



## THE THEME OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup> ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL “THE SONG OF NATURE”

### 42<sup>nd</sup> ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL 31 MAY-27 JUNE 2014

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Istanbul Music Festival organised by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV) under the sponsorship of Borusan Holding welcomes music lovers with an impressive programme this year. This year’s programme of the Istanbul Music Festival was announced with the press meeting held on 23 January.

The Istanbul Music Festival sponsored by Borusan Holding since 2006 will be held between 31 May and 27 June around the theme “The Song of Nature”. The programme of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Istanbul Music Festival was announced with a press meeting held at Martı Istanbul Hotel, official accommodation sponsor of İKSV. Borusan Holding Member of Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Borusan Kocabıyık Foundation Zeynep Hamedî and Istanbul Music Festival Director Yeşim Gürer Oymak participated to the press meeting.

**Borusan Holding Member of Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Borusan Kocabıyık Foundation Zeynep Hamedî** stated: *“2014 is a significant year both for Borusan and Borusan Culture and Arts. Our holding celebrates the 70th anniversary of its foundation while the Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra celebrates its 15th anniversary. Sustainability of direct or indirect works by Borusan in order to raise cultural and educational level of our society and seeing the beautiful results of these works are a source of pride for us, the second generation, who commit ourselves to sustain the vision of our founder Asım Kocabıyık and understanding within the roots of Borusan’s corporate philosophy. 2013 was a compelling year for our country in every aspect. We hope that we can come out of this social dynamism with unity and solidarity, and an understanding which does not despise but embrace differences. We think that unifying power of the arts is even more important than ever. We hope that our festival can bring these significant values to our agendas through art.”*

The Istanbul Music Festival Director informed about this year’s theme and programme of the festival and stated that music enthusiasts will hear the sound of nature not only in thematic pieces, but also in open-air “Classical Sundays” concerts at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Istanbul Music Festival which is organised under the theme “The Song of Nature”. Yeşim Gürer Oymak provided detailed information on the theme and programme of this year’s festival and added that *“This year, the festival features 26 events in a variety of genres from baroque to contemporary music. Among these are concerts by symphony and chamber orchestras, vocal and chamber music concerts, as well as recitals and ‘Classical Sundays’. Pre-concert talks and talks on concert programmes will continue. This year, we are going to take classical music to open air spaces and organise free concerts at various venues in Istanbul under the title ‘Classical Sundays.’”* Stating that the festival has been successful in enriching the classical music repertory with its commissions to Turkish and international composers since 2011, Yeşim Gürer Oymak underlined that the Istanbul Music Festival has come to be known with its commissions and talked about this

year's new commissions. **Yeşim Gürer Oymak** also presented the festival poster, which was designed with the collaboration of Güher and Süher Pekinel, and İKSV's Corporate Identity Advisor Bülent Erkmen.

The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival will host approximately **800 local and foreign artists** including **Steven Isserlis, Isabelle van Keulen, Alexander Raskatov, Nelson Freire, Pepe Remero, Krzysztof Penderecki, Xavier de Maistre, and Yuja Wang** as well as examples of world's leading orchestras **Sinfonia Varsovia** and **Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela** in Istanbul.

**26 concerts** in total including orchestral concerts, chamber music, vocal concerts, and recitals within the festival programme will take place in different venues this year. **Burgazada Square** as well as **Hagia Eirene Museum, Süreyya Opera House, Surp Vortvots Vorodman Church, İş Sanat Concert Hall, Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center, and Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall** will host the festival. The Istanbul Music Festival will present free-of-charge concerts titled "**Classical Sundays**" in venues such as **Maçka Cumhuriyet Parkı, Istanbul Toy Museum, Sakıp Sabancı Museum "The Horse Mansion" Garden** and **Austrian Cultural Office Garden**.

The Istanbul Music Festival continues to support young musicians with special projects in its programme. "**Istanbul Music Festival in Search of Its Young Soloist**" which started in the 40th year of the festival in order to discover and encourage young talents throughout the country will continue this year in **piano**. A young pianist, to be determined by a jury following the national audition, will perform within the festival.

Another significant youth project in the festival programme will be the concert by **Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela**, one of the most important products of the orchestral academic programme of the Fundación Musical "Simón Bolívar" led by the El Sistema founder José Antonio Abreu. **The enormous orchestra with 240 performers** will have an unforgettable concert with their colourful and powerful energy in order to reinforce our beliefs in the power of music. **Christian Vásquez**, who is one of the talents grown in **El Sistema**, will be the conductor in this concert.

The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival will host three concerts **with the cooperation of Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage celebrating 600 years of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Poland**. **Sinfonia Varsovia** will be the guest of the festival for two special concerts as well as the **world premiere** of "Crying in the Wilderness" composed by the prominent musician **Alexander Raskatov** with the commission of the festival. In their first concert, Sinfonia Varsovia will accompany the prominent pianist **Piotr Anderszewski**; while in the second concert, they will perform the Turkish premiere of the 2nd Symphony of **Krzysztof Penderecki**, one of the most important musicians alive, under the composer's baton as well as Mendelssohn's violin concerto with **Julian Rachlin**.

#### **THIS YEAR'S THEME IN THE FESTIVAL "THE SONG OF NATURE"**

The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival is planned around the theme "**The Song of Nature**" this year. The festival begins with the opening concert by young cellist **Dorukhan Doruk**, who will refer to Ahmet Adnan Saygun's work "A Forest Tale" and will be accompanied by **Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra** conducted by **Gürer Aykal**. Music enthusiasts will listen to the babbling rivers, sea waves, bird tweets, and the music of massive mountains throughout the festival, and will remember the irresistible power of nature which is the biggest source of inspiration for the arts. The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival will carry the voice of nature not only through thematic works, but also through the "**Classical Sundays**" concerts to be held in open air for the first time this year.

#### **THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL POSTER WAS DESIGNED BY GÜHER AND SÜHER PEKİNEL**

The poster of the 42nd Istanbul Music Festival was designed by **Güher** and **Süher Pekinel**, who were

awarded with the Honorary Award of the festival last year, in cooperation with **Bülent Erkmen**. Collage of oil paintings **“Sonata” and “Harmony of the Opposites” dated 1983** together with **handwriting** of world-famous **Güher** and **Süher Pekinel**, who were awarded with the Honorary Award of the 41st Istanbul Music Festival, were turned into this year’s festival poster with the design of İKSV’s Corporate Identity Advisor **Bülent Erkmen**.

About the festival poster, **Bülent Erkmen** stated that *“Pekinel Sisters are recognized together in the music world. The two paintings they finished in 1983 are collages that were done for a donation programme of an American foundation and feature their names separately. These paintings, whose originals are lost, were enlarged and redrawn electronically from a brochure page from the same year and used as ‘remakes.’ First, I deconstructed the collages, which they made separately using their individual names, and then reconstructed these collages by establishing a new relationship between pieces. The festival title carrying the signature of Güher Pekinel accompanies her painting and the title carrying Süher Pekinel’s signature accompanies hers. Then I joined together this new collage work and the edges and logos on the poster.”*

### **OPENING CONCERT OF THE 42nd ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival will begin with the opening ceremony and Opening Concert to be held on **Saturday, 31 May** at **Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center**. **Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra** conducted by **Gürer Aykal** will accompany the young cellist **Dorukhan Doruk** who was highly awarded in international competitions. Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic, the Orchestra in Residence of the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts since 2003, will perform the Opening Concert with the honorary conductor **Gürer Aykal**, with a programme referring to this year’s theme of the festival. Limited number of tickets will be on sale for the Opening Concert.

### **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AND HONORARY AWARDS OF THE FESTIVAL**

**“Honorary Award”** of the **42nd Istanbul Music Festival** will be presented to **Gülsin Onay**, who leads the way for promotion and popularity of compositions by Ahmed Adnan Saygun, for her successful career with world famous orchestras and prominent conductors. **Gülsin Onay**, who started her music career as wonder kid, has a number of works with distinguished contemporary orchestras from Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to Staatskapelle Dresden and St. Petersburg Philharmonia covering 68 countries in 5 continents from Argentina to Japan. Gülsin Onay, who has performed with prominent conductors such as Vladimir Ashkenazy and Esa-Pekka Salonen, is praised by music authorities especially for her exceptional Rachmaninov and Chopin interpretations. **Gülsin Onay** supports culture and art as well as training of young artists with Gümüşlük International Classical Music Festival and Eklisia Summer School as an advisor. She also works as UNICEF National Goodwill Ambassador for Turkey for non-governmental organisations. The award will be presented to **Gülsin Onay** during the opening ceremony to be held on **Saturday, 31 May**.

**“Lifetime Achievement Award”** of the festival will be presented to **Zubin Mehta**, who is one of the greatest conductors alive. Zubin Mehta started his career when he was 25 years old by conducting Vienna, Berlin, and Israel Philharmonic orchestras and worked as the Music Director of distinguished orchestras such as Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Bavarian State Opera, and Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. Mehta is the Music Director for Life of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and has also been presented with numerous awards and medals. One of the last representatives of the legendary conductors’ tradition **Zubin Mehta** will be presented with his award on **Saturday, 21 June** at **Hagia Eirene Museum** before the concert of the harpist **Xavier de Maistre** and **L’Arte del Mondo**.

### **SPECIAL COMMISSIONS BY THE FESTIVAL**

**The Istanbul Music Festival** has contributed to enriching the contemporary music repertory by commissioning Turkish and foreign composers for four years. This year's festival programme includes commissioned works by two world-famous composers.

The world premiere of "**Crying in the Wilderness**" composed by **Alexander Raskatov** with the special commission by **the Istanbul Music Festival** will take place on **Friday, 13 June** at **Hagia Eirene Museum**. **Sinfonia Varsovia** and **Warsaw Philharmonic Choir** conducted by **Andres Mustonen** will accompany the prominent cellist **Yuri Bashmet** during the concert, which is dedicated especially to compositions of **Alexander Raskatov**. Moreover, the Turkish premiere of the viola concerto composed by Alexander Raskatov for the 50th birthday of Yuri Bashmet will take place in the concert.

The Istanbul Music Festival has another special project with **Fazıl Say** after the Mesopotamia Symphony, which took place in the 40th year of the festival. With the commissioning of the festival, **Fazıl Say** composed a special work that will immortalise **Sait Faik Abasıyanık**, who is a mile stone in Turkish literature, in the 60th anniversary of his death. The work, which is written and directed by **Özen Yula**, functions as a meeting for literature and music. Actresses **Demet Evgar**, **Songül Öden** and **Esra Bezen Bilgin** will perform as narrators. **Fazıl Say** will perform on piano and he will be accompanied by **Birsen Tezer** with her impressive voice, **Serenad Bağcan**, who is the classic Western music representative of music doyen Bağcan Family, **Borusan Quartet**, **Hakan Güngör** on kanun, **Derya Türkkkan** on kemencha, and **Aykut Köseleli** on percussion. World premiere of the work will take place on **Wednesday, 25 June** in **Burgazada** where **Sait Faik Abasıyanık** spent most of his life. The composition will also be performed on **Thursday, 26 June** at **Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center**.

#### **EL SISTEMA IS ONCE MORE IN ISTANBUL**

#### **CONCERTS AND EVENTS BY TERESA CARREÑO YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF VENEZUELA**

One of the important events of the festival will be the concert by **Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela** with 240 performers conducted by the music director **Christian Vásquez**, who is one of the talents grown in the inspiring El Sistema, in **Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center** on **Tuesday, 10 June**.

**El Sistema**, which was founded in Venezuela by the pianist and composer **José Antonio Abreu**, is considered as the most significant classical music project in the world. Abreu, who is also a successful economist, describes **El Sistema** as a social system that fights poverty and crime.

**Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela**, which is one of the most important products of the orchestral academic programme of the Fundación Musical "Simón Bolívar" will have free-of-charge events as well as their concert. The panel discussion with the participation of **Jose Antonio Abreu**, founder of El Sistema, and representatives of Sistema Europe, the European leg of El Sistema, will take place at Marti Istanbul Hotel on Tuesday, 10 June between 14.30 and 16.30. Furthermore, Orchestra and choir of the **Music for Peace Foundation**, one of the best examples of El Sistema in Turkey, will perform in the Main Theatre and Mini Amphitheatre of **Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center**.

#### **"CLASSICAL SUNDAYS" IN THE 42nd ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

The Istanbul Music Festival will organise **free-of-charge** concerts within its "The Song of Nature" theme, under the "**Classical Sundays**" headline in several parks and gardens.

For the first concert, young percussionist **Elman Mecid** will perform shortly in **Istanbul Toy Museum** on **Saturday, 7 June**. In the second concert to be held in **Maçka Cumhuriyet Parkı** on **Sunday, 8 June** at **10.30**, **Elman Mecid** will have a solo performance. For the second part of

concert, **Anadolu University State Conservatory Chamber Orchestra** will perform with conductor **Hakan Şensoy**. Cellist **Dilbağ Tokay** and pianist **Emine Serdaroğlu** will meet with the music lovers in **Sakıp Sabancı Museum “The Horse Mansion” Garden** on **Sunday, 15 June** at **10.30**. Ensemble **Concilium musicum Wien** will perform in the garden of **Austrian Cultural Office Garden** on **Sunday, 22 June** at **10.30**.

For further information on “Classical Sundays” please visit [muzik.iksv.org/en](http://muzik.iksv.org/en)

### **THE PERFORMANCE SPONSORS OF THE ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival is organised with the support of the **several performance sponsors** as well as its **main sponsor Borusan Holding**:

- Mercedes-Benz Türk A.Ş.
- Borusan Holding
- Milli Reasürans T.A.Ş
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- TSKB
- Işıklar Holding A.Ş

The 42nd Istanbul Music Festival is supported by the **Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Copyright, Governorship of Istanbul, Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism, Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Beyoğlu District Governorship, and the Beyoğlu Municipality.**

The three concerts, organized as part of the 2014 cultural programme celebrating 600 years of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Poland within the festival programme, are held **with the cooperation of Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.** (turkiye.culture.pl)

The festival is also held with the cooperation of **Boğaziçi University, Italian Cultural Institute, Austrian Cultural Office, Sakıp Sabancı Museum, Instituto Cervantes, Istanbul Toy Museum, Anadolu University, İş Sanat, Kadıköy Municipality and Adalar Municipality.**

The leading sponsor of all festivals by the **Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts** is **Eczacıbaşı Holding**, the Official Communications Sponsor is **Vodafone**, the Official Carrier is **DHL**, the Official Accommodation Sponsor is **Martı Istanbul Hotel** and the service sponsors is **GFK, directComm Marketing Group** and **AGC.**

The **publicity campaign** of the 42nd Istanbul Music Festival was conducted by **BEK.**

### **42nd ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL TICKETS**

The tickets of the 42nd Istanbul Music Festival will be on sale as of **10:00am** on **Saturday, 8 February** through:

- Biletix retail outlets,
- Biletix Call Centre (0216 556 98 00)
- [www.biletix.com](http://www.biletix.com)
- **İKSV** (*Nejat Eczacıbaşı Building Sadi Konuralp Cad. No:5 Şişhane, between 10.00–18.00, except Sunday – The main box office will be open on Sunday, 9 February*)

Festival tickets will be on sale the box office located in the **Hagia Eirene Museum** throughout the festival. **20 to 25% “Special Discount for Tulip Card members”** for the festival tickets, will be available for the **Tulip Card holders.**

The **programme booklet** of the 42nd Istanbul Music Festival can be found at **İKSV** (*Nejat Eczacıbaşı Building Sadi Konuralp Cad. No:5 Şişhane*) and **Biletix sales points.**

For further information: [muzik.iksv.org](http://muzik.iksv.org)

In order to follow Istanbul Music Festival on social media:

[facebook.com/istanbulmuzikfestivali](https://www.facebook.com/istanbulmuzikfestivali)

[twitter.com/muzikfestivali](https://twitter.com/muzikfestivali)

For high-resolution images related to the 42nd Istanbul Music Festival: [www.iksvphoto.com](http://www.iksvphoto.com)

For videos from the press meeting: <https://files.secureserver.net/0far2vb4qT8WjF>

For any questions related to the festival: +90 212 334 07 13, +90 212 334 07 28 and [media@iksv.org](mailto:media@iksv.org)

## **42nd ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL PROGRAMME**

- **OPENING CONCERT**

**BORUSAN ISTANBUL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**

**Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center | Saturday, 31 May | 19:00**

The **42nd Istanbul Music Festival** opens with a young cellist of international calibre: **Dorukhan Doruk** who has made a promising start on the classical music scene. Festival's resident orchestra **BIPO** will be playing on this opening night as goes the tradition. Under the baton of its honorary conductor **Gürer Aykal**, the orchestra will also introduce this year's festival theme with **Saygun's A Forest Tale**, which depicts natural phenomenons in the most vivid and exquisite way.

- **MİLLİ REASÜRANS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA & STEVEN ISSERLIS**

**İş Sanat Concert Hall | Wednesday, 4 June | 20:30**

**İş Sanat Concert Hall Foyer | Wednesday, 4 June | 19:30-20:00**

Meet the Artist: **Steven Isserlis** hosted by **Rahşan Apay** \*

**Steven Isserlis** humbly defines himself as a cellist, author, musical explorer and general enthusiast. In this concert, he will be performing the **Dvorak cello concerto**. The **Romantic Czech** warhorse, known for the inexhaustible technical and musical wealth it provides the soloist, will find its worth in the hands of **Isserlis** and with the exquisite accompaniment of **Millî Reasürans Chamber Orchestra**, widely acclaimed for its genuineness and contagious energy, conducted by **Hakan Şensoy**.

- **AUSTRIAN BAROQUE COMPANY & NURIA RIAL**

**"Arias&Concerti"**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Thursday, 5 June | 20:30**

The shining star of the European music scene, Spanish soprano **Nuria Rial** takes her award-winning cooperation with the **Austrian Baroque Company** to the festival. Their album **Handel's 9 German Arias** recently won an **Orphée d'Or**. This programme of **Handel, Vivaldi**, and **Sammartini** is as good as a tribute to the baroque vocal and orchestral music in all its brilliance.

- **CHAMBER MUSIC WITH THE STARS- I**

**LE SAGE, KASHIMOTO, BERTHAUD, SALQUE**

**Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall | Friday, 6 June | 21:00**

A famous representative of the French piano school, **Eric Le Sage**; solo violin of the Berlin Philharmonic, **Daishin Kashimoto**; a worthy representative of French excellence on the cello, **François Salque**; and one of the greatest young French talents on viola, **Lise Berthaud**, bringing the purity and intimacy of chamber music for the delight of festival followers. Already proved to be a great success with their

Schumann and Fauré projects, the ensemble now goes on to reveal the secrets of the musical universe of Brahms.

- **FESTIVAL PRESENTS ITS YOUNG SOLOIST**  
**ANADOLU UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**İş Sanat Concert Hall | Saturday, 7 June | 20:30**

The **Istanbul Music Festival's** much treasured project, **Festival Presents Its Young Soloist**, continues to encourage and promote young talents nationwide. The young soloist will be chosen in the branch of piano this year and the project, embracing youth not only by debuting a young soloist but also by hosting a youth orchestra at the festival, will cooperate with the **Anadolu University Symphony Orchestra**, in a performance which will also mark the orchestra's festival debut.

- **MINI-CONCERT: ELMAN MECID**  
**Istanbul Toy Museum | Saturday, 7 June | 15:00**

We invite you to a concert in the dreamy world of the **Istanbul Toy Museum**. Young percussion player **Elman Mecid**, who ranked first in Pendim, International Competition for Percussion Instruments in his category, will give a mini-concert at the cosy garden of the museum. **Mecid** waits to meet with music enthusiasts in **Istanbul Toy Museum** where the history of dreams and science is narrated in the language of toys.

- **CLASSICAL SUNDAYS- I**  
**ANADOLU UNIVERSITY STATE CONSERVATORY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**  
**Cumhuriyet Parkı, Maçka | Sunday, 8 June | 10:30**

The **Classical Sundays** kicks off with two successive performances in one day. First, the young percussion player **Elman Mecid** will take to the stage. His virtuosic and colourful performance will be followed by a guest from Eskişehir: **Anadolu University State Conservatory Chamber Orchestra**.

- **LONDON OCTAVE & HALİT TURGAY**  
**Süreyya Opera House | Monday, 9 June | 20:30**

The British group **London Octave** is known for its remarkable unanimity and contagious verve. The **London Octave** specialises in baroque music with healthy, vibrant, and modern sound and approaches the baroque and classical repertoire in a fresh and vital manner. The concert at the **Süreyya Opera House**, featuring the distinguished Turkish flautist **Halit Turgay** as the soloist, promises a night full of musical sparkle and wit.

- **TERESA CARREÑO YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF VENEZUELA**  
**Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center | Tuesday, 10 June | 20:30**

- **PRECONCERT EVENTS | Tuesday, 10 June |**  
**14:30-16:30 Martı Istanbul Hotel**

Panel: El Sistema Europa with the participation of **El Sistema** formations in Europe and **Jose Antonio Abreu**

**19:00-19:30 Zorlu Center PAC Main Concert Hall**

Concert: Music for Peace Choir

**19.30-20.00 Zorlu Center PAC Mini Amphitheatre**

Concert: Music for Peace Choir

The **Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela** is one of the most important products of the orchestral academic programme of the **Fundación Musical Simón Bolívar** - or as it is commonly known,

**El Sistema.** The **Istanbul Music Festival** is extremely pleased to give audiences the opportunity to witness this fascinating concert, an overwhelming experience in both musical and human terms.

- **TURQUERIE**

**Pera Ensemble**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Wednesday, 11 June | 20:30**

**Hagia Eirene Museum Cloisters | Wednesday, 11 June | 19:30-20:00**

Pre-concert talk with Ersu Pekin on “Turquerie” \*\*

Tonight will be an idyllic tonal fairytale, where Oriental flavours envelope Baroque melodies, Italian ornamentation interlaces Ottoman melismas... **Pera Ensemble**, going beyond merely presenting a baroque Turkish fashion for the modern audience and weaving music from the most disparate cultural circles into a new and universal sound, together with two outstanding vocalists, **Francesca Lombardi Mazzulli** and **Valer Barna-Sabadus** will make this concert a rare event, which awakens one thing first and foremost - emotions!

- **FESTIVAL ENCOUNTERS**

**Süreyya Opera House | Thursday, 12 June | 20:30**

A regular hub in the **Istanbul Music Festival**, the one-off project series **Festival Encounters** brings three of the most brilliant new-generation Turkish soloists, **Pelin Halkacı Akın**, **Nil Kocamangil** and **İris Şentürker**, together with an international violin virtuoso, a chamber music star **Isabelle van Keulen**. This year's first of the two **Festival Encounters** will showcase **Isabelle van Keulen's** catching inspiration and enthusiasm in moulding the music with her chamber music partners, which will certainly enchant all music lovers.

- **A WORLD PREMIERE: “CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS” BY RASKATOV**

**Sinfonia Varsovia, Warsaw Philharmonic Choir**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Friday, 13 June | 20:30**

**Hagia Eirene Museum Cloisters | Friday, 13 June | 19:30-20:00**

Meet the Artist: Alexander Raskatov hosted by Alexandra Ivanoff \*

In this concert that marks the world premiere of **Istanbul Music Festival's** commission to **Raskatov**, the composer's long-time collaborator, the great violist **Yuri Bashmet**, who is described as the “life and soul of the viola”, will also be on stage to perform the Turkey premiere of **Raskatov's** viola concerto composed on the occasion of the soloist's 50th birthday.

- **IL GIARDINO ARMONICO & JULIA LEZHNEVA**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Saturday, 14 June | 20:30**

**Julia Lezhneva**, the soprano with a sensational voice who is arousing much enthusiasm and admiration throughout the entire classical music world, makes her festival debut with one of the world's leading early music ensembles, **Il Giardino Armonico**. This concert features the vocal sensation everybody's talking about with **Il Giardino Armonico** under **Giovanni Antonini**, whose accompaniments are infectiously stylish and match **Lezhneva's** intense brilliance.

- **CLASSICAL SUNDAYS - II**

**CelloPianoDuo**

**Sakıp Sabancı Museum “The Horse Mansion” Garden | Sunday, 15 June | 10:30**

In the Classical Sundays, the second of the series hosts cellist **Dilbağ Tokay** and pianist **Emine Serdaroğlu** in the **Sakıp Sabancı Museum's** impressive garden. The duo attracts a wide audience for the breadth of their repertoire and the depth of their interpretation. This concert presents the perfect occasion to welcome a sunny Sunday morning with a delightful dose of classical music in the truly

enchanting garden of **the Horse Mansion**.

- **SINFONIA VARSOVIA & PIOTR ANDERSZEWSKI**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Monday, 16 June | 20:30**

**Hagia Eirene Museum Cloisters | Monday, 16 June | 19:30-20:00**

Pre-concert talk with Aydın Büke on “Polish music” \*\*

Pianist **Piotr Anderszewski**, recognized for the intensity and originality of his interpretations and known simply as the poet of sounds, joins **Sinfonia Varsovia** for a night of tribute to Polish music. **Yehudi Menuhin**'s all-time favourite orchestra, together with the champion of **Szymanowski**'s music will make this concert a most memorable one.

- **SINFONIA VARSOVIA & JULIAN RACHLIN**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Tuesday, 17 June | 20:30**

Festival's **Lifetime Achievement Award** recipient, indisputably one of the greatest musicians alive whose works have become milestones in the music of the 20th century, Polish composer **Krzysztof Penderecki** conducts **Sinfonia Varsovia** in this grandioso evening, which will also feature his own works. The soloist of the evening is violinist **Julian Rachlin**, whose distinctively rich sound, superb musicianship, and outstanding interpretation mesmerizes audiences throughout the world and inspires composers, including **Penderecki**.

- **ISSO & NELSON FREIRE**

**Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Wednesday, 18 June | 20:30**

**Hagia Eirene Museum Cloisters | Wednesday, 18 June | 19:30-20:00**

Pre-concert talk with Yeşim Gürer Oymak on “the La mer, Impressionism, festival theme the song of nature”. \*\*

**Nelson Freire**, acknowledged as “one of the finest pianists alive today” not only for his utmost harmony with the music's innate poetry but also for his astonishing diversity of texture and touch, will be a guest at the festival with a concert that marks his debut appearance with the **Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra**. **ISSO** will play a ravishing programme that focuses on the festival theme under the baton of **London Chamber Orchestra**'s music director **Warren-Green**.

- **PEPE ROMERO CELEBRATES HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY**

**Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall | Thursday, 19 June | 21:00**

**Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall | Thursday, 19 June | 20:00-20:30**

Meet the Artist: Pepe Romero hosted by Sühâ Çelikkıran \*

**Pepe Romero** is a legendary figure, whose music alters our emotions with an intensity only few musicians can attain, as if his heart and soul are vibrating out through the strings. **Pepe Romero** will be at the **Istanbul Music Festival** for a special concert featuring the most exquisite works from the guitar repertoire, within the scope of his world tour celebrating his 70th birthday.

- **CHAMBER MUSIC WITH STARS- II / PAPA VRAMI, PHILLIPS, GUY**

**Holy Vortvots Vorodman Church | Friday, 20 June | 21:00**

Three of the brightest stars to have risen from the French horizons on the classical music world, **Tedi Papavrami**, **Xavier Phillips**, and **François-Frédéric Guy** will be at the **Istanbul Music Festival** for a night of what can be best described as chamber music in its purest and most divine form. The trio, which was received enthusiastically by critics and audiences alike in its previous Beethoven project, will now showcase its verve, virtuosity, and expressive depth to the delight of festival followers in an expanded repertoire.

- **L'ARTE DEL MONDO & XAVIER DE MAISTRE**

**Hagia Eirene Museum | Saturday, 21 June | 20:30**

**Hagia Eirene Museum Cloisters | Saturday, 21 June | 19:30-20:00**

Meet the Artist: Zubin Mehta on "My Life" \*

A presenter of poetic concepts that go beyond the borders of mainstream concerts, **L'Arte del Mondo** pairs with one of those rare soloists who redefine what is possible with their instruments, harpist **Xavier de Maistre** for another enchanting emotional and sensory encounter that nourishes from historical performance practice and the rich sonority of both period instruments and the arp.

- **CLASSICAL SUNDAYS – III**

**Concilium musicum Wien - Austrian Cultural Office Garden | Sunday, 22 June | 10:30**

The ensemble **Concilium musicum Wien** was founded in 1982 with the aim to perform music of the 18th century in the manner in which it was performed in its time. The ensemble's repertoire has since expanded in scope and range, reaching from baroque music to the 19th century dance music. The Austrian ensemble **Concilium musicum Wien** invites you to a Sunday picnic at the garden of the **Austrian Cultural Office**, where you will hear a most exquisite rendering of the Viennese classics on period instruments.

- **DIANA DAMRAU & XAVIER DE MAISTRE**

**Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall | Monday, 23 June | 21:00**

The use of the harp to replace the piano in a voice recital is truly a unique and unexpected musical treat. The multi-faceted **Diana Damrau** will show her stratospheric vocal range, spark, and dramatic talent in this concert with **Xavier de Maistre** at the harp as an additional bonus of a sharp stage presence, great musical intelligence and first-rate technique. **Damrau** is established as one of today's finest lieder singers, and **De Maistre** will present a programme that beautifully brings together the sound of the human voice with the musical diversity of the harp.

- **FESTIVAL ENCOUNTERS – II**

**Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall | Tuesday, 24 June | 21:00**

Known for her authority over the most complex technical demands of the repertoire, the depth of her musical insight, her fresh interpretations, as well as a charismatic stage presence, the twenty-seven year old Chinese pianist **Yuja Wang** is joined by **Kirill Troussov**, the violinist whose playing combines élan, technical mastery, beauty of tone, and expressive maturity and who above all seduces by the freshness of his inspiration, and **Gautier Capuçon**, the cellist who communicates with innate understanding in his performances of impressive stature.

- **REMEMBERING SAİT FAİK ON HIS 60TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY**

**FAZIL SAY & FRIENDS**

**Burgazada Square | Wednesday, 25 June | 21:00**

**Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center | Thursday, 26 June | 21:00**

**Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center | Thursday, 26 June | 20:00-20:30**

Pre-concert talk with Asuman Kafaoglu-Büke on Sait Faik \*\*

The **Istanbul Music Festival** joins forces once again with **Fazıl Say**, an already sensational figure amongst the leading composers of our era, with a view to earn another precious gem to the world's treasure of classical music and to conserve our national cultural heritage. This monumental project is a tribute to **Sait Faik**, who is a mile stone in Turkish literature for his contributions in modern storytelling, on the 60th anniversary of his death.

- **BIPO & YUJA WANG**

**Borusan - Zorlu Center Performing Arts Center | Friday, 27 June | 20:30**

The most dazzlingly, uncannily gifted pianist in the concert world today, **Yuja Wang** gives the closing concert of the festival with Turkey's best symphonic ensemble, the **Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra** under the baton of its charismatic music director **Sascha Goetzl**. **Istanbul Music Festival** culminates yet in another magnificent concert.

\*To be held in English / \*\* To be held in Turkish.