

NEWS RELEASE of

44th Guitar Festival of J. K. Mertz



BRATISLAVA, June 16– 22, 2019

Guitar Festival of J. K. Mertz brings already 44 years top guitar art to the public. Solo guitar and guitar as part of various chamber ensembles will comfort its fans at the beginning of Cultural summer and the Castle festival Bratislava 2019.

Resumé:

Guitar Festival of J. K. Mertz offers guitar concerts of world top players from 9 countries, at its 44th edition. Mostly **classical guitar**, and more - **ancient music** and **jazz** in compositions by Bach, Brouwer, Godár, Möller, Rodrigo, Savall and many others. Headliners of the event are **Edin Karamazov** – the lute player of legendary *Sting*, Il Fenomeno from Italy **Aniello Desiderio**, **Arianna Savall** with her charming project *Il Viaggio d'Amore*. Of course interesting are as well programmes as *Hommage à Joaquín Rodrigo* of Slovak top player **Karol Samuelčík**, *Jazz Project* of **Juraj Burian**, or meditative *Eternal Dream* of Swedish **Johannes Möller**. And finally festival offers extraordinary programme of **Bohemian lute orchestra** with legendary **Jiri Tichota** and youth players' day with youngest Slovak guitar neophytes and winners of European competitions **Carlo Curatolo** and **Chiawei Lin**. All this will be in June in the frame of **Cultural summer and the Castle festival Bratislava 2019**.

The whole world remembers this year 20th anniversary of death of Spanish composer *Joaquín Rodrigo*. The leading Slovak guitarist **Karol Samuelčík** will take audience through not only Rodrigo's music but also through music of his ancestors. Guitar music lovers can also enjoy the most famous guitar concert - *Concerto de Aranjuez*.

World-renowned Slovak guitarist **Juraj Burian** has invited his musical friends - Slovak bass-guitarist **Juraj Griglák** and Swedish percussionist and composer **Johan Svensson**. This trio will make a pleasant summer night to all jazz lovers at the charming **St. Jan Nepomucký Court**, hidden inside of the complex of Primate's Palace.

Singer and harpist **Arianna Savall** will present in the Klarisky Concert Hall magical project *Il Viaggio d'Amore* together with her husband, singer and violinist **Petter Udland Johansen** and guitarist **Michal Nagy** as trio **Hirundo Maris**. They will take the audience on "the way of love" throughout Europe, different seasons and cultures.

Every century has its musical phenomenon. Phenomenon musicians of past centuries were e.g. Vivaldi, Mozart, Paganini or Segovia. Now comes from Italian Napoli „*Il Fenomeno*“ and it **Aniello Desiderio**. It is hard to find the words after his performing. However, jazzman *Chick Corea* found some when he said about him: "Actually he knocked me out!".

Thursday will belong to juveniles. At first will present their selves in Klarisky Concert Hall the best young Slovak guitarists – laureates of competitions for children and the guitar orchestra Gitarika. After them will come current winners of international guitar competitions **Carlo Curatolo** and **Chiawei Lin**.

Friday night will be meditative. Young Swede **Johannes Möller** devotes besides classical repertoire also to his own compositions, inspiring himself by Eastern cultures and their music. In intimate atmosphere of Klarisky church will sound his last project *Eternal Dream*.

Edin Karamazov - guitarist and court lutenist of famous *Sting*. At the closing concert of the festival will he perform works of baroque genius *J. S. Bach* and extraordinary composers of present – Cuban *Leo Brouwer* and Slovak *Vlado Godár*. On concert will perform also Slovak top-level artists – singer **Petra Noskaiová** and string **Mucha Quartet**.

One week before the main festival programme will be special concert of **Bohemian Lute Orchestra** with the title "*Melodies from the good old days*". On the programme will be melodies by authors such as *P. Attainant*, *J. Dowland*, *T. Susato*, *Jacobides* and *M. Praetorius*, some of them also with Czech lyrics. **Jiří Tichota**, musicologist and founders of ensemble *Spirituál Kvintet*, will share with us some interesting stories and discoveries from his research.

The festival offers besides concerts also other additional activities. In June 19-21 will take place at Music and Dance faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava masterclasses, lectures and discussions for guitar students and teachers.

The festival is taking place under the patronage of the Bratislava Mayor Matúš Vallo. The festival is supported using public funding by Slovak Arts Council – main partner and Bratislava Self-Governing Region.

More info at: www.jkmertz.com

Tickets are available in Ticketportal network or an hour before the concert at the place of the event.

Organiser of event: SOCIETY OF J. K. MERTZ

Residence: Rozvodná 11B, 83101 Bratislava, IČO: 42131570, DIČ: 2022558208

Contact: +421 903 951 618, Mail: festival.jkmertz.info@gmail.com

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CONCERTS OF THE MAIN PROGRAMME	
June 16	HOMMAGE À JOAQUÍN RODRIGO Karol Samuelčík (SK) Karin Remencová (SK) 7 pm <i>Hall of Mirrors of Primate's Palace</i>
June 17	JURAJ BURIAN JAZZ PROJECT Juraj Burian (SK) Juraj Griglák (SK) Johan Svensson (SE) 7 pm <i>St. Jan Nepomucký Court, Primate's Palace</i>
June 18	IL VIAGGIO D'AMORE HIRUNDO MARIS Arianna Savall (ES) Petter Udland Johansen (NO) Michał Nagy (PL) 7 pm <i>Klarisky Concert Hall</i>
June 19	IL FENOMENO Aniello Desiderio (IT) 7 pm <i>Hall of Mirrors of Primate's Palace</i>
June 20	VEČER VÍŤAZOV 5 pm I. Laureates of Slovak guitar competitions for children 7 pm II. Laureates of International guitar competitions Carlo Curatolo (IT) Chia-Wei Lin (TW) <i>Klarisky Concert Hall</i>
June 21	ETERNAL DREAM Johannes Möller (SE) 7 pm <i>Klarisky Concert Hall</i>
June 22	KARAMAZOV PLAYS BACH – GODÁR - BROUWER Edin Karamazov (BA) Petra Noskaiová (SK) Mucha Quartet (SK) 7 pm <i>Hall of Mirrors of Primate's Palace</i>
ADDITIONAL CONCERT	
June 9	MELODIES FROM THE GOOD OLD DAYS Bohemian Lute Orchestra & Pavel Peroutka & Jří Tichota (CZ) 7 pm <i>Pálffy Palace on Zámocká Street</i>