



TSINANDALI FESTIVAL, A MAJOR ANNUAL 16 DAY INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED IN THE HEART OF GEORGIA'S WINE REGION

September 5-20, 2020

- **Festival launches on 5 September with a performance of Johannes Brahms by Nelson Freire and Ludwig van Beethoven Symphony with the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra conducted by Festival Music Director Gianandrea Noseda**
- **Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra formed, under Noseda, to unite young musicians from surrounding region**
 - **Martin Engstroem & Avi Shoshani joint Founders & Artistic Directors**
- **Soloists include Lisa Batiashvili, Nelson Freire, Joshua Bell, Lucas Debargue, Lekso Toradze, Fazil Say, Thomas Quasthoff, Avi Avital, Daniel Lozakovich, Seong-Jin Cho and others.**
- **Gianandrea Noseda & Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra joined by conductors – Pablo Heras-Casado and Manfred Honeck.**
- **Tsinandali Festival Academy Musicians and Georgian National Ballet Sukhishvili**

The founders of Tsinandali Festival include George Ramishvili (Chairman of the board of the Silk Road Group), Martin Engstroem (the founder of the famous Verbier Festival) and Avi Shoshani (the founder of the famous Verbier Festival and Secretary General of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra).

Festival was launched in September 2019 and has established a new international music festival in the historic Tsinandali Estate.

The annual Festival will present some of the greatest musicians and the specially formed Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra which brings together over 80 young musicians from the surrounding region. This Youth Orchestra will ensure that the work of the Tsinandali Festival extends beyond the historic estate.

The Tsinandali Festival is the latest stage in the Silk Road Group's long-term development plan for the Tsinandali Estate that has included the restoration of Prince Alexander Chavchavadze's manor house (in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institute). With its unique mix of Georgian and European architectural styles from 1812 it has become Georgia's most visited attraction with 120,000 visitors annually.

Two new venues have been built on the estate to house the Festival performances - an open amphitheater with a retractable roof seating 1,200 people and the Chamber Concert Hall which seats 600 people.

The halls have been designed by an international group of designers, including German industrial designer Ingo Maurer and French architect Xavier Fabre, who has previously worked on acoustics of the Philharmonie de Paris



and the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg. The frescoes adorning the site belong to the beloved Georgian artist Tamara Kvesitadze.

Key Performance Indicators from First Edition I 2019:

- 10000 visits
- 232 000 Medici TV Views
- 16 concerts streamed by Medici TV
- 14 international journalists visits including The Economist, The Times, The New York Times, The New European, Classica Magazine, Bachtrack and Monocle Magazine.
- 80 articles in local and international papers.

Editor's Notes

Gianandrea Noseda

Gianandrea Noseda is one of the world's most sought-after conductors, equally recognized for his artistry in both the concert hall and the opera house. He was named Washington D.C.'s National Symphony Orchestra's seventh music director in 2016 beginning his tenure in the fall of 2017; his contract has been renewed until the 2024/25 season.

In addition to his positions with the National Symphony Orchestra and the Tsinandali Festival, Noseda also serves as Principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra and Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal Conductor of the Orquestra de Cadaqués, and Artistic Director of the Stresa Festival in Italy. In July 2018, the Zurich Opera House appointed him the next General Music Director beginning in the 2021–2022 season where the centrepiece of his tenure will be a new *Ring* Cycle.

Martin Engstroem

Founder and Executive Director of the Verbier Festival, Martin Engstroem has worked with every major musician of our time. In addition to founding and running the Verbier Festival, Engstroem has held senior roles as an artist manager, as a consultant or executive for Rolex, EMI France, the Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele, the Opéra National de Paris, Deutsche Grammophon and IMG Artists.

An in-demand jury member for numerous competitions he is also a member of several Boards, including the Béjart Ballet, Lausanne, the Macao Festival, the Tibor Varga Academy, Sion and the Glion Institut de Hautes Etudes. In April 2015, he received the Dmitri Shostakovich Prize, considered to be one of the most prestigious prizes in the field of Russian art. He is the first non-musician laureate of this Prize.

In 2018 he became Artistic Director both of the Tsinandali Festival in Georgia and of the Riga Jurmala Music Festival in Latvia.



Avi Shoshani

Secretary General of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, an organisation he joined in 1973 and which he has transformed into a major international orchestra. Shoshani has been responsible for all aspects of the Orchestra's artistic policy, international touring and securing close relationships with many of the world's greatest musicians. A passionate advocate of musical education he has initiated several education programmes in Israel.

As Co-Founder of the Verbier Festival and Academy, he served as Artistic Director for the Festival's first 10 years and continues to be an Artistic Consultant to the Festival.

George Ramishvili

George Ramishvili is Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Silknet and founder, shareholder and chairman of Silk Road Group, a diversified group with a portfolio of investments in transportation and logistics, telecommunication, banking, real estate, tourism and energy in the Caspian and Central Asian region with a focus on Georgia.

George, an entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience in starting-up and successfully running new companies, was the President of the Georgian Ski Federation for several years and is still supporting development of winter sports in Georgia. George is also a member of the international boards of several artistic and cultural organizations, a chairman of the board of National Geographic Georgia (the Licensee of National Geographic in Georgia), a chairman of the Board of the Tsinandali Festival and a member of the International Board of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, among others.

FOR FESTIVAL SCHEDULE visit tsinandalifestival.ge/festival-2020/

For more information on the Festival please visit: www.tsinandalifestival.ge

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