



SWISS ORCHESTRA

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music

Press Release, 15 December 2022

New Year's programme of music from the late Romantic period in Andermatt and Zurich

The Swiss Orchestra performs exciting music of the Belle Époque

Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer and the Swiss Orchestra ring in the new year with an exciting programme of orchestral music. Compositions from the Belle Époque era are celebrated in Andermatt (1st January) and Zurich (2nd January). Well-known works from Richard Strauss, Johann Strauss I and II, Camille Saint-Saëns, Jules Massenet and Gustav Mahler will be performed, as well as works by Swiss composers Hans Huber and Joseph Lauber.

The period from the late 19th into the early 20th century, known as the Belle Époque, was a golden era for the arts. Poets, authors, and composers performed salon music in renowned hotels. The time was marked by a surge in culture and industry throughout Europe. Artistic life flourished during this "beautiful era". In large cities, people came together on the boulevards, in cafés and cabarets, in studios and galleries, and in concert halls and salons. As well as in historic luxury hotels such as the "Grand Hotel Bellevue" in Andermatt, which is now The Chedi. The Belle Époque was lived and celebrated intensively here too.

Composers were attracted to Switzerland. Sergei Rachmaninoff, who had a summer home in Weggis, Hans Huber, who spent some of his last years in Vitznau, and Richard Strauss, who lived the last three years of his life in Swiss hotels, are all proudly represented on this concert programme.

Melodies to revel in

For their New Year's Concert, the Swiss Orchestra will perform such timeless gems as Gustav Mahler's popular "Adagietto", the symphonic poem "Danse macabre" by Camille Saint-Saëns, and the "Méditation" from Jules Massenet's opera "Thaïs", considered one of the most romantic pieces of all time. The audience will also enjoy some Swissness with the "Humoreske" and "Cavatina" by Hans Huber (1852–1921), and "Suite pour Orchestre à Cordes" by Joseph Lauber (1864–1952). And it would not be a New Year's concert without a traditional performance of the Radetzky March by Johann Strauss I. The audience is cordially invited to clap along. The evening's soloists are native of Valais and soprano Franziska Heinzen, the Swiss virtuoso Alexander Boldachev, harp, and Swiss Orchestra concert master and violinist Sherniyaz Mussakhan.

Tour dates

01.01.2023	Andermatt, Concert Hall	4:30 PM
02.01.2023	Zürich, Kunsthaus (Chipperfield Bau)	5:00 PM

Symphony Concert

Swiss Orchestra

Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer, conductor

Franziska Andrea Heinzen, soprano

Alexander Boldachev, harp

Sherniyaz Mussakhan, violin



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Programme

Hans Huber (1852 – 1921)

Richard Strauss (1864 – 1949)

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873 – 1943)

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835 – 1921)

Gustav Mahler (1860 – 1911)

Joseph Lauber (1864 – 1952)

Jules Massenet (1842 – 1912)

Johann Strauss II (1825 – 1899)

Johann Strauss I (1804 – 1849)

Humoreske. Allegro vivace

Cavatina. Adagio molto espressivo

Morgen op. 27, No. 4

Vocalise

Danse macabre

Adagietto (from Symphony No. 5)

Suite for string orchestra

Méditation (from the opera «Thaïs»)

Annen-Polka

Radetzky-March

Tickets

- Under <https://swissorchestra.ch/en/new-year-concerts/>

- Advance ticket purchase for Andernatt also through Ticketcorner or on +41 (0)41 888 15 88

- Advance ticket purchase for Zurich also through Ticketino, or call the Hotline 0900 441 441 (CHF 1.00/min.)

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The Swiss Orchestra

The Swiss Orchestra was founded in 2018 by conductor Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer. Dedicated to Swiss symphonic works, the orchestra presents popular classics along with less well known but equally outstanding pieces by Swiss composers. In December 2020, it released its debut CD with two world premiere recordings. The orchestra is made up of professional musicians of the younger generations, together with world-class instrumentalists from distinguished symphonic and chamber music ensembles. The Swiss Orchestra defines itself as an orchestra for the whole of Switzerland, and will also be touring in the future. The ensemble has been the Andernatt Concert Hall's orchestra in residence since January 2022.