors had spoken, laughed and cried.

A fascinating experiment in theatre that is executed with incredible body control.”

Familie Flöz

Hajo Schüler, Michael Vogel director
Hajo Schüler masks
Michael Ottopal set design
Eliseu R. Weide costume design
Dirk Schröder sound design
Dirk Schröder, Benjamin Reber music
Reinhard Hubert lighting design
Silke Meyer video art
Andreas Dihm video animation
Stefan Lochau artistic assistant
Pierre-Yves Bazin, Gianni Bettucci production managers
Dorin Gräfendorf, Dana Schmidt, Eva Schubert production assistants
Björn Leese, Benjamin Reber, Hajo Schüler, Michael Vogel cast

Supported by Grieg Foundation

**FESTIVITIES BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2017**

WWW.FIB.NO/EN
Bicyclophony  
– A bicycle symphony

World premiere

DATE/TIME
Thursday 25 May – Tuesday 06 June at 16:15

DURATION
Free admission

A symphony of and with two-wheelers.

Inspired by Frank Zappa, last year’s festival bikes, and the 2017 Road World Championships in Bergen, the BIT20 Ensemble decided to compose their own bicycle symphony in collaboration with 50 pupils from Ådnamarka school. Throughout spring they have explored all the strange and delightful sounds a bike might possibly produce in various ways. With their own bicycle concert band, instruments of their own invention made from bicycle parts, and several cyclists especially trained for the occasion, the completed work will be presented at Torgallmenningen.

– Ole André Farstad, Sindre Sortland, Arne Sandvoll

In collaboration with 50 pupils from Ådnamarka school. Throughout spring they have explored all the strange and delightful sounds a bike might possibly produce in various ways. With their own bicycle concert band, instruments of their own invention made from bicycle parts, and several cyclists especially trained for the occasion, the completed work will be presented at Torgallmenningen.

In collaboration with BIT20 Ensemble and Den Granne Sykkelen

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Supported by the Kavli Trust

Bicyclophony

Papagøyne

Children’s songs to samba rhythms.

How does Troll Mother sing in South America? Papagøyne’s repertoire consists of well-known children’s songs rearranged in the Brazilian and Carribbean spirit. The music is bursting with energy, with lots of rhythms, simple tunes, whistling, and funny instruments.

Percussionist and cultural mediator Asbjørn Sundal started the band in 2006 at the request of Bajazz and Bergen Jazzforum. The background was his love for world music, especially the music from Brazil, and a desire to take children seriously. According to the experienced musician you will not find a more critical audience than those who are less than three feet tall.

This free concert at Fløyen takes your head and your hips on a round trip of the world. Whistling, singing, and dancing are obligatory for both young and old.

‘This was not a concert for those who enjoy peace and quiet. One had to dance, jump, laugh, and simply have fun.’

– AVISA HORDALAND

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Morgonfrosken

An atmospheric free concert at Fløyen by and with Morgonfrosken.

Morgonfrosken (The Morning Frog) sings songs about the big questions and topics like the universe, our thoughts, loneliness, and love, in the company of more immediate and concrete phenomena such as the elements, birds, and frogs. The music is inspired by Norwegian folk music, neatly mixed with American Old-time and British folk and pop music.

The lyrics, published in the book Når morgenfrosken synger (When the morning frog sings), are by Per Olav Kaldestad, and folk musician, singer, and composer Anneli Båssøe has composed the music. She brings along banjo playing clarinettist Ingemund Askeland from Etne and fiddle player Mari Skeie Ljones from Lillehammer on Hardanger fiddle. Anneli herself plays the guitar and the fiddle and sings. The group have toured for the ‘Cultural Rucksack’ and held a number of concerts for big and small at the Førde festival and Bajazz, among others. This autumn they released their sequel album Og fjæra blei en seglbåt og tanken blei en vind.

Morgonfrosken

Anneli Båssøe guitar, fiddle, vocal
Mari Skeie Ljones fiddle, Hardanger fiddle
Ingemund Askeland banjo, clarinet, harmonica

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

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Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust
Nothing is Less Certain

French acrobatics – high and low.

The contemporary circus collective Collectif de la Bascule is renowned for their world-class acrobatics. The performance Nothing is Less Certain is no exception as such. The high-flying and fearless acrobats launch into bold and breakneck stunts demanding an impressive level of balance, flexibility, and precision.

One simple movement sets the whole machinery working and the chain reaction is unstoppable. The acrobats start up a vertical invasion and horizontal occupation: elegant and explosive, so simple and yet so complex. Expect to find yourself watching with eyes wide open, quivering with anticipation!

Collectif de la Bascule drops the circus tent; they find their circus rings outdoors in the city of Bergen. Their first performance takes place at Torgallmenningen on Saturday 03 June, before moving on to Fløyen on Sunday 04 June – and it is free and open to all.

‘A rough and energetic acrobatic tilt stunt … We cannot tear our eyes away from the acrobat in red slippers who is flying, twirling, and spinning like a ball. Utter artistry.’
– TÉLÉRAMA

Collectif de la Bascule
Samira Boukhnous, Dadou Ede technical team
Fanny Alvarez, Antoine Guillaume, Karim Messaoudi, Marius Ollagnier, Maxime Reydel cast

Supported by Grieg Foundation and the Kavli Trust

Free admission
Peter Grimes

Benjamin Britten’s masterpiece.
The opera Peter Grimes, set in a claustrophobic seaside town on England’s windswept coast, presents some of the most powerful and theatrical music written for the operatic stage.

Peter Grimes is a true psychological thriller, painting a vivid portrait of a small community’s descent into suspicion, gossip and bullying in the face of a tragedy. What has happened to fisherman Peter Grimes’s missing apprentice? What part has Grimes, always the town’s outsider, played in the boy’s disappearance? As mistrust grows, Grimes’s life spirals into downfall with dramatic consequences.

This concert version of Benjamin Britten’s great opera, presented in collaboration with the Bergen National Opera and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, is conducted by the orchestra’s Chief Conductor Edward Gardner.

Stuart Skelton Peter Grimes, a fisherman
Giselle Allen Ellen Orford, a widow,
Borough schoolmistress
Roderick Williams Balstrode,
retired merchant skipper
Annika Schlicht Auntie, landlady of The Boar
Hanna Husår 1st niece
Vibeke Kristensen 2nd niece
Catheryn Wyn-Rogers Mrs. Sedley, a rentier widow
Andrew Greenan Swallow, a lawyer
Marcus Farnsworth Ned Keene, apothecary and quack
Colin Judson Bob Boles, fisherman and Methodist
James Gilchrist Rev. Horace Adams, the rector
Barnaby Rea Hobson, the carrier

Presented by the Bergen International Festival, Bergen National Opera and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra

Sponsored by Morgenbladet

BENJAMIN BRITTEN (1913–1976) music
MONTAGU SLATER (1902–1956) libretto
Peter Grimes, op. 33
Lang Lang has performed for presidents on three continents and four billion viewers at the Olympic Opening Ceremony in Beijing.

Lang Lang was born in 1982, and has long been considered one of today’s greatest stars of classical music. He is well-known for his open-hearted, emotive playing, and has played to sold out concerts across the globe.

His list of merits is as long as it is varied. Lang Lang has performed at the 2014 World Cup concert in Rio, at the 56th and 57th Grammy Awards with Metallica and Pharell Williams and the Last Night of the Proms at London’s Royal Albert Hall. He has played with conductor Sir Simon Rattle and on Sesame Street, been included in the “TIME 100”, the magazine’s annual list of the 100 Most Influential People in the World, and Steinway Pianos has named a piano model after him. Lang Lang is also passionate about bringing music into the lives of children around the world, whether it is through his work with new media or through his work with various organisations, including his own.

His own first meeting with the world of classical music was a Tom & Jerry cartoon, which introduced him to the music of Liszt. At the Bergen International Festival, one of the works Lang Lang will be performing is Liszt’s Piano Sonata in B minor, often considered to be one of the most difficult works ever written for piano.

‘The hottest artist on the classical music planet may well be the Chinese pianist Lang Lang.’ – THE NEW YORK TIMES

Lang Lang piano

CLAUDE DEBUSSY (1862–1918)
Ballade, L.70

FRANZ LISZT (1811–1886)
Piano Sonata in B minor, S. 178

ISAAC ALBENIZ (1860–1909)
From Suite Española, op. 47
1. Granada (Serenada)
2. Cataluña (Courante)
3. Sevilla (Sevillanas)
4. Cádiz (Saeta)
5. Asturias (Leyenda)
8. Cuba (Notturno)

ENRIQUE GRANADOS (1867–1916)
From Goyescas, op. 11
3. El fandango de candil
4. Quejas, o La Maja y el ruiseñor

MANUEL DE FALLA (1876–1946)
Danza ritual del fuego

Made possible by
Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber/Rika AS
and Trond Mohn
Mozart.  
Life, Love & Lust

Amorous arias and duets sung by Mari Eriksmoen and Johannes Weisser, accompanied by the Baroque ensemble B’Rock under its renowned conductor René Jacobs.


In Grieghallen the soloists are accompanied by the elite Belgian ensemble B’Rock Orchestra conducted by Mozart expert René Jacobs, who has more than 250 recordings under his belt. B’Rock, who believe that Baroque music should be played in the same way as rock music, are known for presenting their impulses and ideas with feeling and humour.

The programme also includes excerpts from Mozart’s last symphonies, which examine and embellish the same musical themes as the operas. Experience Mozart – lyrical, dramatic, genius – all in the mood for love.

B’Rock Orchestra  
René Jacobs conductor  
Mari Eriksmoen soprano  
Johannes Weisser baritone

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756–1791)  
Excerpts from The Marriage of Figaro and The Magic Flute and from Symphonies 40 and 41.

Final programme to be announced later.
A Finnish overture, Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A minor and Stravinsky’s *Firebird* on new wings.

Works by Sibelius and Saariaho mark the beginning of the end of this year’s festival, performed by the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra and led by Finnish conductor John Storgårds. Joachim Carr from Bergen is this year’s soloist in Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A minor.

After the interval awaits a grand performance, in which the award-winning Danish Dance Theatre presents choreographer Tim Rushton’s *Firebird*. The music is Stravinsky as we know it, but the staging is contemporary, with pulsating video projections and cutting-edge scenery. Through music, movement and striking visuals, it explores a doomed and enchanted world of chaos and order, exploitation and domination, victory and loss. A stage filled with turmoil, crafted physicality and fierce beauty rounds off the 2017 Festival.

‘Magical dance imagery’, according to the Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten.*

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**JEAN SIBELIUS (1865–1957)**

*Andante Festivo*

**KAIJA SAARIAHO (1952–)**

*Ciel d’Hiver*

**EDVARD GRIEG (1847–1907)**

*Piano Concerto in A minor, op. 16*

**IGOR STRAVINSKY (1882–1971)**

*The Firebird*

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Supported by the Oticon Foundation, FINNO, The Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation and The Sibelius Society of Norway

Sponsored by DNV GL
The 90 members of Bergen Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (BFUng) make their Bergen International Festival debut on the open-air stage in the city square Torgallmenningen.

The free concert opens with brilliant orchestral fireworks by Shostakovich, and continues with other popular works: Ravel’s hypnotic Boléro, Grieg’s Norwegian Dance, excerpts from Bizet’s Carmen; the familiar tunes are lined up.

BFUng made its official debut in 2015, the 250th anniversary of the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, and now gives several concerts a year. The new youth symphony orchestra, which originates from Ung Symfoni (‘Young Symphony’), is run by Musikkselskapet Harmonien in collaboration with the Grieg Academy at the University of Bergen, the University of Stavanger and the Barratt Due talent programme in Bergen.

The young musicians, all aged from 15 to 25, come from throughout western Norway; the chief conductor is Kjell Seim.

Richard Goode piano

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685–1750)
Partita no. 6 in E minor
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770–1827)
Bagatelles op. 126
Sonata no. 28 in A major, op. 101
Sonata no. 31 in A flat major, op. 110
FREDERIC CHOPIN (1810–1849)
Nocturne no. 17 in B flat major, op. 62 no. 1
3 Mazurkas
1. op. 41 no. 3 in B flat major
2. op. 41 no. 4 in A flat major
3. op. 50 no. 3 in C sharp minor
Polonaise in F sharp minor op. 44

The pianist of pianists.

When the American pianist Richard Goode recorded all 32 of Beethoven’s sonatas in the early 90s, the reviews were unanimous: The disc set was declared a ‘landmark recording’ and Goode’s name has been associated with Beethoven since then.

Richard Goode is acclaimed for music-making of tremendous emotional power, depth and expressiveness, and has been referred to both as the pianist’s pianist and as America’s best kept secret. When he visited the Bergen International Festival over ten years ago, critics used words such as ‘pure delight’, ‘shivers down the spine’ and ‘shining eyes’.

For his recital in Håkonshallen Richard Goode has selected Beethoven’s Sonatas no. 28 and 31 and his last piano work, the Bagatelles of opus 126, whose playful and lyrical nature complement the severity of Bach’s Partita no 6. He had also recently ‘felt an urgent need to play Chopin – especially mazurkas,’ and added the F sharp minor Polonaise, which ‘combines a Beethovenian power and a beautiful inner mazurka.’

Sponsored by DNV GL
Deep emotions on a Strad.

Janine Jansen from the Netherlands, one of the world's most famous violinists, is recognised for the vast range of her repertoire. She has said that for her, making music consists of listening to and communicating with other people, and that chamber music is closest to her heart: ‘This is where the deepest emotions are awakened.’

The audience in Håkonshallen will have the pleasure of hearing the Stradivarius on loan from Norwegian Dextra Musica with which Janine Jansen was presented in 2016.

‘The violin deserves to be played by one of the world’s foremost musicians. Janine Jansen is a great star who plays with the best orchestras and conductors worldwide, a musician that everyone – musicians, media and not least audiences – loves,’ says Anders Bjørnsen, the director of Dextra Musica.

On this occasion she is accompanied by pianist Denis Kozhukhin. They are joined by cellist Alisa Weilerstein for Shostakovich’s Piano Trio no. 2 In E minor to round off the concert.

The audience in Håkonshallen will have the pleasure of hearing the Stradivarius on loan from Norwegian Dextra Musica with which Janine Jansen was presented in 2016.

‘The violin deserves to be played by one of the world’s foremost musicians. Janine Jansen is a great star who plays with the best orchestras and conductors worldwide, a musician that everyone – musicians, media and not least audiences – loves,’ says Anders Bjørnsen, the director of Dextra Musica.
A multinational quartet performs French music written in wartime.

‘Debussy, Ravel and Messiaen bring the wonderful colours of their music to life in completely different ways, but they all found inspiration in nature and have common impressionistic textures in their music,’ Danish clarinettist Mathias Kjøller explains, on the choice of repertoire.

Ravel and Messiaen wrote against a backdrop of war. Ravel, on completing his Piano Trio, enlisted to fight in World War I. The subsequent outbreak of World War II saw Messiaen enlisting for the same French Army. ‘Quartet for the End of Time’ was written while Messiaen was a prisoner of war in a Nazi concentration camp. The unusual combination of piano, clarinet, violin and cello reflects the players available to him.

On 15 January 1941 Messiaen premiered the piece with three fellow prisoners for an audience of guards, other prisoners and camp hospital patients. He later said of its reception: ‘Never before have I been listened to with such attention and understanding.’

Supported by the Oticon Foundation

Sponsored by DNV GL

Kjøller, Brantelid, Shirinyan & Hanslip

Jakob Kullberg, Aliisa Neige Barrière

Cello suites from Bach to Nørgård, and the world premiere of Concordia, a new commission by Kaija Saariaho.

Dane Jakob Kullberg is praised internationally for his performances of the modern cello concerto, and has recently recorded the first of two albums as a soloist with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra.

He is a cello professor at the Royal College of Music in London, and has studied in Amsterdam, Zagreb, London and Copenhagen, with teachers including the renowned Bach interpreter Anner Bylsma.

Kullberg is also known for his close collaboration with the Danish composer Per Nørgård, who has written a number of works for him.

In 2011, Kullberg moved to Paris to focus on his collaboration with Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho, the Festival’s Artist in Residence for 2017.

This evening Kullberg and Finnish-French violinist Aliisa Neige Barrière will premiere the full version of Saariaho’s Concordia, written for the two of them. This new commissioned work sits between well-loved cello suites by Britten and Bach, and a new hybrid work created in collaboration between Jakob Kullberg and Per Nørgård.

Supported by FINNO, The Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation, The Sibelius Society of Norway and Norwegian Artistic Research Programme

Sponsored by DNV GL
Crescendo musicians in a grand combination of master and apprentice.

Cellist Alisa Weilerstein and pianist Jonathan Biss are Crescendo mentors in 2017. At this concert the two Americans perform with young soloists Guro Kleven Hagen, Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad and Kian Soltani, who have already become audience favourites at the Bergen International Festival. The mentors also perform with the string quartet Opus13 under the leadership of Sonoko Miriam Welde. All of these young musicians are participants in the ambitious mentoring programme, and as such make their mark on this year’s festival.

The repertoire on this occasion is a collection of late 19th century works; Schoenberg’s dramatic Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night) alongside the unusual scoring of Arensky’s String Quartet for two cellos and closing with Dvořák’s Quintet, which has characteristics borrowed from Czech folk music.

**Andreas Scholl & Tamar Halperin**

Music from the twentieth century with countertenor Andreas Scholl and pianist Talmar Halperin.

‘His voice quality is unquestionably masculine, astonishingly high, incredibly powerful, flexible and commanding’, was the verdict of a reviewer on Amazon after hearing Andreas Scholl. Audiences and reviewers alike have given this German singer the credit for creating massive renewed interest in countertenor repertoire practically single-handed. There can be no doubt that Andreas Scholl has a particular ability to enthral and captivate concert-goers worldwide. His two most recent visits to the Bergen International Festival were no exception, when he sang to capacity audiences in Håkonshallen and received rave reviews.

Andreas Scholl has released numerous award-winning and best-selling solo albums, and is best known for his interpretations of baroque music from Purcell onwards. He however always been a devotee of new music and composed himself. In this concert he presents a programme of twentieth century music, accompanied by his wife and musical partner Tamar Halperin. The Israeli pianist and harpsichordist is a soloist and chamber musician with a repertoire from the renaissance to the current day.

Sponsored by DNV GL
The Norwegian Chamber Orchestra celebrates its fortieth anniversary during the Bergen International Festival with an entire evening of no fewer than three concerts. Throughout the last four decades the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra has nurtured the classical string sound to the core, all the time experimenting with forms of expression and ideals of tone. On this occasion in Logen they take it yet one step further. The evening compasses everything from the hardcore baroque to the contemporary, the sentimentally romantic to the intellectually systematic and the deadly serious to the sheerest madness. Happy Anniversary!

The Norwegian Chamber Orchestra
Terje Tønnesen artistic director
Free transport to Composers’ Homes

Return transport is included in the ticket for each concert

Bus to Trolsdalen/ Trolthaugen
The bus journey is approx. 30 min.

CONCERTS AT 13:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 12:00
Return from Trolthaugen, departure at 14:30

CONCERTS AT 16:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 15:00
Return from Trolthaugen, departure at 17:30

CONCERTS AT 18:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 17:00
Return from Trolthaugen, departure at 19:30

Bus to Grieg’s villa/ Trolthaugen
The bus journey is approx. 30 min.

CONCERTS AT 22:30
Departure from Dregga, Departure from Trolthaugen, return at 24:00

Boat to Lyseen
The boat journey is approx. 50 min.

CONCERTS AT 11:30
Departure from Dregga, Departure from Lyseen, return at 14:00

CONCERTS AT 14:30
Departure from Dregga, Departure from Lyseen, return at 16:15

CONCERTS AT 19:00
Departure from Dregga at 18:30
Return from Lyseen, departure at 20:45

Bus to Siljusdal
The bus journey is approx. 30 min.

CONCERTS AT 15:00
Departure from Strandkaien, Tourist information/Mathallen at 14:00
Return from Trolthaugen, departure at 16:30

Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica and Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation.

A star-studded octet celebration in Trolsdalen.

Janine Jansen, violin, Jonathan Biss, piano and Alisa Weilerstein, cello are joined by young Norwegian musicians on the cusp of their careers to perform some of the finest works in the classical repertoire – a rare occurrence in an intimate concert venue such as Trolsdalen!

Mendelssohn was only sixteen years old when he composed his string octet. ‘Its youthful verve, brilliance and perfection make it one of the miracles of nineteenth-century music. […] Not even Mozart at the age of 16 produced anything to rival its chutzpah’, wrote music critic Conrad Wilson. The octet finds musical company in Schumann’s Piano Quartet, which contains one of his most heart-rendingly romantic melodies, and Shostakovich’s two pieces for string octet, of which the composer claimed the Scherzo ‘… is the very best thing I have written.’

Crescendo is a mentoring programme for young classical musicians and a joint venture by the Bergen International Festival, Barratt Due Institute of Music and Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra. The project is supported by Trond Mohn, Bettina Ford Jæsby, Hans Peter Jebsen, The DNB Savings Bank Foundation, Dextra Musica and Talent Norway.

The Composers’ Homes

Great acoustics for small formats

In 2017 the Bergen International Festival is expanding the concert series in the composers’ homes. In total, 26 concerts will be performed in the living rooms of Norwegian composers Ole Bull, Harald Sæverud and Edvard Grieg and in the Trolsdalen concert hall.

In Trolsdalen, situated right next to the villa at Trolthaugen and with a view of Edvard Grieg’s composer’s hut, 11 concerts take place during this year’s Festival. The intimate concert hall, opened in 1985 and completely renovated in 2012, is well-known for its acoustics, especially suited to Norwegian composers. In the composers’ homes since 2011.

Peter Herresthal (pictured with Kaia Saariaho) has been curating concerts in the composers’ homes since 2011.

Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica and Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation.
Pop and Classical with no dividing wall.

In her latest project the Swedish mezzo soprano Anne Sofie von Otter joins forces with the ground-breaking string quartet Brooklyn Rider – an album with music by iconic artists from both classical and pop music. In this first of two concerts in Troldsalen you can listen to music by Philip Glass, John Adams and other composers, and the title track of So Many Things by Nico Muhly.

‘So Many Things … so much fascinating and wonderful music out there to discover, to perform and to record. This disc is about music from our days: 1990s to 2015. I am bringing two worlds together on So Many Things. In fact I don’t see them as two worlds at all, but just plain old good, interesting, attractive music that moves and inspires me’, says Anne Sofie von Otter.

The Grammy-winning mezzo has previously demonstrated her great talent for juggling genres, as she did in collaborating with Elvis Costello and again two years ago in her Bergen International Festival performance of French chansons.

American Brooklyn Rider play with the energy level of young rock stars and have been dubbed ‘the future of chamber music’. The quartet celebrated its tenth anniversary last season with fifteen commissioned works, and consistently receives equally enthusiastic reviews from all quarters – classical, world music and rock.

Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica and Anders Sveas’ Charitable Foundation

Sponsored by BI Norwegian Business School

Brooklyn Rider
Johnny Gandelsman violin
Colin Jacobsen violin
Nicholas Cords viola
Michael Nicolas cello

Anne Sofie von Otter mezzo soprano

So Many Things 1

Urfremføring

PHILIP GLASS
Three excerpts from Bent
CAROLINE SHAW
Cant vos/faude (new commission)
COLIN JACOBSEN
For Sixty Cents (new commission)
JOHN ADAMS
Am I In Your Light (from Doctor Atomic, arr. Evan Ziporyn)
GLEN KOTCHE
Ping Pong Fumble Thaw
NICO MUHYL
So Many Things
COLIN JACOBSEN
Exit

So Many Things 2

COLIN JACOBSEN
Beloved, do not let me be discouraged
Björk
Cover me (arr. Erik Arvindèr)
Hunter (arr. Vince Mendoza)
COLIN JACOBSEN
Helmlaus (Homeless) and Rikveen (Rikve’s Tune), arranged Norwegian trad)
ANDERS HILDBORG
Kvål (Evening)
ELVIS COSTELLO
Speak darkly my angel (written for Anne Sofie von Otter, arr. Rob Mathes)
KATE BUSH
Pi (arr. Kyle Sanna)
Four award-winning string players dazzle – as always. Vertavo Quartet, which celebrated its thirtieth anniversary in 2014, is considered one of Europe’s foremost quartets. The four Norwegian musicians have released over fifty recordings, toured worldwide and in 2016 arranged the first Vertavo Festival in their home county, inviting musician friends from far and wide.

‘Four musicians. One quartet. We couldn’t wish for a better life,’ is the verdict in their autobiography.

In the first of two concerts in Troldsalen they open with Kaija Saariaho’s Nymphéa, which according to the composer is inspired by the water-lily, with its beautiful symmetrical form, dark underneath, taking nourishment from the mud on the bottom of the pool.

Of course the Vertavo Quartet also plays a piece by Grieg before ending the concert with Janáček’s ‘Kreutzer Sonata’, inspired by Leo Tolstoy’s novel of the same name.

Two quartets meet in late Romantic chamber music. The string quartet Opus13 takes its name from Mendelssohn’s popular String Quartet no. 2, op 13, as it was the first piece they played together after forming in 2014. In 2017 they make their international debut, with concerts in France and Denmark. The young ensemble met through studies at the Barratt Due Institute of Music, one of the three partners behind the mentoring programme Crescendo.

Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica and Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation.

Crescendo is a mentoring programme for young classical musicians and a joint venture between the Bergen International Festival, Barratt Due Institute of Music and Oslo Philharmonic. The project is supported by Trond Mohn, Bettina Ford Jebsen, Hans Peter Jebsen, The DNB Savings Bank Foundation, Dextra Musica and Talent Norway.
A Finnish celebration from a Nordic quartet.

In 2017 it is 100 years since Finland gained its independence. This is celebrated by the newly formed Nordlyd Quartet with a tour of all the Nordic countries.

In Trolsdalen they perform chamber music by the Finnish composers Jean Sibelius and this year’s Festival Composer and Artist in Residence Kaija Saariaho. They are joined in Sibelius’s romantic songs by Lydia Hoen Tjore, soprano, and Ingrid Andsnes, piano.

The quartet consists of four students from the Norwegian Academy of Music, and collaborates with Voksenasen Summer Academy. The quartet’s name Nordlyd – Northern Sound – plays on the phenomenon of Nordlys – the Northern Lights, and reflects the origin of its members – Norway, Sweden and Finland.

The quartet explains: ‘The Northern Lights are a symbol for all the Nordic countries, and represent the quartet’s desire to combine traditional and newly composed music from those countries.’

Kaija Saariaho’s work Terra Memoria will also be performed on Thursday 01 June by TBI Ensemble in a version for string orchestra.

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**Nordlyd Quartet**

- Hugo Hilde violin
- Aliisa Neige Barrière violin
- Ester Forsberg violin
- Andreas Øhrn cello

**Lydia Hoen Tjore** soprano

**Ingrid Andsnes** piano

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**Jean Sibelius (1865–1957)**

- Spring is flying, op. 13, no. 4
- The diamond on the March snow, op. 36 no. 6
- The girl returned from meeting her lover, op. 37 no. 5
- Black roses, op. 36 no. 1
- Voces Intimae for string quartet, op. 56

**Kaija Saariaho (1952–)**

Terra Memoria for String Quartet

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Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra, the Anders Sveaas Charitable Foundation, FINNO, the Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation, the Sibelius Society of Norway

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Sponsored by Atea

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**Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)**

- Berenice, che fai? (from Scena di Berenice), Hob XVIIa/10
  1. Allegro
  2. Adagio
  3. Vivace
  4. Allegro

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)**

- 1. Liebes-Lied (from Drei Gedichte von Rainer Maria Rilke, no. 1)
- 2. Hôtel (from Banalités, FP107)
- 3. I love but Thea! (from Romances (earlier and later), op. 39)
- 4. Among Roses

**Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)**

- 1. Spin (solo piano)
- 2. Hidden Love
- 3. Upon a Grassy Hillside
- 4. From Melodies of the Heart, op. 5
- 5. From Seven Imparatives
- 6. From Drei Gedichte von Rainer Maria Rilke, no. 1
- 7. From Melodies of the Heart, op. 5
- 8. From Romances (earlier and later), op. 39
- 9. Allegro
- 10. Largo

**Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)**

- 1. Berenice, che fai? (from Scena di Berenice), Hob XXIVa:10
- 2. Adagio
- 3. Allegro
- 4. Largo
- 5. Aria

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**Ingrid Andsnes**, who comes from Karmøy between Bergen and Stavanger, is also an award-winner. Since making her debut in Carnegie Hall in 2015, she has extended her role as a pianist beyond the limits of traditional classical music, including performing several works written specially for her.

**Lydia Hoen Tjore**, who comes from Radøy, a short drive north of Bergen, is currently a second-year student at the Royal Danish Opera Academy, where she was one of the youngest students ever to gain a place. At the age of 21 she is already an experienced soloist, with many stage performances and awards to her name.

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During this year’s Bergen International Festival you can also experience Lydia and Ingrid with the young Nordlyd Quartet in a totally Finnish programme (p. 60).
1B1 Ensemble

For the string players in the Stavanger-based ensemble 1B1, the love of playing and passion for music always come first.

Since the ensemble’s inception in 2008 they have won a Spellemannpris (the Norwegian Grammy Award), entered the international music scene, and performed with great artists and composers including Arvo Pärt, Benjamin Schmid, Steve Reich and Lars Anders Tomter.

Artistic director and founder Jan Bjaranger claims that the ensemble works and thinks more like a rock band. The members play from memory, and communication and artistic expression trump perfectionism every time. This approach is audible: the ensemble has developed a tight, vibrant sound with a strong rhythmic drive.

The 1B1 Ensemble will play two concerts in Trolsdalen. The first concert includes works by Britten, Tchaikovsky, Schnittke and Shostakovich, and the same time similar and dissimilar. They belong to different families of instruments, but have a very similar register,’ says Lars Anders Tomter, who is in charge of programming.

There is little music written for the combination clarinet and viola. These composers have really understood sonatas, which exist in versions for both orchestral family.

‘The Mozart trio and in particular the Brahms sonatas are all music I could not live without. ‘The trio and the Brahms sonatas are all music I could not live without.’

‘We combine three instruments that are at one and the same time similar and dissimilar. They belong to different families of instruments, but have a very similar register,’ says Lars Anders Tomter, who is in charge of programming.

There is little music written for the combination of viola, clarinet and piano. Mozart was the first to do so, with his ‘Kegelstatt’ (‘Bowling Alley’) Trio. Add Schumann’s Märchenerzählungen (Fairy Tales) and the original repertoire is complete. Another starting-point for the twin concerts in this year’s festival was Brahms’s sonatas, which exist in versions for both clarinet and viola.

‘The Mozart trio and in particular the Brahms sonatas are all music I could not live without. These composers have really understood the soul of the viola and what it can express,’ says Tomter, who was dubbed ‘the giant of the Nordic viola’ by the music magazine The Strad. Ever since his days as a student he has derived special pleasure from attending the Bergen International Festival, and does so just as much this year: ‘Christian Ihle Hadland and Sharon Kam are phenomenal musicians who I love listening to, and Trolsdalen is a totally magical place.’

Lars Anders Tomter viola
Sharon Kam clarinet
Christian Ihle Hadland piano

Twin concerts from an exceptional orchestral family.

Viola player Lars Anders Tomter, clarinetist Sharon Kam and pianist Christian Ihle Hadland give two concerts together in the concert hall at Trolsdalen.

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Lars Anders Tomter viola
Sharon Kam clarinet
Christian Ihle Hadland piano
**Kathryn Stott**

DATE/TIME: Friday 02 June at 22:30  
DURATION: 100

**A Franco-Finnish piano soirée in Grieg's sitting room.**

French repertoire holds a special place for pianist Kathryn Stott. She has recorded all of the piano works of the father of French chamber music, Gabriel Fauré, and French music is the theme of her latest solo album and several festivals of which she has been the artistic director. For this the government in Paris awarded her a knighthood.

At this evening recital at Trolldhaugen the music of the French composers Fauré, Ravel and Dutilleux is complemented by Keyboard Composer Kaija Saariaho’s Ballade. Kathryn Stott, recognised as one of the United Kingdom’s most versatile and imaginative musicians, was recently appointed professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music. She has toured internationally as a soloist and chamber musician for thirty years along with the American cellist Yo-Yo Ma, one of her closest collaborators. Her keen interest in contemporary music has resulted in numerous world premieres of works written specially for her.

You can also hear her perform with violinist Isabelle van Keulen at Lysøen on 03 and 04 June (p. 67).

“You play wonderfully, allowing her music fluidity and space; her virtuoso outpourings are formidable.”

- **THE DAILY TELEGRAPH**

**Kathryn Stott piano**

Supported by FINNO, The Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation and The Sibelius Society of Norway.

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**Crescendo: Alisa Weilerstein**

DATE/TIME: Saturday 03 June at 22:30  
DURATION: 100

**A cello recital of Bach and Kodály.**

'Alisa Weilerstein is a consummate performer, combining technical precision with impassioned musicianship,' according to the MacArthur Foundation on awarding the American cellist the MacArthur Fellowship in 2011.

As a new mentor in the mentoring programme Crescendo she will perform in a variety of contexts during the Festival. Alisa Weilerstein has appeared with major orchestras throughout the United States and Europe.

In this solo recital in Grieg’s villa she performs two great works for the cello: the darkest of Bach’s six cello suites followed by one of her signature works, Kodály’s Cello Sonata, which appears on her recent album Solo, acclaimed as an ‘uncompromising and pertinent portrait of the cello repertoire of our time’ by the French online publication ResMusica.

Alisa Weilerstein cello

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**Ingrid Breie Nyhus piano**

You have to hear this! Ms. Nyhus is a phenomenon!’ the Gapplegate Review raves.

As a pianist, Ingrid Breie Nyhus has been described as a virtuoso of timbre with luscious touch and rich nuances. Among the awards she has received for her performances and recordings is the coveted Norwegian Soloist Prize.

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**Sergio Tiempo**

DATE/TIME: Friday 26 May at 22:30  
DURATION: 100

**A fine selection of late Romantic piano works and music from the Americas.**

Argentinian Sergio Tiempo has been a professional pianist since his early teens. Now a highly acclaimed musician, Tiempo recently toured with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and Venezuelan conductor Gustavo Dudamel with Music from the Americas.

At this concert Tiempo will perform three of Grieg’s Lyric Pieces, Prokofiev’s piano arrangements of his classic ballet Romeo and Juliet and six of Chopin’s short poetic preludes.

This is balanced with a selection of twentieth century works from some of South America’s most prominent composers: Heitor Villa-Lobos’s playful melodies, Astor Piazzolla’s Nuevo Tango, and Albero Ginastera’s fast and furious finale, Malambo, which takes its title from a competitive step dance amongst Argentine ‘gaucho’ cowboys.

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**Ingfrid Breie Nyhus piano**

Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica and Anders Sveas’ Charitable Foundation

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**Sergio Tiempo piano**

For her performances and recordings Ingrid Breie Nyhus has long had a passionate interest in piano music inspired by Norwegian folk music. On the piano in Grieg’s villa she performs contemporary piano interpretations of traditional Hardanger fiddle tunes, (Norwegian slått, plural slåtter). These tunes inspired many of Grieg’s compositions.

Ingrid Breie Nyhus recently released a solo trilogy of which the third record is named Slåttepiano. Rather than writing a thesis, she made the recordings for her doctorate at the Norwegian Academy of Music. Slåttepiano has been very well received by Norwegian and international critics alike.

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**Sergio Tiempo piano**

**Ingrid Breie Nyhus piano**

**Kathryn Stott piano**

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**Ingfrid Breie Nyhus piano**

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**Sergio Tiempo piano**

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**Ingrid Breie Nyhus piano**

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**Kathryn Stott piano**

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Ole Bull’s Lysøen

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.

The concert master of the Norwegian Opera & Ballet and a passionate pianist.

Camilla Kjøll, violin, has a busy schedule: she is into her first season as concert master of Lucerne Symphony Orchestra in Switzerland and is well established as a chamber musician and orchestral leader. Since 2012, the year after her most recent Bergen International Festival performance, she has been first concert master at the Norwegian Opera & Ballet. She also plays in the Norwegian Chamber which celebrates its fortieth anniversary in 2017 (p. 52).

Camilla Kjøll’s partner is pianist Gunilla Süssmann from Bergen, who has performed at the Bergen International Festival on several occasions. She plays with great virtuosity, sensitivity and imagination, and her extremely personal and passionate interpretations create a unique contact with her audiences. Her great love of chamber music is evident.

At Lysøen their programme includes chamber works by Bull, Szymanowski, Chaoussin and Ravel.

Supported by The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica and Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation.

Camilla Kjøll violin
Gunilla Süssmann piano

Sonoko Miriam Welde & Sergio Tiempo

In 2016 violinist Sonoko Miriam Welde has already made a solid name for herself, both as a soloist and as the first violinist in the string quartet Opus13. Since her first performance with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of nine, she has appeared as a soloist with a number of outstanding European orchestras. She has been admitted as a soloist into the prestigious mentoring programme Crescendo for 2018.

In Ole Bull’s magnificent home at Lysøen she plays alongside celebrated Argentinian pianist Sergio Tiempo, opening with Brahms’s Scherzo from the F-A-E Sonata, which was written collaboratively by three composers. It is Brahms’s earliest surviving piece for violin and piano and one of his most instantly recognisable compositions.

The duo also performs four pieces from Prokofiev’s Romeo and Juliet and works by Bull and Grieg.

Sonoko Miriam Welde violin
Sergio Tiempo piano

Ludvig Gudim

Ludvig Gudim violin
Håvard Gimse piano

In collaboration with NRK

WINNER OF THE NORWEGIAN SOLOIST PRIZE:
Ludvig Gudim with Håvard Gimse

DATE/TIME
Monday 29 May at 19:00
DURATION 100

The concert will be recorded for TV by the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation.

In 1986, the Norwegian Soloist Prize was established to celebrate its fortieth anniversary during the 2017 Bergen International Festival. Both have recently been appointed to professorships at the Norwegian Academy of Music.

Another feature they share is a deep love of chamber music. This is evident in their long-standing collaboration with Ronald Brautigam, soloist in Grieg’s A minor Concerto in 2015 and Yo-Yo Ma, cello. In the magical surroundings of Ole Bull’s home they present works by Messiaen, Poulenc and Franck, alongside works by Ole Bull himself. The Guardian wrote of Isabelle van Keulen: ‘Her taut musical intelligence and vivid sound combined with a fine instinct for the tender, searching quality of this music … absolutely magical!’ Kathryn Stott also has a solo recital in Grieg’s villa (p. 65).

Isabelle van Keulen & Kathryn Stott

DATE/TIME
Saturday 03 and Sunday 04 June at 11:30 and 14:30
DURATION 100

A versatile star duo performs French repertoire at Lysøen.

Isabelle van Keulen, violin, from the Netherlands and Kathryn Stott, piano, from Britain are internationally acclaimed concert soloists, each with decades of professional experience.

Both are also recognised as artistic directors and have instigated festivals and concert series with great success. Isabelle van Keulen has been artistic director of the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, which celebrates its 40th Anniversary during the 2017 Bergen International Festival.

Anders Sveaas’ Charitable Foundation

Camilla Kjøll & Gunilla Süssmann

DATE/TIME
Saturday 27 May at 11:30 and 14:30
DURATION 100

Grieg and Brahms in Ole Bull’s home.

Young Bergen violinist Sonoko Miriam Welde has already made a solid name for herself, both as a soloist and as the first violinist in the string quartet Opus13. Since her first performance with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of nine, she has appeared as a soloist with a number of outstanding European orchestras. She has been admitted as a soloist into the prestigious mentoring programme Crescendo for 2018.

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A trio of siblings at Siljustøl with a highly personal programme.

TrioBauge consists of the Kyvik Bauge brothers Sverre and Einar and their sister Ragnhild, and was formally instigated in 2014. Since then they have given their own concerts at the Risør Chamber Music Festival, the Oslo Grieg Festival and the Smøla Chamber Music Festival. In 2016 TrioBauge was invited to New York to perform in the concert series Chamber Music Live in LeFrak Concert Hall, and in 2017 they made their Bergen International Festival debut with their teacher and pianist Vebjørn Anvik.

For the concert the trio has chosen works by Mozart, Kodály and Sæverud. For the concert the trio has chosen works by Mozart, Kodály and Sæverud. The concert opens with Knut Nystedt’s works by Mozart, Kodály and Sæverud.

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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 young philharmonics.

Participating young soloists and chamber groups 2017:
Alisa Weilerstein and Jonathan Biss
Guro Kleven Hagen, Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad, Sonoko Miriam Welde, Kian Soltani and Opus13

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

Open master class with Festival Composer Kaija Saariaho.
Postgraduate composition students at the Grieg Academy have a rare opportunity to meet and learn from one of the most influential composers in the world today. Kaija Saariaho from Finland is this year’s Festival Composer and Artist in Residence. Among her compositions on the programme is The Reksten Collections. You can hear the result at the Master Class Concert in the Bergen University auditorium.

In collaboration with the University of Bergen, Prof. Jiri Hlinka Piano Academy and the Reksten Collections.

Master Class Concert: Beethoven’s Piano Sonatas
In collaboration with the Professor Jiri Hlinka Piano Academy, the Bergen International Festival presents open master classes with Richard Goode, USA, Jan Jiracek von Arnim, Germany, and Leif Ove Andsnes, Norway. The master classes will take place at the Reksten Collections.

Piano students at the highest international level receive guidance from three masters, all of whom are great Beethoven aficionados. Richard Goode, the ‘pianist’s pianist’, practically has Beethoven as a trademark. He will also be playing Beethoven in Håkonshallen on 25 May. Leif Ove Andsnes devoted four years of his life to the successful project The Beethoven Journey, a worldwide concert series which was featured at the Bergen International Festivals in 2012, 2013 and 2014 with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. Jan Jiracek von Arnim, professor of piano at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna and artistic director of the quadrennial International Beethoven Competition Vienna, is also a concert pianist in his own right.

In collaboration with Prof. Jiri Hlinka Piano Academy and the Reksten Collections.

Additional information
Richard Goode in concert at Håkonshallen
Thursday 25 May at 19:30, see p. 45.
Drop In Concerts

Concerts with high musical standards in a low key setting.

The students at the Grieg Academy invite you to enjoy great musical experiences during daytime. The drop in concerts have for many years been a popular tradition on the Bergen International Festival programme, and every year the sales department is asked for the programme booklet long before it is finalised. In the Grieghallen foyer and in Johanneskirken (St. John’s Church) everyone has the opportunity to listen to talented young students, often performing with their teachers.

The Festival seeks to give young musicians who have chosen music as a profession a vital and visible platform where they can perform early in their careers. We want to inspire and nurture the foremost talent,” says Bergen International Festival director Anders Beyer.

This year the theme of each concert will be more pronounced than in recent years. In sum the series will present works from a broad musical spectrum in the relaxed atmosphere to which audiences have become accustomed.

Programme details for all concerts will be available at fns.no/stikkinrom in May, alongside times for other concerts in Gunnar Sævigs sal.

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

Would you like to join Henrik Ibsen behind the scenes at the DNS theatre?

During the Bergen International Festival the world-renowned playwright returns to his former workplace. Ibsen at Engen is an exclusive wandering performance that provides a unique insight into the theatre’s history, and takes you to parts of the theatre that audiences otherwise never get to see. There is only room for 15 persons on the tour of the nooks and crannies of the listed building. The lucky tour participants will experience the buckride from Peer Gynt and other stunts, and be served finger food and two (non-alcoholic) drinks.

Den National Scene, the oldest permanent stage in Norway, has roots back to Det Norske Teater, in Norway, has roots back to Det Norske Teater, which moved into its current building, which with its rich ornamentation is considered a prime example of Art Nouveau. In 1850 Henrik Ibsen at the age of 21 was engaged by the theatre as a dramatic author, and he led some directing until 1857.

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

Ibsen at Engen

**DEN NATIONALE SCENE**

**DATE/TIME**
Saturday 27 May at 13:00 and 15:00

**DURATION**
100 minutes

**TICKET**
Standard: 300 NOK
Festival Card: 30% discount

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Audience capacity: 15 people.

**LANGUAGE**
English without translation.

Handel’s great masterpiece brought to life by video artist Netia Jones, Barokksolistene and conductor Bjarte Eike.

Messiah

Messiah by George Frideric Handel was first performed in Dublin in the spring of 1742. After a rather modest reception in London, the work was eventually regarded as a triumph and has become one of the Western world’s most performed and loved choral works.

Messiah was one of Handel’s own favourites. He conducted the oratorio himself a number of times, often adapting it to the occasion. Handel experts Malcolm Bruno and Caroline Ritchie are now completing the first published edition of the authentic original Messiah, which will premiere at the 2017 Bergen International Festival in collaboration with Bergen National Opera. Here Messiah will be presented as first conceived, as an operatic entertainment, with all the extended, virtuosic arias that reveal the operatic feel of the 1740s London stage.

The Bergen International Festival and Bergen National Opera present the premiere performance, created by director, designer and video artist Netia Jones, known for her originals stagings of classical works.

Four outstanding soloists, the early music ensembles Edvard Grieg Choir and Cathedra are led by Bjarte Eike. Choir master Michael McCarthy is director of music at Washington National Cathedral and known for his association with the Lord of the Rings trilogy.

‘...the greatest composer that ever lived ...’
– LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN ON GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

**Netia Jones** direction, design and video

**Barokksolistene**

**Bjarte Eike** conductor

**Edvard Grieg Choir**

**Cathedra**

**Michael McCarthy** choir master

**Malin Christsensson** soprano

**Renata Pokupic** mezzo-soprano

**Pierre Derhet** tenor

**Callum Thorpe** bass

Presented by the Bergen International Festival and Bergen National Opera

Supported by Herman Friele

Sponsored by Dagens Næringsliv
**Høyrer vi den same lyden**

A counterpoint of western giants.

Jon Fosse and Geir Tveitt are two artists of apparently dissimilar temperament, but actor Lise Fjeldstad and pianist Håvard Gimse have found what they call ‘surprisingly many common features’ in the manner in which the poet and the composer create atmosphere in their works. Particularly in Tveitt’s more evocative works they detect undertones reminiscent of Fosse. Furthermore they have discovered great similarities between the construction of form and timing in Fosse’s poems and Tveitt’s *Hardingtonar*.

**Ibsens små djevler**

**A search for the playwrights and poets inner self.**

Henrik Ibsen was known to be a rather reserved person. Most people are familiar with his great dramas, but that does not necessarily mean one gets any more familiar with Henrik Ibsen as a person. But in his lyric poetry one can find traces of him. Ibsen himself called his poems ‘the little devils’, and maybe he would rather have wanted to forget these early writings as he thought they might reveal his innermost self.

Fortunately his poems live on. In a captivating concert performance actor Lise Fjeldstad embarks on these little devils with empathy, an inquisitive eye, and imagination, while pianist Håvard Gimse illuminates our great playwright’s mind through piano pieces by Edvard Grieg and Harald Sæverud.
Scandinavian premiere

DATE/TIME
Wednesday 24 May at 18:45
Thursday 25 May at 19:30

DURATION
2:45 including interval

LANGUAGE
Performed in English and German, surtitled in English and Norwegian.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Introduction (in Norwegian) in Grieghallen Foyer:
Wednesday 24 May at 18:00
Thursday 25 May at 18:45

Rufus Wainwright performs in Grieghallen
Monday 29 May (p. 16).

The Festival Director in conversation with Rufus Wainwright at Litteraturhuset
Sunday 28 May (p. 96).

TICKET
Standard: 190–900
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30% discount

Please note:
Limited stage view from ticket categories 4 and 5.
The seating plan for Shakespeare’s Sonnets differs from that of other Festival performances. See www.fib.no/subart/Shakespeare.

Opening Performance:
Shakespeare’s Sonnets
by Robert Wilson and Rufus Wainwright

Shakespeare’s poetic universe staged in a musical theatre dream.

World-renowned director and multiartist Robert Wilson has taken twenty-five sonnets and created an epic piece of musical theatre together with the German theatre company Berliner Ensemble and Canadian composer Rufus Wainwright.

The performance presents Shakespeare more modern and alive than ever, by cleverly mixing genres and contrasting darkness and light to a captivating effect.

On stage is a number of Shakespearean characters, from the leprechaun to the fool, from Cupid to the mysterious dark lady, and from the Queen of England to Shakespeare himself. The extraordinary German cabaret artist Georgette Dee ties the different parts of the performance together.

Robert Wilson has fundamentally renewed theatre and performance art since the mid-1960s. His works are aesthetically striking and emotionally charged, and his productions have earned the acclaim of audiences and critics worldwide.

Rufus Wainwright’s original compositions turn the performance into a dreamlike journey beyond time: ‘It sounds a little bit like cabaret, a little bit like opera, like Strauss and Schubert, classically German, taking a deep bow in front of Kurt Weill,’ says Rufus Wainwright.

Robert Wilson direction, stage and lighting concept
Rufus Wainwright music
Jacques Reynaud costume design
Ann-Christin Rommen co-direction
Jutta Ferbers dramatic advisor, text composition, Sonnet selection
Serge von Arx co-set designer
Erik Bystad Norwegian translation
Stefan Rager, Hans-Jörg Brandenburg musical direction
Krista Birkner, Christina Drechsler, Georgette Dee, Anke Engelsmann, Traute Hoess, Nadine Kiesewalter, Angela Schmid, Ursula Höfner-Tabori, Angela Winkler, Dejan Bucin, Winfried Peter Goos, Jürgen Holtz, Christopher Nell, Sabin Tambrea, Georgios Tsivanoglou actors
Stefan Rager conductor, percussion
Hans-Jörg Brandenburg keyboards
Dominic Bouffard guitar
Andreas Henze double bass
Isang Quartett
Sang Ha Hwang violin
Ilzoo Park violin
Uhjin Cheol viola
Hoon Sun Chae cello

Sponsored by DNB and DNV GL
**Hugsjá**

A historical world premiere.

Indigenous and contemporary music are woven together in an imposing new work by Einar Selvik and Ivar Bjørnson, familiar from Wardruna and Enslaved respectively. Norse and Norwegian poetry, accompanied by instruments from the Stone Age up to the present day, resonate in us just as they would have done with our forebears.

The Norse word hugsjá means to remember – literally ‘to see in the mind’. Focused on ideas, traditions and instruments from our Norse past, the work recounts Norwegian history while drawing lines to the present. Devoid of religious and political agendas and without romanticising the past, Hugsjá gives us space to reflect on ourselves and Norway as a nation.

The commissioned work is a result of a series of concerts under the name Nordvegen (‘the northern road’, see p. 80), performed in four venues in the west of Norway. Bjørnson and Selvik have designed concerts inspired by local history for each of these places, and now combine the results into a major work in Grieghallen.

The prize-winning composers and musicians perform on guitar, keyboards and Hardanger fiddle alongside historical instruments such as the Kravik lyre and goat’s horn in this development of Skuggsjá, which was created for the bicentenary of the Norwegian constitution in 2014. The project was a great success both nationally and internationally, with the album Ivar Bjørnson & Einar Selvik’s Skuggsjá (2016) reaching ninth place in the Billboard World Music charts.

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**Einar Selvik**

song, Kravik lyre, various historical instruments

**Ivar Bjørnson**

guitars, effects, song

**Iver Sandøy**

drums, percussion, song

**Silje Solberg**

Hardanger fiddle, song

**Håkon Vinge**

keyboard, song

**Nico Benz, Showlab**

lighting

**Stein David Baastad**

sound

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**IVAR BJØRNSON (1977–) / EINAR SELVIK (1979–)**

Hugsjá

World premiere

Supported by H. Westfal-Larsen og Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsens Almennytjige Fond

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**Afterparty: Hugsjá**

Welcome to more Hugsjá in Tårnsalen after the concert in Grieghallen. You can look forward to musical contributions by Ivar Bjørnson and Einar Selvik and to DJs Arne Sandvoll and Lindy Fay Helle from Waldruna. The bar is open, the mood is mellow and the opportunity to meet the artists is up for grabs.

Tickets include finger food and a welcome drink inspired by the historical theme of the evening, served by the Festival Restaurant Lysverket (p. 11).

Produced by Lysverket
The crash of waves from the Norse era in an innovative major work.

The shipping route Nordvegen – the origin of the name Norway – was for three thousand years what connected Norway to the world and the world to Norway. Ivar Bjørnson (Enslaved) and Einar Selvik (Wardruna) take us on a spectacular journey along this route in a musical declaration of love to Norwegian coastal culture and Norse history.

In the concert series Nordvegen Bjørnson and Selvik further develop their successful performance Skuggsjá, which they composed for the bicentenary of the Norwegian constitution in 2014. In each of the four ports of call the unique history of the place, from the Stone Age to the present day, is related in words and music. What can the local identity of these four communities along the west coast tell of greater national identity? Instruments from our own era are combined with goat’s horn, lyre, tagel (bowed) harp and other apparatuses from Norway’s earliest musical history, and Norse traditions are forcefully, gently and wisely woven into the music of today. Each performance is distinctive, with local forces, local identities and different music.

The Nordvegen concerts create an acoustic and intimate basis for the grandiose commissioned work Hugsjá, which will receive its world premiere in Grieghallen on Wednesday 31 May (p. 78). Bjørnson and Selvik have both won national and international awards for their music, including several Spellemann prizes, the Norwegian Grammy. Selvik is also a co-composer of the music for the television series Vikings.

Einar Selvik song, Kravik lyre, various historical instruments
Ivar Bjørnson guitars, effects, song
Iver Sandøy drums, percussion, song
Silje Solberg Hardanger fiddle, song
Håkon Vinje keyboard, song

In collaboration with Agderforskning, Bekkjarvik Eiendom AS, Bekkjarvik Gjestgiveri, Hotel Ullensvang, Lysverket, Moster Amfi, Oseana Kunst- og Kultursenter and Solstrand Hotel & Bad, supported by Regional Research Fund for Western Norway.

Supported by Hordaland County Council
Nordvegen: Bekkjarvik

Mighty whispers from the majestic King’s Mountain.

Bekkjarvik is a central harbour in the coastal route to the north and south. The four great burial mounds atop the King’s Mountain have long been prominent landmarks and signs of heritage for boats sailing in and past, and are key elements of the concert in Hengjo. Equally important is Bergsveinn Birgisson, author and doctor of Norse philology, who will provide informative and entertaining descriptions of Nordvegen and life along the route of Ivar Bjørnson and Einar Selvik’s music.

In daytime the whole family is invited to join a historical walk back to the viking era. The walk starts in the centre at 12 midday and finishes at the mountain about 2½ hours later.

Festival Restaurant Bekkjarvik Gjestgiveri (p. 10) will serve a special Norse-inspired menu.

Nordvegen: Moster

Ancient sagas and magnificent scenery in historical harmony.

Moster and Bømlo constitute an ideal starting point for a Nordvegen work: toolmakers were rife in the Stone Age and Vikings held court here. In this concert nature, prehistoric artefacts and sagas are all involved in shedding light on the cause of Moster being such an important place for king, priest and merchant.

As was the case in Bekkjarvik, Einar Selvik and Ivar Bjørnson are joined by author and doctor in Norse philology Bergsveinn Birgisson. With massive tones and lively descriptions they draw memories of long ago into the present age.

Every summer since 1984 Moster Amfi has presented Mostraspellet, a pageant of the kings of the Saga era. The Nordvegen concert concludes the weekend of Mostraspellet in Moster Amfi.

Nordvegen: Ullensvang

History in the area of the god of hunting.

Ullensvang takes its name from the god of hunting, Ullin. Places with names derived from Ullin were often religious centres and holy sites where people from the environs gathered for worship and ritual. In the beautiful surroundings of the outdoor amphitheatre the composers conjure up stories and traditions from both Ullensvang and the magnificent scenery around.

Evidence suggests that Os has been an important and strategic Nordvegen port, with a wealth of artefacts dating from the early Stone Age and burial places visible from the sea. Bjørnson and Selvik make a point of this in their performance, along with the rich boatbuilding traditions of the area and Bronze Age rock art.

The performance is divided into two separate parts. At 17:00 at Solstrand Hotel & Bad the history of Os is presented in a lecture and a walk to Oseana, where the concert itself starts at 19:00. The walk is free of charge and open to all. In the event of large numbers, those with tickets to the Oseana concert will be given preference. It is possible to park at Oseana and take a boat from Os Quay to Solstrand at 16:30.

At 16:30 the concert concludes in a pageant of the kings of the Saga era. The four great burial mounds are rife in the Stone Age and Viking held court here. In this concert nature, prehistoric artefacts and sagas are all involved in shedding light on the cause of Moster being such an important place for king, priest and merchant.
Two world premieres with the contemporary ensemble London Sinfonietta.

Nobody does contemporary repertoire quite like the London Sinfonietta. The ensemble has taken on the task of bringing the best contemporary music to the heart of today’s culture, and the impressive list of composers who have written works for them includes György Ligeti, Iannis Xenakis, Toru Takemitsu and Steve Reich. Together with Reich they also had a very successful performance at the 2015 Bergen International Festival.

The concert celebrates the Norwegian Society of Composers’ centenary, and the programme includes world premieres by the Norwegian composers Eivind Buene and Rolf Wallin. Buene’s work opens the concert, with Crescendo musicians Guro Kleven Hagen, Eivind Holtsmark Ringstad and Kian Soltani as soloists, all of whom have become favourites among the Festival audience. Wallin’s work is written for the Danish bass player Ida Nielsen, known from Prince’s band. The work mixes the composer’s classical side with his experience as a rock and jazz musician.

London Sinfonietta will also perform Workers Union, written by Louis Andriessen for ‘any loud sounding group of instruments’, and Graal Théâtre by Festival Composer and Artist in Residence Kaija Saariaho. A new version of the violin concerto will be brought to life in collaboration with director Aleksi Barrière. The soloist is Peter Herresthal, known for his interpretations of contemporary concertos with orchestras and ensembles worldwide.

‘If I were the British Government I would declare the London Sinfonietta a National Treasure … Long may they continue to make new music!’

– COMPOSER STEVE REICH

EIVIND BUENE (1973–)
Sea Change
Commissioned work supported by the Norwegian Cultural Fund
World premiere

KAJA SAARIAHO (1952–)
Graal Théâtre
LOUIS ANDRIESEN (1939–)
Workers Union

ROLF WALLIN (1957–)
Commissioned work supported by The Norwegian Composers’ Fund
World premiere

Supported by the Oticon Foundation, FINNO, the Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation and the Sibelius Society of Norway.

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 Moh, Bettina Ford Jøbsen, Hans Peter Jøbsen, The DNB Savings Bank Foundation, Dextra Musica and Talent Norge.
**887**

887 is a journey into the realm of memory by and with theatre legend Robert Lepage.

887 Murray Avenue is the address of an apartment building in Quebec City, where a taxi driver lived with his wife and three children. The youngest was called Robert, and he is the artist, director, designer and writer behind this solo performance originating from his childhood memories.

The performance explores our personal and collective memory: Why do we remember the phone number from our youth yet forget our current one? How does a childhood song withstand the test of time, permanently ingrained in our minds, while the name of a loved one escapes us? Why does meaningless information stick with us, but other, more useful information falls away?

These and other questions about our memory are distilled into a story which connects our personal, unreliable recollections with the historical and social reality.

Robert Lepage has pushed against all boundaries of drama, opera, film, multimedia installations, musical theatre and contemporary circus for almost four decades. ‘Touching, intimate, powerful’, wrote The Guardian newspaper. ‘The only way you talk about history with a capital H is to look at history with a lowercase h. I went looking for my family and I discovered the story of Quebec.’

– ROBERT LEPAGE

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**Norwegian premiere**

**DNS STORE SCENE**

**DATE/TIME**

Wednesday 24 May at 19:30
Thursday 25 May at 19:30
Friday 26 May at 19:30

**DURATION**

2:00

**LANGUAGE**

Performed in English.

**TICKET**

Standard: 490–590
Under 30: 150
Festival Card: 30% discount

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**DIALOGUES**

Who are we?

**DNS STORE SCENE**

**DATE/TIME**

Thursday 25 May at 16:00–17:00

Conversation between director Robert Lepage and Danish theatre critic Monna Dithmer (in English), see p. 36

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887 by Ex Machina/Robert Lepage
Robert Lepage script, design, direction, performance
Louisa Blair English translation
Steve Blanchet creative direction and design
Peder Bjurman dramaturg
Adèle Saint-Amand assistant director
Jean-Sébastien Côté composer and sound designer
Laurent Routhis lighting designer
Félix Fradet-Faguy image designer
Sylvain Décarie associate set designer
Ariane Sauvé associate prop designer
Jeanne Lapierre associate costumes designer
Michel Bernatchez producer for Ex Machina
Richard Castelli – Epidemic co-production Europe and Japan

Commissioned by the Arts and Culture Program of the TORONTO 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games in co-production with le lieu unique, Nantes / La Comète - Scène nationale de Châlons-en-Champagne / Edinburgh International Festival / Århus Festuge / Théâtre de la Ville-Paris / Festival d’Automme à Paris / Romaeuropa Festival 2015 / Bonlieu Scène nationale Annecy / Ysarca Art Promotions - Pilar de Yzaguirre / Célestins, Théâtre de Lyon / Le Théâtre français du Centre national des Arts d’Ottawa / SFU Woodward’s Cultural Programs, on the occasion of Simon Fraser University’s 50th Anniversary, Vancouver / Le Théâtre français du Centre national des Arts d’Ottawa / Le Théâtre du Nouveau Monde, Montréal / Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre / Théâtre du Trident, Québec / Le Coursive - Scène nationale La Rochelle / Canadian Stage, Toronto / Le Volcan-scène nationale du Havre / The Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York / The Bergen International Festival / the Barbican, London. Ex Machina is funded by the Canada Council for the Arts, Quebec’s Arts and Literature Council and the City of Quebec.

Sponsored by PwC

The British three-man band The Tiger Lillies embrace Edgar Allan Poe, ruffle his hair and laugh at his macabre jokes in this world premiere. Loosely based on Poe’s tales and poems, and inspired by his stormy and tragic life, the multimedia performance piece retains the author’s own black sense of humour while navigating the inner paths of his soul.

In a haunted palace a young poet meets the devilish Raven, who supplies him with an especially black ink, which guarantees glory and honour. The poet writes frantically and soon runs out. Desperate for more ink, he rushes through the many corridors and halls of the palace. In each room he finds a story, a poem, a page of Poe’s imagination, and everywhere there are dying maidens.

The Tiger Lillies, infamous for their characteristic sound reminiscent of opera and gypsy music and their raw passion, make music at the intersection of the offensive and the brilliant. It is three years since they last visited Bergen and its festival, and the band promise a visual nightmare and a bizarre musical extravaganza when they – joined by two actors for the occasion – delve into the unfathomable jolie laide world of Edgar Allan Poe.

‘... this trio is quite out of the ordinary ...’
– REVIEW IN A BERGEN NEWSPAPER
Carine Blanche: While they are floating

Based on refugees’ own accounts, Carte Blanche examines problems associated with asylum and human perceptions such as taste, sensuality and longing.

Refugees are often depicted as masses of people arriving in large groups. However, each individual asylum seeker makes a journey full of personal perceptions, choices, experiences, memories and privations. Even though the journey takes place in the company of others, many are also very much alone with the responsibility for themselves and their secrets. These are the individual transit stories that Carte Blanche dare to let themselves be captivated by in this world premiere.

The choreographer is Hooman Sharifi, director of Carte Blanche, Norway’s national company for contemporary dance, who himself came to Norway from Iran alone as a young asylum seeker in 1988. He is particularly interested in the artistic expression that may arise when dance, theatre and visual art meet. Sharifi’s vocabulary of movement is physically challenging, intense and powerful, examining the deeper emotions lurking behind power, political systems and violence.

Hooman Sharifi choreography, concept
Rikke Baewert choreography assistant
Helge Sten music

Caroline Eckly, Judith Arupa, Noam Eidelman Shatil, Olga Stetsyuk, Anne Lise Pettersen, Guro Rimeslåtten, Ole Martin Meland, Daniel Garcia Mariblanca, Yousef Sbeih, Adrian Bartczak, Dawid Lorenc, Einar-Anton Nirkkerud, Jack Lorentzen, Mathias Stoltenberg dancers

A coproduction by the Bergen International Festival and Carte Blanche.

Sustain

A celebration of life – and a disturbing yet beautiful concert performance about the basis of our existence.

The composer duo Sagn has created a musical piece about the relationship between human and nature. Together with the artistic team they have developed a concert performance that touches on some of the most central problems the world faces today. The temperature is rising, the weather is becoming more and more extreme, and newspapers claim that by 2050 the ocean will contain more plastic than fish. Bodil Lunde Rørtveit’s versatile voice is at the centre of the work alongside the percussion of Terje Isungset. Though the performance is without words, that does not mean it does not express an opinion; on the contrary, it does so with force. The set is inspired by Chris Jordan’s photographs of bird carcasses with plastic in their stomachs, built up from feathers, bones and plastic waste. This also is the basis for a unique soundscape. Through an auditive and visual universe we turn our sights inward into ourselves, and see how we as individuals and as a society together create a common future.

SAGN

Bodil Lunde Rørtveit composition, conceptual development, vocals
Jørn Lavoll composition, conceptual development, keyboards, vocals
Terje Isungset percussion, vocals
Annaug Ørtesheim strings, vocals
Magnus Brandseth wind instruments, vocals
Vibeke Flesland Havre conceptual development, direction, dramaturgy
Silje Sandodden Kise conceptual development, set design, instrument design, costume design
Thorolf Thuestad sound design, instrument design
Silje Grimstad light design
Hans Kristian Sennestad instrument design, instrument building
Hjaldele Steinsvik production

World premiere
STUDIO BERGEN
DATE/TIME
Friday 26 and Saturday 27 May, Monday 29 May – Friday 02 June, Monday 05 and Tuesday 06 June at 20:00
DURATION
1:30
TICKET
Standard: 320
Under 30: 150
DN Fordel: 275
Festival Card: 30% discount

World premiere
CORNER-TEATERET
DATE/TIME
Thursday 25 May at 20:00
Friday 26 May at 18:00 and 20:00
DURATION
1:00
RECOMMENDED AGES
From 12 years
TICKET
Standard: 290
Under 30: 150
BT Fordel: 220
Festival Card: 30% discount

DIALOGUES
Er festen over?

LITTERATURHUSET
DATE/TIME
Thursday 25 May at 13:00–14:00
Panel discussion held in Norwegian.
La Passion de Simone

A chamber opera about a philosopher and political activist.

Philosopher and teacher Simone Weil (1909–1943) grew up in a middle-class Jewish family in Paris but nonetheless sympathized with the radical workers’ movement. She joined the Spanish civil war and was a member of the French resistance during World War II.

The main character in La Passion de Simone is a modern-day figure who reflects upon Simone’s ideals. What might we learn from someone who, in an attempt to understand and fight violence and oppression, tried uncompromisingly to put herself in the place of its victims?

In the course of the opera’s monologue, we hear Weil’s own voice, at a distance, mediated through an actor. A vocal quartet represents victims of and witnesses to human oppression. The ensemble members portray each tableau as an inner landscape. The work does not describe the philosopher’s life as a series of chronological events; instead, it indicates a way of thinking. It is an agnostic prayer for human values and collective memory.

Presented by Bergen International Festival, BIT20 Ensemble and La Chambre aux Échos.

Supported by FINNO, The Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation and The Sibelius Society of Norway.

Albert & Anna

Love throughout the seasons of life in a contemporary drama by Frode Grytten.

Frode Grytten is one of Norway’s most beloved authors, and with this play he has created a beautiful homage to life-long love.

Albert and Anna, two senior citizens, have loved each other – and their garden – most of their lives. But Anna is disappearing, and when she is gone, Albert is afraid of losing himself too. In the performance, they encounter their younger selves. Humorous and warm flashbacks portray a life together through the changing seasons.

Albert & Anna is the story of an ordinary love, the kind that isn’t seen by anyone but those who share it.

Hildegun Riise direction Åse Hegrenes set design Åsmund Bæ video design

Supported by FINNO, The Norwegian-Finnish Cultural Foundation and The Sibelius Society of Norway.

Produced by Riksteateret and Den Nationale Scene

Familien som kunne snakke om alt

Absurd family comedy by Christian Lolliike.

A traditional family gathering: Let’s have a good old time together, talk about everything and nothing, and leave something unsaid. But what happens when the masks come off and everything comes crashing out and onto the table?

You’re invited to a Christmas dinner directed by Christian Lolliike, one of Scandinavia’s most prominent contemporary playwrights.

This family can discuss anything – parenting, body image, war trauma, CO₂ quotas and religion – but doesn’t know when to stop and prevent the situation from escalating into the absurd.

Peer Perez Ølén direction Erlend Loe, Peer Perez Ølén adaption, translation Katja Ebbel Frederiksen set and costume design Sandra Kolstad music Anne Skumsvoll, Stig Amund, Ragnhild Gudbrandsen, Marianne Nielsen, Jonatan Filip, Kim Kalsås, Frode Bjørv, Julia Bach-Wilg, Sandra Kolstad and Jehad Aldebes actors

Produced by Den Nationale Scene

Vinter by Jon Fosse

An impossible love story.

A businessman meets a drunk woman on a bench outside his hotel. He surprises himself by taking her to his room.

Minor coincidences can set off avalanches. In Vinter (‘Winter’) Norwegian playwright Jon Fosse portrays the longing after, and the fear of, letting yourself be carried away.

The performance is an exclusive and intimate experience. 30 audience members follow the couple from the bench, to the hotel room and then to the bar, catching glimpses of two very different lives and the development of a unique love story.

Vinter by Jon Fosse Anne-Karen Hytten guide Kristoffer Sagmo Aalberg, Stine Robin Berg Hansen actors

A collaboration between Den Nationale Scene and Scandic Neptun
Jan Groth

**Festival Exhibition**

Jan Groth has a unique position in Norwegian visual art. Over several decades his famous ‘line’ has been articulated again and again — in drawings, tapestries and sculptures — without ever losing relevance in his own time.

The 2017 Bergen International Festival Exhibition includes a number of new works made especially for the show and will primarily focus on drawings and sculpture; two media which in different ways express Jan Groth’s distinctive combination of the immediate and the gradual.

For large parts of his career Groth has worked outside Norway. He made his international breakthrough in New York in the 70s, and is well represented in the major museums worldwide. At the same time he has maintained a constant presence on the Norwegian art scene.

The Festival Exhibition, produced by Bergen Kunsthall since 1953, is established as one of Norway’s most important solo exhibitions.

**JAN GROTH (1930-)**

**Martin Clark and Steinar Sekkingstad curators**

Peter Sheppard Skærved:

**Signs.**

**Runes for Jan Groth**

**World premiere**

**BERGEN KUNSTHALL**

**DATE**

Saturday 27 May at 12:00-13:00 & 15:00-16:30

Sunday 28 May at 12:00-13:00 & 15:00-16:30

**TICKET**

Pop-up concerts are free, but require an entrance ticket to Kunsthallen.

Adults: 50

Senior/student: 25

Children, members of Bergen Kunsthall, art students and members of NBK: free admission

**A musical dialogue with Festival Artist Jan Groth’s work.**

Peter Sheppard Skærved, violinist, performer and storyteller in equal proportions, likes to mix contemporary music with less commonly performed repertoire — often treasures he has dug up himself.

This time he wants to surprise, enchant and disturb visitors to the festival exhibition of the work of Jan Groth.

On his playlist for these pop-up concerts is a new cycle of Signs — caprices for solo instruments and early music by various composers. The works reflect the dialogue between Peter Sheppard Skærved and Jan Groth, emanating from some of the fundamental aspects of Groth’s work and attitudes towards such Nordic traditions as the runic alphabet.

**Works by**

**PETER SHEPPARD SKÆRVED, MARINI, BASSANO, TORELLI, DE MACHY, MATTEIS AND MORE.**

**Musical Writings**

**H.M. Queen Sonja in KODE 1**

**Through her life, HM Queen Sonja has always had a passionate relationship to the arts and the cultural field.**

The Queen has been an enthusiastic promoter of Norwegian art and design both nationally and internationally, and as a personal collector she has supported both visual art and art handicraft. In later years the Queen has applied her lifelong devotion and knowledge to exploring various artistic techniques.

On the occasion of HM Queen Sonja’s 80th birthday and the reopening of KODE 1, previously Permanen, KODE Art Museums of Bergen will hold an exhibition principally dedicated to the Queen’s works within the fields of graphic and fictile art.

Read more at www.kodebergen.no
Dialogues

We invite our audiences to take part in a range of talks and debates linked to the Festival programme. The ones listed beneath are conducted in English.

Meet Rufus Wainwright

LITTERATURHUSSET, AUDITORIUM

DATE/TIME
Sunday 28 May at 16:00–17:00

Canadian artist Rufus Wainwright (p. 96) is known for both his pop music and opera compositions, and has created the music for Shakespeare’s Sonnets (p. 77). Festival Director Anders Beyer invites him to share thoughts and anecdotes on creativity, composition and the drive to cross artistic boundaries.

Festivals of the Future

LITTERATURHUSSET, AUDITORIUM

DATE/TIME
Tuesday 30 May at 16:00–17:00

A number of festivals experience growing expectations to cross artistic genres and conventions in their curating. Festival Director Anders Beyer has invited the leaders of the Luminato Festival in Toronto, as well as the Edinburgh and Helsinki Festivals, to share their experiences. How does a festival leader maintain the core identity of the institution, all while being at the forefront in steering the festival towards the future?

Talking Balance with Kaija Saariaho

LITTERATURHUSSET, OLAV H. HAAUGE

DATE/TIME
Monday 29 May at 19:00–20:00

In the course of a 30 year-long career, Kaija Saariaho has established herself as one of the most highly respected and performed composers of the world. When one of operas was staged in New York last year, it was the first time since 1903 that The Metropolitan Opera staged an opera composed by a woman. ‘It just shows how slowly these things evolve. But they are evolving in all fields, also in music’, Saariaho (p. 7) says. She meets Norwegian composers Rebecka Ahvenniemi and Rune Rebne to discuss the gender gap in composition. In collaboration with Balansekunst.

Who was Simone Weil?

CORNERTHEATER

DATE/TIME
Wednesday 31 May at 19:15

The main character in Kaija Saariaho’s chamber opera La Passion de Simone (p. 92) is a modern day figure reflecting upon the ideals of philosopher and teacher Simone Weil (1909–1943). In this conversation between Alexi Barrière, director of La Passion de Simone, and historian and Associate Professor at the University of Oslo, Christine Amadou, the audience can get to know Weil’s life and work, touching upon the subjects of human responsibility and modern martyrdom. The conversation might enable a deeper and more nuanced interpretation of the performance itself.

Transport and accommodation

Transport to Bergen

There are many routes to Bergen. For a complete overview, go to Visit Bergen at www.visitbergen.com/travel and accommodation in connection with Nordvegen (p. 80).

Accommodation

Stay in the city center, near the airport, along the beautiful coast or by the famous fjords. The selection of accommodation in Bergen is many and suits all budgets. For a complete overview, visit www.visitbergen.com/transportation.

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.

Nordvegen

Please visit www.fib.no/venues for an overview of transportation, parking and accommodation in connection with our Nordvegen concerts (p. 80).
The Festival thanks

Aud Jebsen

One of our new Festival ambassadors this year is Aud Jebsen, who has a longstanding commitment to the cultural life in Bergen. Through Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen, the family support various cultural institutions and projects, among these Bergen International Festival.

At the 65th Festival, Aud Jebsen is contributing by supporting Acosta Danza: Debut (p. 24) in Grieghallen, where the audience will delight in this performance by award winning Cuban dancer and choreographer Carlos Acosta, who following his exceptional international career has gathered Cuba’s most outstanding dancers in the dance company Acosta Danza.

Bergen International Festival represents innovation and artistic development, which includes attracting the world’s most outstanding creative and performing artists. In order to realize this ambition, we are dependent on committed and ambitious Festival ambassadors who appreciate the value of a strong Norwegian cultural life. Aud Jebsen is an ambassador of this calibre; her aesthetic sense and appreciation of art of the highest international quality contributes to giving the audience inspiring and challenging experiences during the Festival.

The Festival thanks Aud Jebsen for her contribution.

The Festival thanks

Per Gunnar Strømberg Rasmussen /Strømberg Gruppen

Per Gunnar Strømberg Rasmussen/Strømberg Gruppen has joined us as Festival ambassador this year. Strømberg Gruppen, like the Festival, considers quality to be one of their core values. Furthermore the company is concerned with taking social responsibility, also through art and culture.

His reason for becoming Festival ambassador, states Rasmussen, is that he believes the Festival is currently experiencing an exciting development. He wishes to contribute to the Festival fulfilling their vision of lifting the programme locally, nationally, and across borders.

Bergen International Festival is grateful for the support from Per Gunnar Stromberg Rasmussen/Strømberg Gruppen.

The Festival thanks

Espen Galtung Døsvig /EGD

Espen Galtung Døsvig/EGD has become Festival ambassador in 2017. Like the Festival, EGD is a company with longstanding traditions in Bergen. Since its foundation in 1907, the company has ensured its growth by adjusting its strategy in accordance with the changes in the markets and society in general.

As Festival ambassador Espen Galtung Døsvig wants to contribute to carrying the Festival into the future. He is also engaged in developing Bergen as a city of art and culture – through contemporary art of the highest quality, among other things – and the Festival’s position in this project.

The Festival is grateful for the support from Espen Galtung Døsvig/EGD.

The Festival thanks

Yvonne & Bjarne Rieber /Rika AS

For many years, Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber/Rika AS 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 audiences and make culture accessible to a broader public.

In 2017 Yvonne and Bjarne Rieber/Rika AS, together with Trond Mohn, support the concert with the superstar pianist Lang Lang in Grieghallen (p. 38). Lang Lang was born in 1982, and has long been considered one of today’s greatest stars of classical music. He is well-known for his open-hearted, emotive playing, and has played to sold out concerts across the globe.

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

GRIEG FOUNDATION

The Grieg Foundation supports numerous charitable projects worldwide, with an emphasis on projects that involve children and youth, medical research and the environment. The Grieg Foundation makes an active commitment to ensuring necessary support and progress, and to contributing in ways that make a difference.

The Bergen International Festival has been a recurrent name when the foundation bestows its gifts, and we are very pleased that they wish to take part in this festival tradition in Bergen. Their contribution supports a comprehensive children’s and outdoor programme that enables children, adolescents and adults to take part in and watch quality performances – and enjoy the festival atmosphere.

The Bergen International Festival would like to thank the Grieg Foundation for their support.

DEXTRA

The Savings Bank Foundation DNB is an independent foundation that works to increase interest in and understanding of art and culture, especially among children and youth. They achieve this by supporting projects that involve good communication and encourage participation.

Dextra Musica is a subsidiary of the Savings Bank Foundation DNB, and since 2006 it has purchased valuable string instruments that it lends to Norwegian musicians.

With support from The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica the 2017 Festival presents world class young, Norwegian musicians and prominent international artists in concerts in Troldalen and in the composers’ homes of Edvard Grieg, Ole Bull and Harald Sæverud at Trolthaugen, Lysean and Siljustol.

Funds and collaboration from The Savings Bank Foundation DNB – Dextra Musica have in addition contributed to make possible the mentor programme Crescendo.

The Bergen International Festival would like to thank The DNB Savings Bank Foundation – Dextra Musica for their support.

KAVLI TRUST

The Kavli Trust supports research within medicine and other fields.

Among its many good cultural initiatives, the funds focus on providing support for young local talent, especially in music. This is done to ensure further development of a rich cultural scene in Bergen in the future.

The Funds are particularly engaged in supporting and developing projects aimed at vulnerable people in the community. Dignity in old age and in care for the elderly, for instance through music therapy, is one such area. At this year’s Festival, support from the GC Rieber Funds has made it possible to bring the performance Patina (p. 23) to Bergen and to create a Dialogue event, Leve – Mestring – Bevegelse, for people living with dementia, their next of kin, dance therapy professionals and professionals working in care for the elderly.

The Bergen International Festival is grateful for the support from the GC Rieber Funds.

H. Westfal-Larsen og Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsen’s 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 foundation, composers Einar Selvik and Ivar Bjørnson present a world premiere: Hugsjá (p. 78). The Norse word hugsjá means to remember – literally ‘to see in the mind’. Focused on ideas, traditions and instruments from our Norse past, the work recounts Norwegian history while drawing lines to the present.

The Bergen International Festival thanks H. Westfal-Larsen og Hustru Anna Westfal-Larsens Almennyttige fond for their generous contribution.

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 Bergen International Festival and Bergen National Opera present Handel’s great masterpiece, Messiah (p. 73), as part of this year’s Festival programme.

The Festival is grateful to Herman Friele who is supporting this production of one of the world’s most performed and most valued works for choir. Messiah opens Wednesday 31st May at DNS and runs until June 3rd.

GC RIEBER FOUNDATION

The GC Rieber Funds support charitable social and cultural initiatives, mainly in Bergen. They also support research within medicine and other fields.

The Festival is grateful to Herman Friele who is supporting this production of one of the world’s most performed and most valued works for choir. Messiah opens Wednesday 31st May at DNS and runs until June 3rd.

The Fritt Ord Foundation is a private philanthropic foundation whose paramount objective is to protect and promote freedom of expression and its associated structure in Norway, particularly by encouraging lively debate and the dauntless use of the free word.

Support from the Fritt Ord Foundation ensures the continuation of Dialogues (p. 96), 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 Festival thanks

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City of Bergen
Hordaland County Council

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Crescendo is supported by
Trond Mohr, Bettina Ford Jebsen,
Hans Peter Jebsen, the Savings Bank
Foundation DNB, Dextra Musica and
Talent Norway.

A BALANCING ACT

At DNV GL we value safety, quality and integrity. Our dedicated employees in 100
countries are 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 partner of Festspillene i Bergen.

Learn more about us on
www.dnvgl.com
The Bergen International Festival is under the patronage of HM King Harald V of Norway.

The Festival receives public funding from:

Aud Jebsen | Per Gunnar Stromberg Rasmussen/Stromberg Gruppen | Espen Galtung Desvig/EGD
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