

festival
des forêts
Forêts de Compiègne
et de Laigue
30 ans



March 2022

Press Release

30 years of music in the forest !

An unmissable summer event, the Festival des Forêts is celebrating this year its 30th anniversary, and will propose from June the 21st to July the 16th 2022 an edition full of surprises and creations !

Culture is, more than ever, necessary during the turbulent times that we are living, therefore, the Festival and its President and artistic director Bruno Ory-Lavollée propose for this 30th season an innovative and festive program.

This exceptional season will illustrate the values carried by the Festival for 30 years now, which are its characteristics :

- attachment to a territory amidst the 2nd forest of France ;
- alchemy between music and nature, a boundless source of inspiration ;
- architectural heritage hosting the concerts, a link between past and future ;
- essential place of today's music and composers ;
- new forms of concerts ;
- boost for young talents and faithfulness of artists who enchanted us ;
- social implication and environment involvement of the volunteers in the organization of the events ;
- support of a regional and european network of partners, public and private.

More than 200 artists will perform during 25 concerts and 6 musical forest baths.

CONCERTS

Music is joyful ! With this saying, and always looking for new links between the audience and the performers, the Festival des Forêts stands far from the beaten tracks.

- The **anniversary weekend** will start with the great 30 years concert with Orchestre de Picardie conducted by Arie van Beek, a picnic and a cruise on the river Aisne will be proposed as well as fireworks, and as a highpoint, Thierry Escaich will play his concerto N°1 under the celestial dome on a mobile organ called « Gulliver » ! Two more days of events will be offered within the Prieuré de Saint-Pierre-en-Chastres, the new cradle of the Festival amidst the forest : a musical forest bath, Schubertiades, After surprise at midnight, a concert for children, discovery walk and music in the forest, before hearing the Trio Wanderer, 30 years after ! (they inaugurated the first edition of the festival).
- **The Fête de la Musique** concert at the water edge : an immersion in the forest with **Chanteurs d'Oiseaux** (birds singing), cinema-concert outside the Château de Pierrefonds, a **video-mapping creation** between classical and jazz, or outdoors around the Ourscamp Abbey ruins.

RENOWNED ARTISTS

- **Rheinische Philharmonie** conducted by **Shiyeon Sung** will play **the Firebird** in the **Théâtre Impérial in Compiègne**, and Lalo's Spanish Symphony with one of today's most brilliant violinists, **Tianwa Yang**.
- **Open Chamber Orchestra** founded in 2017 by conductor and violinist **Yaïr Benaïm** will perform for the second time for the Festival, with pianist **Dana Ciocarlie** and clarinetist **Philippe Cuper**, a concert around the Quintet for clarinet and **piano concerto N°23**.
- **Nicolas Stavy** and **Vassilena Serafimova** will perform the wonderful Sonata N°7 for piano and bells by Boris Tichtchenko a Russian composer who learnt with Dimitri Chostakovitch (he died in 2010).
- **Adrien Boisseau**, altist, will be present once more with pianist **Gaspard Dehaene**, They will pay a tribute to the « Plat Pays » with works starting with César Franck and ending with Jacques Brel whose various pieces have been transcribed.
- The 30th season of the Festival will end with two days of « Carte Blanche » given to pianist **Lucas Debargue** who lived in Compiègne : a piano solo recital and two concerts with David and Alexandre Castro-Balbi performing the trio that he has composed (piano-violine-cello), and also Charly Mandon's trio,

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE AND CREATIONS

For the third year, **Thierry Escaich**, composer in residence for the Festival des Forêts, is continuing his partnership.

The audience will be able to discover some of his works : the « Messe Romane » for choirs and organ by **Scola Cantorum from Oxford**, his trio « Lettres mêlées », by Trio Messiaen with piano, « Scènes d'enfants au Crépuscule » by **Trio Wanderer**, and « Variations Gothiques » for quartet with flute by Ensemble Hélios.

- He will continue the Academy for young composers : four young composers will write a work for trio with piano under his supervision which will be performed by Trio Messiaen
- **8 works in worldwide creation** will be performed during this 2022 season : Sonata opus 16 for violin solo, composed and created by **Elise Bertrand** (an order of the Festival), Pluie, larmes de la Terre, a work for horn and piano (an order of the festival with Ars Terra) by composer **Camille Pépin**, O Pluie, for choir and percussion by Bernadette Clozel, a piece for orchestra by **Mathieu Stefanelli** and finally the works written by the four laureates of the Léo Delibes Academy : Lisa Heute, Inès Halimi, Adrien Daussy and Hadrien Fournier

MUSICAL FOREST BATHS

A large space will be reserved to our **Musical Forest Baths** which embody the alchemy between music and nature, a landmark of the Festival allowing a unique experience for self-resourcing,

6 Musical Forest Baths will be proposed with first range musicians, in particular violinist and composer **Elise Bertrand**, clarinetist **Florent Pujaila**, cellist **Aurélien Pascal**, and violinist **Marie-Astrid Hulot** who will also perform with cellist **Jean-Baptiste Mazières**.

The Musical Forest Baths combine the benefits of the contact with nature (they take place in the forest) and music (with the presence of the artists) and they favor self-resourcing (thanks to exercises taken from sophrology, yoga and Qi-gong), It's a three-hour immersion into the forest with a precise progression, The group of about 20 participants is accompanied by a coach and a musician,

Musical Forest Baths are inspired by the japanese tradition of shinrin yoku (literally forest bath), Scientific studies have shown the various benefits for the health, Moreover, during the musical breaks, the audience is offered a real musical program together with an attentive and sometimes meditative approach, and music performed by artists.

Since the first experiments in 2018 and their full part in the program of the festival in 2020, the musical forest bath have become really successful, and they are now proposed all year long for individuals as well as companies.

USEFUL INFORMATION

TICKETING / DETAILED PROGRAM OF THE CONCERTS AVAILABLE AS of April the 8th 2022

- On line : www.festivaldesforets.fr
- By phone : 03 44 40 28 99

ACCES

- **By road**
From Paris : A1 highway (85 km) , towards Lille

- **By train**
55' starting from Paris Gare du Nord
- **Locally**
Free shuttles for each event outside Compiègne

PRESS

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