



The Pharos Arts Foundation is a Cyprus-based, non-profit cultural and educational organisation dedicated to the promotion of a wide range of activities in the fields of the humanities and the arts. The Foundation presents cultural and educational programmes that are characterised by a strong commitment to artistic excellence and the creative process. Inaugurated in 1998, Pharos was the first active exponent of classical / chamber music in Cyprus, and it has been a remarkable pioneer in shaping the country's cultural infrastructure: It was the Foundation that initiated in Cyprus the first ever chamber music festival, the first ever contemporary music festival, the first music-education programme, as well as the first truly contemporary art-space.

MUSIC: Through its internationally acclaimed Concert and Recital Series, which takes place throughout the year, the Pharos Arts Foundation has so far organised hundreds of concerts by some of the world's most celebrated soloists, chamber music ensembles and chamber orchestras. Since 2001, the Pharos Arts Foundation has been organising the annual International Pharos Chamber Music Festival, which has established itself as the most important annual music event in Cyprus and has gained an international reputation for its quality concerts and magnificent settings. In 2009, the Foundation introduced the annual International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival, the mission of which is to propagate the music of 20th and 21st centuries and to present contemporary works and newly-commissioned compositions. The Festival has so far presented over 100 world premieres and dozens of Cyprus premieres by the world's most renowned contemporary music ensembles and soloists.

**EDUCATION**: The Pharos Arts Foundation's **Education Programme** presents workshops, master-classes, lectures and educational concerts for the benefit of students of state and private schools from different ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds, promoting music as a non-verbal expression vehicle which transcends the boundaries of language. Over 80.000 students from all over Cyprus have been benefited from the Programme in the last thirteen years, at absolutely no cost to them or to the state. Through the Foundation's **Residency Programme**, artists, writers, musicians, scholars and composers are invited to visit Cyprus and create new work. The **Lecture Series** serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas by influential thinkers on issues of global importance.

VISUAL ARTS: The Pharos Arts Foundation's Visual Arts Programme features contemporary art exhibitions by distinguished international artists working in all ranges of media; the Pharos Centre for Contemporary Art hosts major contemporary art exhibitions, acting as a space where artists can create and present their work. Exhibition catalogues on the hosted artists, as well as other monographs and books on contemporary art and photography are published by Pharos Publishers.

The Pharos Arts Foundation is directly dependent on sponsorship and other contributions for the implementation of its activities. Cyprus Registered Charitable Trust S.C. 91. Contributions are fully tax deductible under Cyprus law, and can be deducted in their entirety from the supporter's annual income tax.

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The emergence of digital art has ushered in a transformative era of creative exploration. Through the medium of the digital canvas, artists are able to cultivate new forms of aesthetic and conceptual engagement, unlocking novel possibilities for the expression of the human experience. Throughout 2023, Pharos' programme covers will present a series of digital artworks by Alison Sale.

## PHAROS ARTS FOUNDATION

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The Pharos Arts Foundation would like to thank Maria Chrysostomou, Polina Ioannou, Vshtuni & Gevorg Gevorgyan, Giota Kouloutsiou for their invaluable work.



## **FOREWORD**

## by the President of the Pharos Arts Foundation

As we approach the close of Pharos' 25th anniversary year, it prompts a moment of reflection of the 25-year historic legacy of Pharos: over 1000 concerts featuring the world's most legendary names and ensembles in the realm of classical music; a Centre for Contemporary Art and artist residency programmes that has exhibited major international artists and published impressive catalogues of their work; a Brazilian Cultural Month that for 10 years showcased the best in Brazilian art, music and film; an eclectic film series that screened extraordinary films on art, architecture, music, politics and society; a public lecture series by distinguished speakers on a wide range of topics; and finally an educational programme that has offered more than 85.000 students the opportunity to meet, listen to, and be inspired by the great artists that we have hosted. These special and rare opportunities to interact with artists, sometimes only a few years older than the students themselves, offer our youth the opportunity to witness the result of creative effort, commitment, devotion, and discipline, hopefully becoming a source of inspiration for them for the rest of their lives.

In these difficult times, fraught with anxiety and anguish for humanity, it is incumbent on us all to ponder deeply into our values and on the purpose of our lives and of life in general. I sincerely believe that the arts offer us a unique opportunity to discover our fundamental essence as part of a much larger creative whole. Music in particular is probably the most potent and powerful force – able to heal and harmonise. That is why the mission of the Pharos Arts Foundation is to nurture the human spirit through music and the arts. The standards of cultural and artistic excellence the Foundation has maintained over more than two decades is a testimony to that. Looking ahead to 2024, we are thrilled to present an exciting programme featuring some of the most renowned artists and ensembles in the world.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who share this vision and fundamentally support us in fulfilling it. These include the extraordinary musicians and artists who participate in our series and festivals, the Artistic Director of the Foundation Yvonne Georgiadou, our personnel and volunteers, as well as our loyal and appreciative audience. Our sponsors play the most vital role in enabling our work to materialise. Their support is deeply appreciated. As we continue to face difficult and uncertain times, I can assure you that we at Pharos will work ceaselessly to make our vision a reality and a communal effort so that together we continue to be a beacon of light in a confused and chaotic world.

**Garo Keheyan** 

Founder & President Pharos Arts Foundation

# LIPARIT AVETISYAN tenor LILIT HAKOBYAN piano

The Pharos Arts Foundation opened its 2023 season with a recital by the sensational Liparit Avetisyan - one of the most celebrated young tenors in Europe today, described by the BBC Music Magazine as "the most exquisite youthful heroic tone one could wish for". Liparit made his European debut in 2016, at the Cologne Opera, and he has gained a worldwide fame ever since, singing some of the most impressive operatic leading roles in the world's most prestigious opera venues - Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, Berlin State Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Zürich Opera, Opera Australia, Bayerische Staatsoper, Semperoper Dresden, Frankfurt Opera, Hamburg State Opera, Den Norske Opera in Oslo, Opera du Rhin in Strasbourg, Seattle Opera, Theatre in Moscow, to name but a few.

For his debut in Cyprus, Liparit Avetisyan, accompanied by pianist Lilit Hakobyan, gave a superb performance of operatic arias by Verdi, Donizetti, Massenet, Tchaikovsky, Arutunian, as well as an assortment of art-songs from all over the world.



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# RECITAL<br/>VICTOR MASLOV piano

Continuing its longstanding collaboration London-based Keyboard the Charitable Trust, Pharos presented the fascinating 25-year-old Russian pianist Victor Maslov. Having made his debut at the age of 9 with the State Symphony Orchestra of Moscow, Maslov has been a prize-winner in several international competitions, including the First Prize in the AntwerPiano International Competition (2020) and the International Rachmaninoff Piano Competition Moscow (2020), and he has appeared as a soloist at such renowned venues and festivals as the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Great Hall of Moscow Conservatoire, Smetana Hall, Rudolfinum, and Carnegie Hall in New York, where he was praised by the New York Concert Review as "one of those people who is close to all-round mastery of his repertoire".

For his debut in Cyprus, Maslov gave an impressive performance of a highly virtuosic programme by Rachmaninov, Janáček, Medtner and Stravinsky.



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# RECITAL MATAN PORAT piano

The fascinating Matan **Porat** is considered one of the most original voices to have emerged in recent years, with artistic activity encompassing a wide spectrum of work as a pianist and composer. Having appeared in some of the most prestigious concert halls in the world, Porat has been praised for his varied and exciting concert programmes, which range from Baroque contemporary repertoire: "Porat plays with a magnificent sound and breadth of expression" (The New York Times), "An astounding feat of creative musicianship" (The New Yorker), "Sviatoslav Richter would have loved to hear the extraordinary pianist Matan Porat" (La Croix).

For his return visit to The Shoe Factory, Matan Porat took the audience on a lively perambulation dances spanning of through four centuries of music, consisting of waltzes by Brahms, Bill Evans, Scriabin and Shostakovich, as well as pairs of Mazurkas (Scriabin and Adès), Minuets (Ravel and C.P.E. Bach), Tangos (Stravinsky and Nancarrow), Sarabandes (Rameau and Satie) and Forlanes (Couperin and Ravel).



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## CONCERT

# LEONARD SCHREIBER violin KYRIL ZLOTNIKOV cello FILIPE PINTO-RIBEIRO piano

**Pharos** brought to Cyprus three outstanding, internationally acclaimed soloists to join forces for a unique piano trio concert. Filipe Pinto-Ribeiro is one of Portugal's leading pianists, with a vast experience in the whole spectrum of the piano repertoire, and the founder and artistic director of the Lisbon-based DSCH - Shostakovich Ensemble, which is considered one of the top ensembles in the international scene today. Violinist Leonard Schreiber made his debut at the age of six with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of Flanders at Antwerp's Queen Elisabeth Hall, and has appeared with the world's most celebrated orchestras ever since. Cellist Kyril Zlotnikov is renowned as a soloist and chamber musician, being a founding member of one of the most dynamic and exciting string quartets of our time - the Jerusalem Quartet, and having shared the stage with the foremost artists of today.

For their concert in Nicosia, the three musicians demonstrated a unique musical chemistry in a memorable and highly poignant performance of two of the most seminal masterpieces ever written for the medium of the piano trio: Dvořák's manic-depressive Dumky Trio, which he composed immediately after Requiem, and the heart-rendering Piano Trio No.2 in E minor, which Shostakovich wrote at the peak of WWII.



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# GUIDO SANT'ANNA violin DAMIR DURMANOVIC piano

The unique story of violin prodigy Guido Sant'Anna is unlike any story one would ever come across. Born in São Paulo, Brazil, he began learning the violin at the age of 5 with the help of his older brothers. He made his debut as a soloist with orchestra at the age of 7, and with a financial aid from friends he managed to expand his studies. In 2015, the young virtuoso earned Brazil's prestigious scholarship for exceptionally gifted Brazilian students, and in 2018, he became the first Brazilian to ever participate in the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition, where he won the Audience Prize and the Chamber Music Award. In 2022, at the age of just 17, Guido Sant'Anna won the First Prize in the prestigious Fritz Kreisler International Violin Competition in Vienna.

Pharos was proud to discover this rare talent and invite him to Cyprus, in one of his first concerts in Europe. Thus, we collaborated once again with Keyboard Charitable Trust in presenting next to Guido an equally talented pianist, Damir Durmanovic. The two phenomenal musicians met for the first time in Cyprus, two days before their performance. Their recital was nothing short of fascinating. Guido and Damir performed a ruthlessly virtuosic programme of works Beethoven, Paganini, Ravel, Ysaÿe and Cláudio Santoro entirely from memory, demonstrating an unmatched artistry, which left everyone in the audience feeling spellbound.



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# RECITAL ENRICO PACE piano

Ever prestigious since winning the International Franz Liszt Piano Competition in Utrecht, in 1989, the Italian pianist Enrico Pace has become internationally renowned as one of the most versatile and acclaimed soloists and chamber musicians of his generation. With his unmatched artistry boundless passion, he has taken the classical music world by storm, leaving an indelible mark on all those have had the privilege of experiencing performances in the world's most prestigious concert halls. Pace has performed with some of the world's leading orchestras including Royal Concertgebouw, Munich Philharmonic, BBC Philharmonic, LSO, under the baton of such renowned conductors as Roberto Benzi, Mark Elder, Walter Weller, Vassily Sinaisky, and Antoni Wit. In chamber music, Enrico Pace is renowned for his on-going partnerships, especially with violinists Leonidas Kavakos and Frank Peter Zimmermann, with whom he has a released a number of highly praised recordings.

Pace's recital at The Shoe Factory left the audience in a state of euphoria. A true magician of the piano in absolute possession of his musical material, he a transcendent experience created through a compelling flow and interplay of elements. His performance, in works by Beethoven, Brahms and Clara Schumann, was a pure mystagogy, and his masterful concert will long be remembered.



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# RECITAL ECKOduo

Dedicated to the endorsement of leading Cypriot musicians, the Cyprus Artists Series presented a piano four-hand recital with ECKOduo - comprising pianists Emre Öztek from Cyprus and Chisato Kusunoki from Japan. Emre Öztek, a graduate of the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music in Wisconsin and the Trinity College of Music in London, has received win numerous awards and competitions as well as international attention as a soloist and chamber musician. In 2015, he met the Japanese virtuoso Chisato Kusunoki at the Summer International Piano School of Bromley Youth Music Trust, where they were both tutors. Appraised for her lyrical intensity and subtle virtuosity, as well as her "wonderfully fleet and supple fingers. quick to locate the music's inner voices," Chisato is a graduate of Oxford University, where she won the prestigious Gibbs Prize in Performance, and the Royal Academy of Music in London. In 2021, the two musicians were united by their mutual love for the magnificent repertoire for piano four-hands and two pianos.

Dynamic, innovative, and lyrically intense, the ECKOduo delivered a fascinating programme of works by Mozart, Brahms, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Dvorak, and Smetana.



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# MARIZA ANASTASIADES soprano SOCRATES LEPTOS guitar

The rich and diverse repertoire of the distinguished Cypriot soprano Mariza Anastasiades extends from early music to the modern era. Her career boasts important collaborations with orchestras, conductors and fellow artists from Europe and America, including the Prague State Opera under the baton of Richard Hein and the Pilsen Philharmonic Orchestra as part of the Prague Opernfest. Guitarist Socrates Leptos has been praised for his "excellent technique and strong interpretive skills". He is a graduate of Yale University and the New England Conservatory, and holds a doctoral degree in music from the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. His performances in Europe and the US were met with great critical and audience acclaim, and he is the First Prize-winner of the New England Guitar Competition in 1997 in Boston, and the GWUC Music Competition in 2002 in Chicago.

Socrates and Mariza indulged the audience in an enchanting journey of passion, poetry, and dream-like through landscapes the **Iberian** Peninsula, performing an impressive array of works from the 16th century to today by De Falla, Garcia Lorca, Mudarra, Pujol, and Obradors. The recital was organised by the 17th International Guitar Festival EGTA - Cyprus, in collaboration with the Pharos Arts Foundation.



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## MARKO TOPCHII guitar

Guitar Aficionados were in for a treat as multi-award-winning classical guitarist Marko Topchii finally made his debut in Cyprus. Topchii is considered one of the most accomplished and extensivelytravelled guitarists of his generation, and his prodigious achievements are best exemplified by his numerous competition victories: More than 100 awards worldwide in international classical guitar competitions, with 55 of them being First Prizes in such prestigious competitions as the Francisco Tarrega, the Andres Segovia and the Michele Pittaluga.

In Nicosia, Topchii effortlessly delivered a diverse and highly virtuosic programme of works by J.S. Bach, Maurice Ravel, Joaquín Rodrigo, Leo Brouwer and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, among others, leaving the audience enthralled with his incredible technique and musicality. The recital was part of the 17th International Guitar Festival EGTA – Cyprus, organised in collaboration with the Pharos Arts Foundation.



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## CONCERT

# LES TALENS LYRIQUES CHRISTOPHE ROUSSET direction

The Pharos Arts Foundation, with the kind support of the Institut français de Chypre, proudly presented an exceptional evening of Baroque music featuring one of the most historical ensembles of period music in the world, Les Talens Lyriques, under the direction of the renowned conductor and harpsichordist Christophe Rousset.

The legendary Les Talens Lyriques, consisting of Atsushi Sakai and Marion Martineau in violas da gamba under the direction of Rousset on the harpsichord, made their Cyprus debut in front of a big and enthusiastic audience, which was travelled back to the 17th century Paris and the magnificence of Baroque music. Les Talens presented If music be the food of the soul - a special concert in period instruments, featuring the Cyprus premiere of works by two of the most important composers of the French Baroque, Marin Marais and Louis Couperin, over 300 years after they were composed. That was undoubtedly a mesmerising experience - one that left every member of the audience feeling uplifted and inspired.



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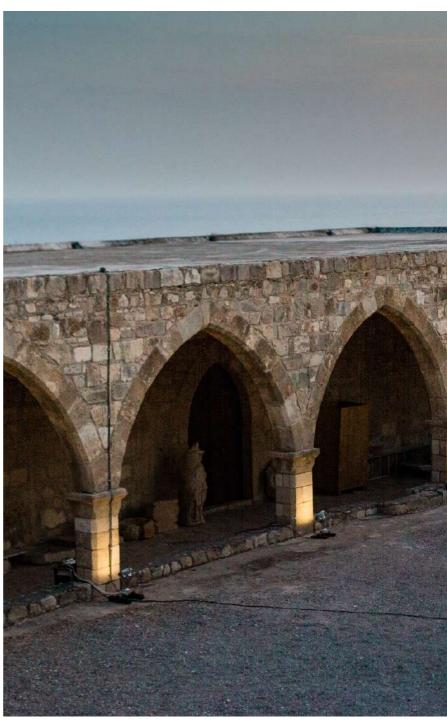


# 22nd INTERNATIONAL PHAROS CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The International Pharos Chamber Music Festival stands out as one of the most distinguished music events in Europe, its renowned for outstanding performances, fascinating programme, and captivating ambiance. With an commitment unwavering to artistic excellence, the Pharos Festival was the pioneering force in bringing chamber music to Cyprus, elevating the island to a prominent place on the global cultural stage. Its exceptional concerts have attracted music lovers from far and wide, who flock to the Festival to bask in its unique and uplifting musical atmosphere.

For over two decades, the Festival has hosted a multitude of memorable concerts, featuring many of the world's most celebrated soloists. Furthermore, the Festival has remained true to its roots of community service, by promoting access to chamber music for all and extending invaluable educational opportunities to students from across Cyprus.

The Festival is one of the most anticipated events in the international music calendar, and it is held annually in The Royal Manor House of Kouklia, one of the finest surviving monuments of Frankish architecture in Cyprus and a UNESCO World Heritage site, which is transformed into an atmospheric chamber music hall.



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Piano: ALEXANDER KOBRIN, FRANÇOIS-FRÉDÉRIC GUY, LILY MAISKY Violin: ANDREY BARANOV, DAISHIN KASHIMOTO, ELLY SUH, BORIS BROVTSYN Viola: DANIEL WEISSMANN, DIEMUT POPPEN, DAVID ABRAHAMYAN, SAMUEL BARSEGIAN Cello: MISCHA MAISKY, BORIS ANDRIANOV, JING ZHAO,

ALEXANDER CHAUSHIAN Double-bass: UXÍA MARTÍNEZ BOTANA

Flute: ANA FERRAZ Oboe: CÉLINE MOINET

Clarinet: CLARA RICCUCCI Marimba: RIA IDETA



Having presented a line-up of 20 celebrated soloists joining forces for six memorable, sold-out chamber concerts, the 22nd International Pharos Chamber Music Festival verified once again the Foundation's unwavering commitment to artistic excellence. Many of these soloists visited our island for the very first time, and brought with them a fresh and unique perspective on each concert, that left audiences enthralled.

Among the distinguished guest artists were the magnificent pianists Alexander Kobrin, whose exceptional skills have placed him at the forefront of the performing musicians of our times, and earned him the First Prize in such prestigious piano competitions as the Van Cliburn, the Busoni, and the Hamamatsu, and François-Frédéric Guy, whose mesmerizing interpretations have earned him international acclaim as a soloist and an orchestral conductor from the piano. The Festival also proudly presented the impressive violinist Andrey Baranov, winner of over twenty international competitions including the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Violin Competition, and Elly Suh, one of today's foremost Paganini interpreters, whose spellbinding artistry bring fresh life to concert stages everywhere. The Festival also welcomed back the spectacular first concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic Daishin Kashimoto, the legendary cellist Mischa Maisky, the incredibly talented pianist Lily Maisky, cellists Boris Andrianov – prize-winner in some of the world's most prestigious competitions such as the International Tchaikovsky Competition and the Shostakovich Classica Nova Competition in Hannover, and Jing Zhao – celebrated for her deep musicality and virtuosity, and First Prize-Winner of the prestigious ARD International Competition.

The Festival welcomed for the first time the astounding double-bassist Uxía Martínez Botana – described as one of the world's top 10 bass players, and recognised internationally for her great intensity and exceptional technique; the charismatic young flutist Ana Ferraz; the principal oboist of the legendary Dresden Staatskapelle Orchestra and one of the leading oboists in the world Céline Moinet; the brilliant clarinettist Clara Riccucci, whose debut as a soloist with the Lucerne Orchestra under the baton of Michael Sanderling marked the beginning of a thrilling and multi-dimensional career; and one of the world's most exciting marimbists, Ria Ideta, whose supreme mastery of the marimba promise to transport audiences to new heights of musical ecstasy. It also presented violists Daniel Weissmann – director of the Liège Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and one of the most praised musicians on the international scene, and Samuel Barsegian – chief conductor and artistic director of the Lisbon Chamber Orchestra. As always, as the International Pharos Chamber Music Festival welcomed the exceptional soloists who form its core and backbone – the unparalleled violinist Boris Brovtsyn and cellist Alexander Chaushian, as well as violists Diemut Poppen and David Abrahamyan.





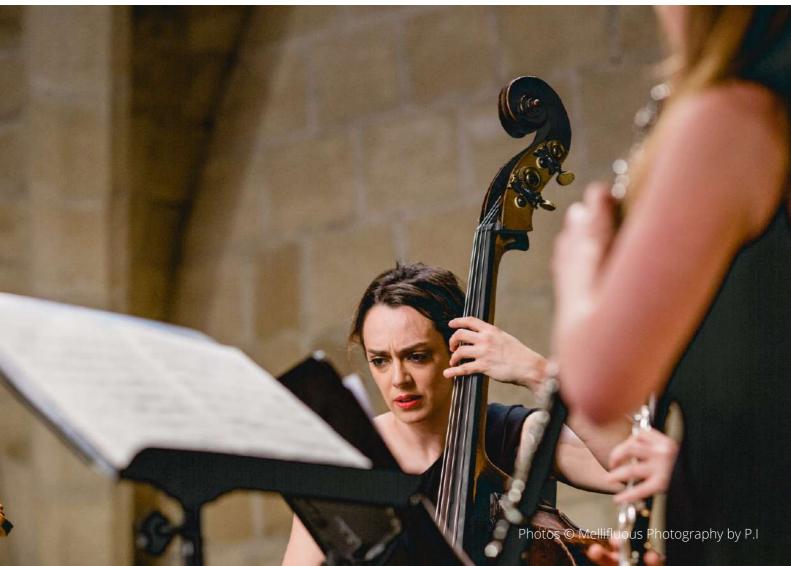












# JAZZ CONCERT PAOLO FRESU TRIO

Widely regarded as one the most renowned Italian jazz artists, trumpeter Paolo Fresu has established himself as a true virtuoso in his field, with an incredible global presence and a musical prowess that has earned him countless prizes and a prolific discography of over 400 recordings and collaborations with some of the world's leading artists. Hailing from Sardinia. Fresu is renowned for incorporating Mediterranean traits into his music, while his innovative techniques have stretched and redefined the boundaries of jazz. His Trio (consisting also of the brilliant jazz pianist Dino Rubino and bassist Marco Bardoscia), possessing an evocative, spiritual-like quality, harnesses the remarkable innate abilities of each of its members to create art and convey life. Fresu is in fact, the founder of Sardinia's Time in Jazz - a festival which, for over 35 years, has managed to transform the picturesque, small town of Berchidda into a vibrant hub of artistic expression. He has recently formed "Insulae Lab" - the first production centre of jazz music and artistic creativity in the Mediterranean, with the aim of fostering the exchange of artists and ideas. enhancing their experiences.

The Paolo Fresu Trio, unleashing their masterful musicianship and infectious energy, gave a memorable debut concert in front of a vast, mesmerised audience in The Olive Grove. The concert was kindly supported by the Embassy of Italy in Cyprus.



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## JAZZ CONCERT

# ANKE HELFRICH TRIO feat. TONY LAKATOS saxophone

The vibrant spirit of jazz in the idyllic summer Olive Grove continued for another unique jazz concert with the impressive Anke Helfrich Trio featuring the renowned saxophone player Tony Lakatos. Helfrich belongs to the exclusive elite of European pianists who has been able to contribute a new kind of energy and spirit to jazz music. She is an incredible pianist, known for captivating her audiences, and she has been described as "one of Europe's best female jazz pianists". Winner of the European Jazz Competition in 1996 and of an Echo Jazz Award in 2016, Helfrich has appeared in such prestigious venues Leipzig's Gewandhaus, Berlin's Philharmonie, Dortmund's Konzerthaus, Kennedy Center in Washington DC, and Stockholm's Concert Hall, and in the most notable jazz festivals around the world.

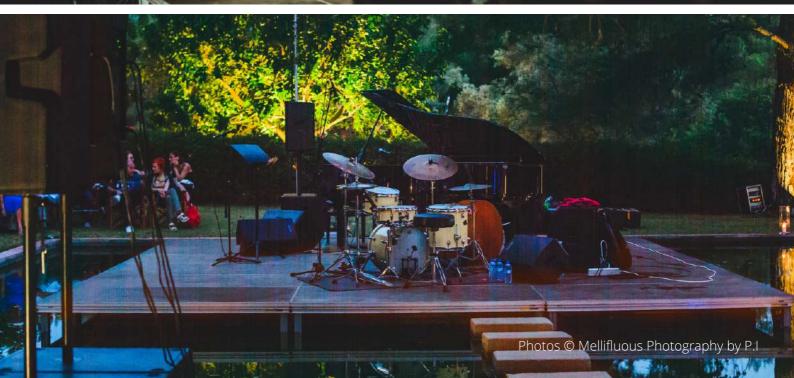
Anke's dynamic Trio, comprising also Dietmar Fuhr (double-bass) and Jens Düppe (drums), and joining forces with the sensational Tony Lakatos, had set the stage on fire in The Olive Grove, which was transformed into a magical jazz haven as their masterfully sophisticated, poetically fascinating melodies filled the air. It was an evening of pure musical bliss that left the audience feeling rejuvenated. The concert was sponsored by EcommBX.



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# JAZZ CONCERT DAAHOUD SALIM QUINTET

Pharos waved a radiant goodbye to the summer season with an exciting jazz concert, featuring the multi-award winning Daahoud Salim Quintet. Formed in 2015 by the outstanding young pianist and composer Daahoud Salim, the Quintet has already been established as one of the most fascinating jazz bands in Europe, with appearances in some of the world's most prestigious stages and top jazz festivals - including San Sebastian Jazzaldia. Madrid International Jazz Festival, Auditorio Parco della Musica de Roma. Amsterdam's Bimhuis, Amersfoort, amongst many others. Only one year after its formation, the Quintet won the First Prize for the Best Band and the Best Soloist Prize at the 40th edition of Getxo Jazz Festival, and a year later, it received the First Prize and the Sabam Culture Prize for the Best Arrangement at the B-Jazz International Contest in Leuven, Belgium. In 2022, Daahoud Salim won the First Prize at the Big Band Composition Arrangement and Competition of the Society of Authors and Publishers in Granada.

In their Cyprus debut, the Daahoud Salim Quintet captivated the audience with their musicianship and refined, yet fascinating fusion of tunes, vibrant ethnic rhythms, and hypnotic blues and hardbop sounds. The concert was organised in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain on the occasion of the Spanish Presidency of the council of the EU, and was sponsored by CPT.



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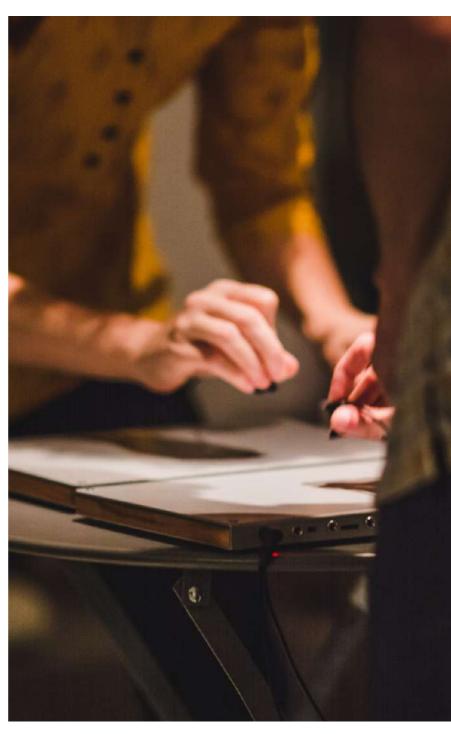




# 14th INTERNATIONAL PHAROS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Reflecting Pharos' deep commitment to music creativity and innovation, the International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival has been а pioneer contemporary music in Cyprus, pushing consistently the boundaries of creativity and innovation. Since its inception, the Festival has been recognised as one of Europe's most ground-breaking annual events, and has introduced Cyprus audiences to the ever-evolving world of contemporary music, providing a crucial platform for composers to collaborate with world-renowned soloists and ensembles. presenting a number of world and Cyprus premieres, as well as a number of neglected 20th-century masterpieces.

As the Pharos Arts Foundation continues to redefine the cultural landscape of Cyprus, the 14th edition of the International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival presented five distinct and extraordinary concerts, alongside an array of ground-breaking interdisciplinary events, such as lectures, workshops, and educational activities for the youth.



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## PETER SHEPPARD SKAERVED violin RODERICK CHADWICK piano

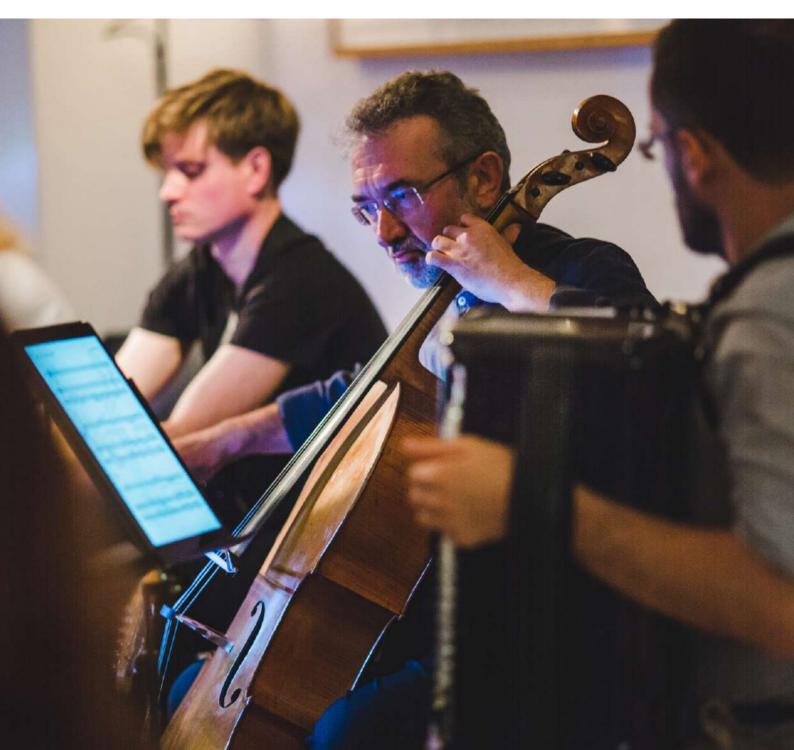
Peter Sheppard Skærved and Roderick Chadwick opened the 14th International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival with a fascinating programme of imaginative works inspired by the birds. The pieces ranged from the brilliant circle of *Bird Portraits* by Edward Cowie, through to works by Olivier Messiaen and Robert Saxton, and reached back to the 1600s, when composers across, like Heinrich Biber, were fascinated with birdsong. The imitation of the natural world has always laid at the heart of the work of the musician, the artist, and the writer. The very earliest notated music imitated the birds, and, in England, the first printed song, 'somer is icumen in', listed the wonders of the flora and fauna all around. Every artist finds different purchase in the natural world, and the concert of Peter Sheppard Skærved and Roderick Chadwick reflected how music, art, can help us remember our duty of care to the environment, that we are as fragile as it is, and we have the duty of care, to protect and nurture the world we are part of.





## ICTUS ENSEMBLE SOETKIN ELBERS soprano

One of the most renowned ensembles of our time, the Brussels-based Ictus Ensemble has shared, and sometimes amplified, current questions about the future of contemporary music. Initially led by conductor Georges-Elie Octors, at a time when ensembles saw themselves as mini-orchestras made up of highly technical soloists, Ictus mutated into an "electric orchestra" and became a multifaceted collective of creative musicians, dedicated to experimental music in the broadest sense. For their debut in Cyprus, the Ictus musicians blended their most profound and contemplative tones with the fervent voice of the young soprano Soetkin Elbers in Hymns – in an extraordinary programme of modern and ancient prayers, distant songs, muffled melodies, which intersected with the 9th century hymns of Saint Kassiani of Constantinople, also known as Kassia, the first woman composer whose music scores survived the ages. Their fascinating concert also included works by John Cage, Dmitri Shostakovich, Salvatore Sciarrino, Michael Pisaro, Tarquinio Merula, Filippo Perocco, James Tenney.

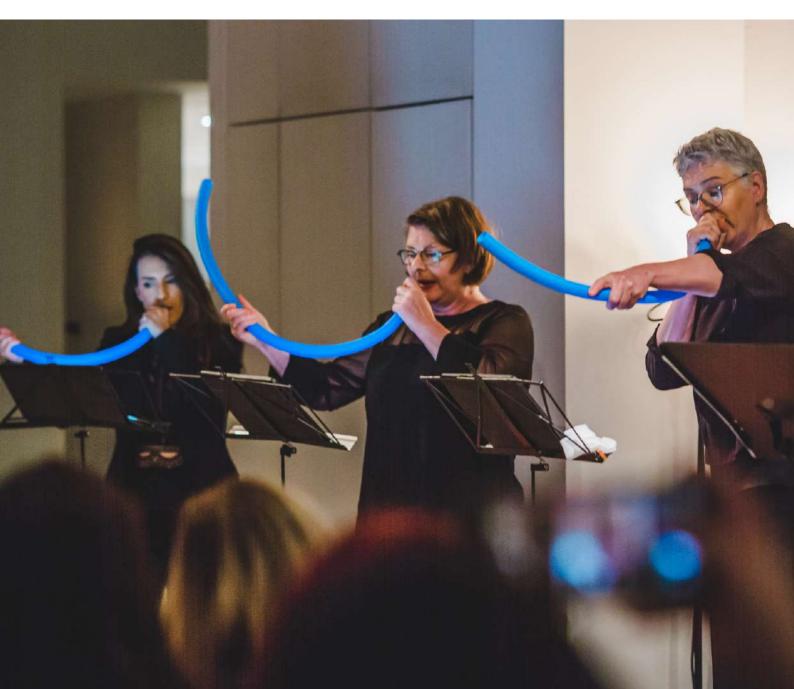






### NEUE VOCALSOLISTEN GARETH DAVIS clarinet

The seven singers of the Neue Vocalsolisten see themselves as explorers and discoverers: in exchange with composers, they are constantly searching for new forms of vocal expression. One focus is on collaboration with artists who virtuously exploit the possibilities of digital media, with an interest in networking, in playing with genres, in dissolving space, perspectives and functions. Thus, the projects of the Ensemble are characterised by idiosyncratic interdisciplinary formats between music theatre, performance, installation, and concert staging. Their work, with more than 30 premieres annually, is considered worldwide to be leading and unique in the field of contemporary vocal music. The Neue Vocalsolisten have been instrumental in shaping the genre of vocal chamber music theatre, with hundreds of works having been composed especially for them, and with collaborations with other top-class specialist ensembles and orchestras, international opera houses, independent theatre scenes, electronic studios, important festivals and concert series of new music all over the world. Ten years after their debut in Cyprus, as part of the Pharos Contemporary Music Festival, the Neue Vocalsolisten returned to The Shoe Factory, joining forces with the leading clarinettist Gareth Davis, to perform an extraordinary programme of electrifying, dramatic works by Georges Aperghis, Evis Sammoutis, Zeynep Gedizlioglu and Carola Bauckholt. The concert was organised in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Zypern.







#### PASSEPARTOUT DUO

Drawing from a carefully selected palette of electro-acoustic textures and shapeshifting rhythms, Passepartout Duo's work investigates the way in which we listen to and connect with sound. Continually reassessing the tools they use to create their music, the Duo – comprised by pianist Nicoletta Favari and percussionist Christopher Salvito – is continually developing a specialised and evolving ecosystem of handmade musical instruments that have ranged from analogue electronic circuits and conventional percussion, to room-size textile installations and found objects. The centrepiece of Passepartout Duo's remarkable performance, entitled *Circo Pobre*, was the Chromaplane, a new electronic instrument the Passepartout Duo have developed over the past year.



#### PAVLOS ANTONIADIS piano

Pavlos Antoniadis is a pianist, musicologist, and creative technologist, currently Associate Professor of Music Communication and Technology at the University of Ioannina, and a collaborator of the team interaction-son-musique-mouvement at IRCAM, Paris since 2014. As a soloist, Antoniadis has worked with composers such as Mark Andre, Helmut Lachenmann, Brian Ferneyhough, Wolfgang Rihm, Tristan Murail, and has premiered solo piano works by James Erber, Nicolas Tzortzis, Andrew R. Noble, Luis Antunes Pena, among others. His programming features the most complex contemporary works, extremes of physicality, live electronics, multimedia, sensors, virtual reality, and musical theatre, often in eclectic dialogue with ancient repertoire. He has recorded for Mode (2015 German Recording Critics Award), Wergo and Diatribe records. Antoniadis made his Cyprus debut, as part of the 14th International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival, in a striking programme of rare works by François-Bernard Mâche, Iannis Xenakis, Maria Kaoutzani, Hakki Cengiz Eren, Leoš Janáček, and Galina Ustvolskaya.



#### RECITAL

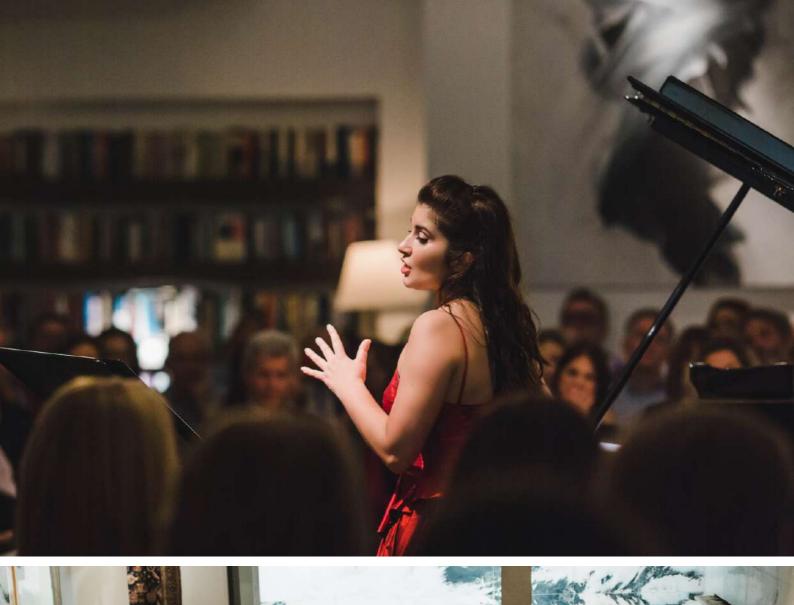
## CHRISTIANA ALONEFTIS soprano MIKHAIL BERLIN piano

Described as a "genuine discovery", soprano Christiana Aloneftis has been praised for her "gorgeous, resonant voice" and for her "strong musical and dramatic commitment". A child of the Cypriot diaspora, born in Melbourne and now based in Munich, Christiana trained on invitation, at the Bavarian State Opera, after completing studies on fullscholarship at the prestigious École Normale de Musique Alfred Cortot in Paris. Since then, she has performed a number of operatic roles and appeared throughout the world in prestigious venues and with notable orchestras, such as the North Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, Connecticut Lyric Opera, the Lyric Opera Studio Weimar, Opera Classica Europa, Rhein-Main Philharmoniker Frankfurt, Melbourne Centre. Recital Meistersingerhalle Nürnberg.

Having joined forces with the renowned collaborative pianist Mikhail Berlin associate of the University of Arts in Bremen and music director of the Wertinger Festspiele, Christiana validated her exceptional expressiveness soulfulness in a very special programme. The two musicians took the audience on evocative voyage though the Mediterranean, with art-songs Spanish, Italian, and Greek composers, including de Falla, Granados, Albéniz, Tosti, Puccini, Respighi, Constantinidis, Kalomiris and Samaras. The recital is organised with the kind support of PwC.



**PHAROS REVIEW 2023** 





### CONCERT SIMPLY QUARTET

The Vienna based Simply Quartet is fast one of Europe's becoming distinguished young string quartets. It is First-Prize winner at the renowned International Carl Nielsen Competition in Copenhagen, the Quatuor á Bordeaux (2019), the Franz Schubert and the Music of Modernity in Graz (2018), and the International Joseph Haydn Chamber Music Competition in Vienna (2017). The Simply Quartet has appeared in some of the world's major halls - including Brussels, **BOZAR** Concertgebouw Amsterdam. Palau de la Música Catalana, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Luxembourg and Paris Philharmonies, Wigmore Hall London, Konzerthaus Berlin, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Tonhalle Zurich - and is continuously searching for a deep understanding of the inherent language of music: from the early classical works to modern string quartet literature.

For its debut in Cyprus, the Simply Quartet demonstrated their great artistry in a breathtaking performance of string quartets by Schumann, Haydn and Webern. The concert was kindly supported by the Embassy of Austria in Cyprus.



**PHAROS REVIEW 2023** 





# RECITAL PAU CODINA cello MARTA MENEZES piano

The end of November saw a fascinating cello and piano recital with the exquisite Spanish cellist Pau Codina joining forces with the remarkable Portuguese pianist Menezes. Having performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician in many prestigious venues throughout Europe, Pau Codina has also appeared with such distinguished orchestras as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of Liege, the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, Chamber the Orchestra of Wallonie. the RTVE Orchestra in Madrid, to name but a few.

Marta Menezes is one of the most prominent Portuguese pianists of her generation, renowned for the subtlety and musical sensitivity of her interpretations. She has performed in important auditoriums and festivals around the world, including, the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing, St. Martinin-the-Fields in London, Festival Urodzinowy Fryderyk Chopin in Warsaw, and Centro Cultural de Belém in Lisbon.

For their Cyprus debut, Codina and Menezes treated the audience to an electrifying programme, steeped in the musical richness and originality of the Portuguese and Spanish heritages, with works by L.v. Beethoven, Manuel de Falla, Luís de Freitas Branco and Gaspar Cassadó. The recital was kindly coorganised with the Embassies of Portugal and Spain, and it was sponsored by Unicars.



**PHAROS REVIEW 2023** 





# RECITAL<br/>IVAN KRPAN piano

The Pharos Arts Foundation culminated its 2023 season with a recital by the outstanding Ivan Krpan – First Prizewinner of the prestigious Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition in 2017. Praised as a true 'tour de force' of technical control of sound, Ivan Krpan has quickly established himself as one of the most remarkable pianists of the younger generation, and has appeared in some of the world's major venues, such as Vienna's Konzerthaus, the Seoul Arts Center, the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, Rome's Santa Cecilia Hall, and the Leipzig Gewandhaus, to name but a few.

For his debut in Cyprus in front of a hugely appreciative audience, Ivan Krpan gave a breathtaking performance of an impressively virtuosic programme of works by Liszt, Chopin and Lisinski. The concert was organised in collaboration with the Keyboard Charitable Trust.



**PHAROS REVIEW 2023** 





## MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME

One of the most important aspects of the Pharos Arts Foundation's activities is its Education Programme, which has been the first official, non-state music education programme initiated in Cyprus, in 2006. The Programme has so far benefited over 85.000 students in Cyprus, through hundreds of educational concerts and master-classes by legendary soloists and ensembles.

The greatest majority of the artists, scholars, composers, and musicians who participated in the Foundation's 2023 programme, taken part have educational and community activities educational concerts. workshops, lectures, open rehearsals, and masterclasses, for students of primary and secondary education, the talented young musicians of the Youth Cyprus **Symphony** Orchestra. as well as university students, young professionals and people with special needs.



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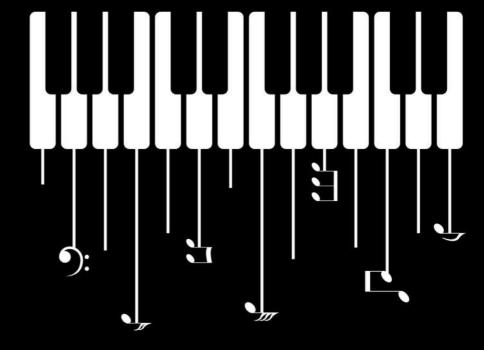




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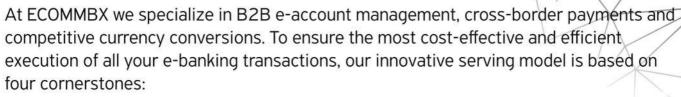
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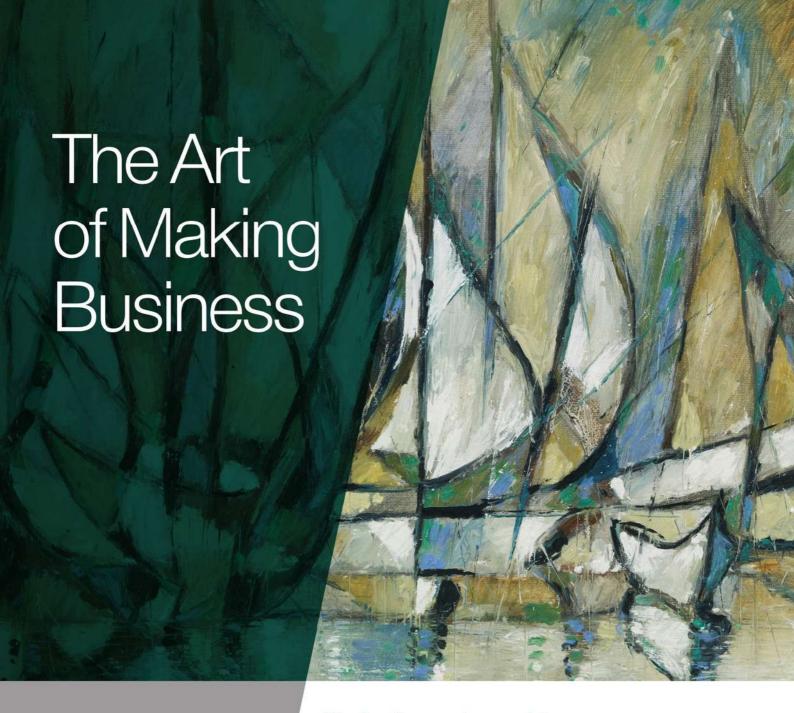


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- Private preview of rehearsals and educational activities for Company Board Members / CEOs
- 6 complimentary Tickets for each concert

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- · Invitations to after-concert receptions
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- Complimentary Concert Booklet for all concerts
- Six complimentary Ticket Vouchers to be used at any Pharos concerts throughout the year

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- Complimentary tickets to all the concerts of the Pharos Contemporary Music Festival
- Priority seating when booking is confirmed
- Private preview of concert rehearsals, educational concerts, exhibitions (upon request)
- 20% discount on books at the Moufflon Bookshop, Nicosia
- Advertisement of the member's business / organisation / charity in the concert booklet of one event (upon request)
- Voucher for three complimentary commercial CDs by participating artists, sold at events

#### ■ PATRONS (From €1.000 for couple membership)

Patrons receive all the Pharos Circle benefits as well as additional individually tailored benefits including:

- · Complimentary tickets to all the events
- Advertisement of the Patron's business / organisation / charity in the concert booklets of two events (upon request)
- Voucher for four complimentary commercial CDs by participating artists, sold at events.

## THE PHAROS CENTRE VISION FOR THE FUTURE

#### THE PHAROS CENTRE

Since its inception, in 1998, the Cyprus-based Pharos Arts Foundation has established an international reputation for artistic and cultural excellence. The Foundation's programme includes a regular concert and recital series, an annual Chamber Music Festival, established in 2001, an annual Contemporary Music Festival, established in 2009, a music education programme, exhibitions of contemporary art, publishing, and a lecture series on issues of global importance with distinguished speakers.

Our vision is to expand these activities by creating a centre for Art, Culture, and Dialogue in a beautiful setting of ancient olive groves and pine forest at Delikipos. The Centre will provide space for the visual and performing arts as well as a library and accommodation for visiting artists, writers, composers, musicians, and thinkers from all disciplines and backgrounds.

An important element of this Centre would be the Pharos Forum, providing a venue for dialogue and debate on issues that concern us all. Universal spiritual and material progress which we call civilization can only flourish in what has become the global village of the 21st century if we share basic ethical principles and develop a new world view, a paradigm determined by a reverence for life and nature as well as creative expression. The distinguishing characteristics of the Pharos Forum will undoubtedly be its setting and its human scale, bringing people together from all over the world to an intimate natural environment that allows the landscape to work its magic, and gives individuals time to develop genuine friendships and valuable conversations. John McMurray, the Scottish philosopher said 'The purpose of all meaningful knowledge is action, and the purpose of all meaningful action is friendship'. The Pharos Forum will cultivate these crucial notions and offer new collaborative ways of addressing difference and discord – of moving away from private understandings, as Heraclitus would have put it, towards perceptions of unity.

An additional crucial component of the project is the emphasis that would be given to music and the arts. All cultures and religions have expressed their highest aspirations through music and the arts. Sophocles says 'He who neglects the arts when young has lost the past and is the dead to the future'. The Pharos Centre will offer participants opportunities to listen to music-making of the highest order from the western classical tradition as well as other cultures and to engage in dialogue with leading international artists.

The Pharos Centre, situated on an island at a pivotal point between three continents and diverse cultures, will bring together men and women of goodwill to find a common language and to explore ways in which we can develop a saner, healthier and more sustainable world at the beginning of a millennium. If you would like to learn more about the Centre and contribute towards the realisation of our vision, you may contact the Pharos Arts Foundation.





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