



verbierfestival

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## THE VERBIER FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES LATEST PROGRAMME CHANGES

**July 20, 2021 – VERBIER (Switzerland)** – The Verbier Festival announces the latest programme changes to its 28<sup>th</sup> edition. Two of the iconic Rencontres Inédites will move from Église de Verbier to Salle des Combins, opening up the performances to a larger public. The Festival's July 23 presentation of *Tristan & Isolde*'s second act has been cancelled, but opera-lovers are invited to a newly programmed concert that same evening featuring rising stars of from the Academy Atelier Lyrique in a concert of arias at the Église. The Festival will now close with a performance of Puccini's *La Bohème*, featuring the Academy singers in collaboration with the Verbier Festival Junior Orchestra (VFJO) and its Music Director, James Gaffigan on August 1.

### Changes to the programme

**Friday, July 23 | Salle des Combins | 19:00**

#### RENCONTRES INÉDITES III

The performance of the second act of *Tristan & Isolde* is cancelled. The Rencontres Inédites III concert scheduled at Église de Verbier this evening **moves to Salle des Combins, with a new start time of 19:00**. It features Marc Bouchkov, Janine Jansen, Mihaela Martin, Nobuko Imai, Antoine Tamestit, Frans Helmerson, Anastasia Kobekina, Klaus Mäkelä, and Antonio Pappano.

**Friday, July 23 | Église de Verbier | 20:00 NEW CONCERT**

#### ATELIER LYRIQUE / SOIRÉE LYRIQUE

The cast of *La Bohème* come together with their fellow Academy singers for an evening of operatic favourites.

**Monday, July 26 | Salle des Combins | 19:00**

#### RENCONTRES INÉDITES IV

The Verbier Festival Orchestra's (VFO) all-Schoenberg evening at Salle des Combins is cancelled. The Rencontres Inédites IV concert scheduled at Église de Verbier **moves to Salle des Combins, with a new start time of 19:00**. The performance features Janine Jansen, Alexander Sitkovetsky, Lawrence Power, Mischa Maisky, Kian Soltani, Nikolai Lugansky and Lahav Shani. There will be no concert at Église de Verbier this evening.

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**Thursday, July 29 | Salle des Combins | 18:00**

**VERBIER FESTIVAL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA / HARDING / BELL / ISSERLIS**

The 20:15 concert this evening, featuring Mahler's First Symphony is cancelled. The 18:00 concert will still take place at Salle des Combins with a modified programme. The Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra, which replaces the VFO, will perform with Daniel Harding. Joshua Bell and Steven Isserlis perform Brahms's *Double Concerto for violin, cello and orchestra* and the evening concludes with Beethoven's First Symphony.

**Saturday, July 31 | Salle des Combins | 18:00**

**VERBIER FESTIVAL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA / SHANI / GOERNE**

Schoenberg's First Chamber Symphony and Wagner's *Siegfried-Idyll* will no longer be performed on this programme. Mozart's *Jupiter Symphony* will now follow the Schubert Lied selection sung by Matthias Goerne.

## Programme Cancellations

**Sunday, August 1 | Salle des Combins | 19:00**

**VERBIER FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA / FISCHER / SCHIFF**

This concert is cancelled. Puccini's *La Bohème*, performed by the Verbier Festival Junior Orchestra and the Academy's Atelier Lyrique singers, conducted by VFJO Music Director, James Gaffigan, will now conclude the Festival. **The start-time of this concert remains 14:30.**

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This 28th edition of the Verbier Festival is made possible with the support of many philanthropic, corporate and public funders, notably Madame Aline Foriel-Destezet, The Friends of the Verbier Festival, the Festival's major donors, including its Chairman's Circle, the Commune de Val de Bagnes, Loterie Romande, Canton du Valais, and its loyal Principal Sponsors, Bank Julius Baer and Neva Foundation.

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