# CONCERT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS Daniel Barenboim, West-Eastern Divan Orchestra



### **PRESS BOOK**







#### CONCERT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

#### DANIEL BARENBOIM ENDORSES 5 YOUNG PROMISES OF THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN ORCHESTRA IN GENEVA

The prestigious conductor and his orchestra will perform in the United Nations HQ in Geneva in an event organized by the ONUART Foundation, produced by MEDIAPRO and with Julius Baer as main sponsor

#### The concert with pieces of Haydn and Mozart will allow the public to listen to five young musicians from the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra

The spirit of understanding and the bringing together of cultures via music symbolized by Daniel Barenboim and the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra (WEDO) combine with the art of Miquel Barceló to celebrate Human Rights Day. The United Nations in Geneva will play host to the Concert for Human Rights organized by the ONUART Foundation, produced by MEDIAPRO and with Julius Baer as main sponsor. The orchestra, directed by its co-founder will play works by F.J. Haydn and W.A. Mozart. With this scenario, the renowned conductor will endorse five of the young musicians from the WEDO that will play as soloists.

The concert sets out to combine music and art for the promotion of peace efforts around the world and the defense of human rights. The imposing setting of the Human Rights Chamber in the Palais des Nations in Geneva, which houses the Miquel Barceló dome, will provide the perfect back-drop for a concert which sets out to highlight, through music, the principles contained in the Universal Declaration. Those principles are endorsed by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) in their objectives of promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding among civilizations.

The prestigious conductor will be performing with his West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, which he co-founded and is made up of musicians from Israel and Palestine as well as other Arab countries, an excellent example of understanding and integration whose objective is to promote reflection through music.







#### DANIEL BARENBOIM

Daniel Barenboim was born in Buenos Aires in 1942. He received his first piano lessons at age five, and was first taught by his mother. Later, he studied under his father, who would remain his only piano teacher. At the age of seven he gave his first public concert in Buenos Aires. His international debut came three years later with concerts in Vienna and Rome; followed by performances in Paris (1955), London (1956), and New York (1957) under Leopold Stokowski. Since then, he has regularly toured Europe and the United States, but also South America, Australia, and the Far East.



Ever since his conducting debut

in 1967 in London with the Philharmonia Orchestra, Daniel Barenboim has been in great demand with leading orchestras around the world. Between 1975 and 1989, he was chief conductor of the Orchestre de Paris and held the position of Music Director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra between 1991 and June 2006. Upon his departure the musicians of the orchestra named him Honorary Conductor for Life.

Since 1992, Barenboim has been General Music Director of the Staatsoper Unter den Linden. In 2000, the Staatskapelle Berlin appointed him Principal Conductor for Life.

With the opening of the season 2007/2008 Daniel Barenboim began a close relationship with the Teatro alla Scala in Milan as "Maestro Scaligero" where he conducts opera and concert performances as well as he plays in







chamber music concerts. Between 2011 and 2014 he was Music Director of this highly regarded opera house.

In 1999, Daniel Barenboim founded together with the Palestinian literary scholar Edward Said the West-Eastern Divan Workshop, which brings together young musicians from Israel and the Arab countries every summer to play music together. The workshop seeks to enable dialogue between the various cultures of the Middle East and promote the experience of playing music together. In summer 2005, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra presented a concert of historical significance in the Palestinian city of Ramallah, which was broadcast on television and recorded on DVD. Musicians of the Staatskapelle Berlin have participated as teachers in this project since its foundation.

Daniel Barenboim also initiated a project for music education in the Palestinian territories which includes the foundation of a music kindergarten as well as a Palestinian youth orchestra.

In 2002, Daniel Barenboim and Edward Said were awarded the Príncipe de Asturias Prize in the Spanish town of Oviedo for their peace efforts. In May 2004, he was awarded the Israeli Wolf Foundation's Arts Prize in the Knesset in Jerusalem. Between January and April 2006 Mr. Barenboim delivered the BBC Reith Lectures, and in September 2006 he gave six lectures at Harvard University as Charles Eliot Norton Professor. In 2007 he was awarded with the Hessische Friedenspreis and the Goethe-Medal. In the same year he received the honorary doctorate of the University of Oxford and was given "la Cravate de Commandeur dans l'Ordre national de la Légion d'Honneur" by former French President Jacques Chirac. In October 2007, Daniel Barenboim was also awarded with the prize for art and culture "Praemium Imperiale" by the Japanese imperial family. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon named Daniel Barenboim UN messanger of peace in September 2007. In Mai 2008 he received in Buenos Aires the award "Ciudadano Ilustre". In February 2009 Daniel Barenboim was honoured with the Moses Mendelssohn Medal for his engagement for international understanding. 2010 he received a "Honorary Degree in Music" of the Royal Academy of Music London. In February 2010 he was honoured with the "Deutsche Kulturpreis" for his lifelong musical activities. In October 2010 the "Westfälischer Friedenspreis" followed. In addition,







Daniel Barenboim was honoured with the Herbert-von-Karajan-Musikpreis and the Otto-Hahn-Friedensmedaille. In February 2011 he received the title "Grand officier dans l'ordre national de la Légion d'honneur" from the French President Nicolas Sarkozy. In July followed in London Wigmore Hall the honour "Outstanding Musician Award of the Critics' Circle". In the same month he was awarded by Queen Elizabeth II. as "Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire" (KBE). In October he was honoured with the Willy-Brandt-Preis. In October 2012 Daniel Barenboim was honoured with a "Echo Klassik" as lifetime achievement award. The "Große Verdienstkreuz mit Stern und Schulterband (Verdienstorden der Bundesrepublik Deutschland)" he received in February 2013. His recent awards are the Ernst-Reuter-Plakette of the Berlin Senat, the "Freiheitspreis" of the FU Berlin and the "Marion Dönhoff Preis".

Daniel Barenboim has published several books: the autobiography A Life in Music, and Parallels and Paradoxes, which he wrote together with Edward Said. In autumn 2007, his new book La Musica sveglia il tempo was published in Italy. The book has been available in German under the title Klang ist Leben – Die Macht der Musik since August 2008. With Patrice Chéreau he published in December 2008 Dialoghi su musica e teatro. Tristano e Isotta. His most recent publication La musica è un tutto: Etica ed estetica came out in Italy in 2012, translated into German and published as Musik ist alles und alles ist Musik. Erinnerungen und Einsichten in February 2014.

Since 2015, talented young musicians from the Middle East study at the Barenboim-Said Akademie in Berlin, another initiative founded by Daniel Barenboim. In the fall of 2016, this university for Music and the Humanities housed in the renovated former stage depot of the State Opera will start enrolling up to 90 students in a four-year bachelor program. Also, housed in the same building as the academy is the Frank Gehry-designed Pierre Boulez Hall that will enrich Berlin's musical life starting in March 2017.

http://danielbarenboim.com/







#### THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN ORCHESTRA



The West-Eastern Divan Orchestra has been a significant presence in the international music world. In 1999, Daniel Barenboim and the late Palestinian literary scholar Edward Said created a workshop for young musicians from Israel, Palestine and several Arab countries to promote coexistence and intercultural dialogue. They named the orchestra after Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's collection of poems entitled "West-Eastern Divan", a central work for the development of the concept of world culture.

The West-Eastern Divan Orchestra has proved time and again that music can break down barriers previously considered insurmountable. The only political aspect that prevails in the work of the WEDO is the conviction that there is no military solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that the destinies of Israelis and Palestinians are inextricably linked. Through its work and existence, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra demonstrates that bridges can be built to encourage people to listen to the narrative of the other.

The Orchestra's repertoire extends beyond symphonic works to opera and chamber music performances. Concert highlights have included performances at the most prestigious venues in Europe, Asia and the Americas. While the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra has become a regular guest at the main international music festivals in Europe, one of its goals is







to perform in the home countries of its members. Concerts in Rabat, Doha, Abu Dhabi and the emblematic concert in Ramallah in 2005 have been steps towards fulfilling this aspiration. The Orchestra has performed twice at the United Nations: in December 2006 in honour of Secretary-General Kofi Annan at the General Assembly Hall of the United Nations in New York and in October 2015 a Concert for the Understanding of Civilizations and Human Rights at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva. Daniel Barenboim and the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra have received numerous prestigious awards for the work with the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra. UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, designated the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra as a United Nations Global Advocate for Cultural Understanding in February 2016. The West-Eastern Divan Orchestra has released a number of highly acclaimed CDs/DVDs.

http://www.west-eastern-divan.org/







#### THE SOLOISTS

#### Kian Soltani

Born in Bregenz, Austria in 1992 into a Persian family of musicians, Kian Soltani was only twelve when he was accepted into the class of Ivan Monighetti, with whom he studied for 11 years at the Basel Music Academy. Since October 2014, he has



been part of the Young Soloist program at the Kronberg Academy in Germany with Frans Helmerson. Other strong influences have come from his studies at the International Music Academy of Liechtenstein as well as from renowned artists such as Sol Gabetta, Wolfgang Boettcher, Valter Despalj, Gerhard Mantel, David Geringas, Pieter Wispelwey, Jens Peter Maintz, Antonio Meneses and Bernard Greenhouse. Kian Soltani regularly tours as principal cellist with the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra under Daniel Barenboim.

At the age of 19, Kian Soltani made his successful solo debut in the Golden Hall of the Vienna Musikverein and at the Schubertiade in Hohenems. His appearances as a soloist and chamber musician have since included festivals and concerts with leading orchestras and at prominent halls in Europe, Asia and North America.

#### Cristina Gómez Godoy

Spanish oboist Cristina Gómez Godoy combines technical brilliance with musical expressiveness, stunning virtuosity with artistic sensitivity and "miraculously effortless instinctiveness" (Süddeutsche Zeitung). In 2012, at age twenty-one, she joined the Staatskapelle Berlin as solo English Horn. In







2013 Ms. Gómez was appointed principal solo oboist of the orchestra. Despite her young age, Cristina Gómez Godoy has already appeared as a soloist with major orchestras. Highlights of the 2016/17 include Cristina's debut as a soloist with the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra and several joint appearances together with Daniel Barenboim for the opening of Pierre Boulez Hall, Berlin's spectacular new concert venue. Born in 1990 in Linares, she studied at the Academia de Estudios Orquestales of the Barenboim-Said Foundation in Sevilla and later at the Academy of Music and Theatre in Rostock,



with Gregor Witt. Cristina Gómez Godoy lives in Berlin and plays an oboe by Ludwig Frank, Brilliant model.

#### Jussef Eisa

Jussef Eisa was born in Germany in 1985 to a Palestinian father and a German mother. He received his first clarinet lessons at age 9. He later studied in Detmold with Prof. H.-D. Klaus and Prof. Thomas Lindhorst. Additionally, he attended various master and chamber music classes with notable teachers and musicians such as Prof. Francois Benda, Prof. Norbert Kaiser, Prof. Eberhardt Feltz, Matthias Glander and Pierre Boulez. He joined the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra as a regular member in 2009 and performed the 'Dialogue de l'ombre' by Pierre Boulez as a soloist at the BBC Proms at Royal Albert Hall. Together with Maestro Daniel Barenboim and other



members of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra Jussef has also played chamber music in various concerts. He was academy member in the







Bavarian State Opera and Staatsoper Berlin as well as assistent Principal Clarinetist at the Bavarian State Opera for one year. As a guest, he joined many different orchestras such as the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester, the Kammerphilharmonie Bremen or the HR Sinfonieorchester and worked with conductors like Zubin Mehta, Kent Nagano, Kirill Petrenko and Daniel Barenboim.

#### Zeynep Köylüoglu

Zeynep Köylüoglu was born in Ankara, Turkey in 1986. She started studying the bassoon in 2002 at the State Conservatory of Izmir and later at the Academy of Music and Theatre in Hannover with Prof. Dag Jensen.

She regularly participated in projects of the Gustav



Mahler Jugendorchester and was a member of Orchestra Mozart, conducted by Claudia Abbado. From 2009 until 2010 Zeynep Köylüoglu was a scholar of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra Academy.

She won the 1st prize at the Hülsta International Woodwind Competition in 2008 and has been awarded 3rd prize at the Prague Spring International Music Competition in 2009, where additionally she has also been awarded Best interpretation of a new piece. Since 2010 Zeynep Köylüoglu is the coprincipal bassoonist of the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken. She has been a member of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra since 2009.







#### Merav Goldman

Merav studied for her first degree at the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music (Tel Aviv University) with Mr. Yoel Abadi. At that time, she was already a member of the Israeli Opera House Orchestra - the Israeli Symphonic Orchestra. After completing her studies in Tel Aviv Merav moved to New York, where she studied for her second degree at Mannes College (The New School University) with Mr. Philip Myers. During her studies in New York she joined the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra. Merav moved to Berlin to become a member of the Academy of



the Staatskapelle Berlin for two years. She is based in Berlin and regularly plays as a guest with the orchestra.

Merav has performed in New York, South America, Israel and throughout Europe, playing in orchestras under the baton of conductors such as Daniel Barenboim, Kurt Masur, Zubin Mehta and Christoph von Dohnanyi, as well as playing chamber music in collaboration with Maestro Daniel Barenboim, members of the Staatskapelle Berlin, the West Eastern Divan Orchestra and many others. In the coming months, she will also perform with the Boulez Ensemble in Berlin. Merav received scholarships of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and the Barenboim - Said Foundation.







#### **ONUART FOUNDATION**

The ONUART Foundation was established in 2007 by an important group of Spanish large companies and the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Spain with the objective to promote a closer link between Contemporary Art and the International Organizations. Since then, the foundation has evolved to become an international foundation through the entry of patrons from different countries.

Supporting the idea that Art is a powerful engine in the development and promotion of societies, the foundation supports the idea of giving high visibility of International Organizations by a more prominent presence of Contemporary Art in its daily life.

At the same time, the foundation is focused in the promotion of Human Rights by giving a greater role to Art in its protection. The foundation also considers Art of one of the best engines in favour of the understanding of Civilizations.

As a first important action ONUART promoted the creation of the most important and innovative piece of Art present in United Nations, the famous Dome of Miquel Barceló, in the Human Rights Chamber.

http://www.fundaciononuart.es







#### JULIUS BAER

Julius Baer is the leading Swiss private banking group with origins dating back to 1890, focusing on the demand of private clients, family offices and external asset managers around the world.

At Julius Baer, the promotion of arts, classical music, culture in general and selected sports has a long-standing tradition. In 1965, the Julius Baer Foundation was set up to make a contribution to the lives of others and society as a whole. Furthermore, the Julius Baer Art Collection specialises in works by contemporary Swiss artists who are at the beginning of their career, thereby pursuing the concept of promoting young talents.

Julius Baer focuses on carefully chosen sponsorships which reflect our own values such as care, passion and excellence. Through these commitments the Bank contributes to making cultural diversity accessible to a wider public.

Current partnerships include among others: Art Dubai, Lucerne Festival at the Piano, Verbier Festival, Dubai Polo Gold Cup and FIA Formula E Championship.

www.juliusbaer.com/sponsoring







#### **MEDIAPRO**

The MEDIAPRO Group occupies a leading position in the European audiovisual sector. With 30 offices on 4 continents, MEDIAPRO produces and distributes content and its activities cover everything from technical engineering to sports rights management, technical services provision, film production, signal transmission, design and production of themed channels and marketing consultancy services. The Group has worked with directors such as Woody Allen, Oliver Stone, Jean Jacques Annaud, Roman Polanski, Fernando León de Aranoa and Isabel Coixet.

One of the constant reference points of the MEDIAPRO group is its support for culture, which can be evidenced by the multitude of projects it has undertaken, among which include its museum and exhibition activity, carried out by the Mediapro Exhibitions area. On the basis of a series of overwhelmingly successful sports museums projects, Mediapro Exhibitions has expanded its scope into other areas such as science, gastronomy, architecture and art. Drawing on a new, contemporary and technological language, MEDIAPRO is spearheading several cultural projects worldwide with one common denominator: the endeavour to surprise, connect and seduce the public beyond their social, geographical or cultural nature.

www.mediapro.es







#### UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS (UNAOC)

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) is an initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General. Established in 2005, UNAOC is co-sponsored by the Governments of Spain and Turkey.

On March 1st, 2013 Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser assumed the leadership of UNAOC as High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. Prior to his current position, Mr. Al-Nasser was the President of the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Alliance benefits from the political support of the Group of Friends, a community of countries and international organizations which actively promotes the Alliance's objectives and work at the global, regional and local levels. The Group is a driving force of UNAOC and plays a vital role in the UNAOC's strategic planning and implementation process. Through a broad dialogue-based and consensus-building approach, the UNAOC High Representative seeks the input, advice and support of the Group of Friends' members on all key aspects of the UNAOC's activities and its mandate. UNAOC Group of Friends currently includes 145 Members: 119 UN Member States, 1 non-Member State, and 25 international organizations.

They represent all continents, societies and cultures. A high-level group of experts was formed to explore the roots of polarization between societies and cultures, and to recommend a practical programme of action to address this issue. In its 2006 report, the high-level group identified four priority areas for action: education, youth, migration, media. UNAOC project activities are fashioned around these four areas, which can play a critical role in helping to reduce cross-cultural tensions and to build bridges between communities.

Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General, has described UNAOC as a soft power tool for bridging divides and promoting understanding between countries or identity groups, all with a view toward preventing conflict and







promoting social cohesion. Addressing the High-Level Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends in October 2015, Mr. Ban said: "Leaders adopting the global goals envisage a world of respect for racial, ethnic and cultural diversity that is just, tolerant, equitable and open, which is perfectly aligned with the mission statement of the Alliance."

www.unaoc.org







#### THE HUMAN RIGHTS CHAMBER



The complete refurbishment of Room XX in the Palais des Nations was the ONUART Foundation's first big project. The result of the tremendous effort made is the recognition by the United Nations of the excellent work done with the space being renamed the Human Rights and Alliance of Civilizations Chamber, opened on the 18th November 2008.

The most impressive part of the hall is the dome created by the artist Miquel Barceló, with the author wishing to represent the grandeur of the sea and all its movement. The sea changes depending on the light, space and the location of the spectator. The work combines serenity and movement and "generates a host of different perceptions, which, thanks to its internal dynamic, transmit an optimistic, positive, constructive effect", in the words of the artist.

Miquel Barceló believes that the work of art also represents and highlights the different perceptions that can exist when multi-lateral negotiations and peace processes take place and lest we forget that not everybody sees things from the same perspective or point of view, making the Human Rights Chamber at the Palais des Nations an ideal location for the display of the work.







Since its opening, the Human Rights and Alliance of Civilisations Room has been the venue **for more than 40** sessions of the Human Rights Council and more than 280 meetings of different International Organisations based in Geneva. Since 2014, in addition, it has played host to the annual concert that takes place every year to commemorate Human Rights Day.







PROGRAMME

## Art transforms reality. Art can change the world.

Opening Message (video) Ban Ki-moon Secretary-General of the United Nations Remarks Michael Møller Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva Choi Kyonglim President of the United Nations Human Rights Council Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations

> Miguel Ángel Moratinos President of Fundación ONUART

With the support of the Governments of Peru, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Argentina, the Kingdom of Morocco, Switzerland as well as the Republic and Canton of Geneva and the City of Geneva.







#### CONCERT

#### F.J. Haydn

Concerto for Violoncello, Hob. VIIb:1, C major 1. Moderato 2. Adagio 3. Allegro molto

> Soloist: Cello- Kian Soltani

#### W.A. Mozart

Sinfonia concertante for four winds K297b

- 1. Allegro, in common time
- 2. Adagio in common time
- 3. Andante with variazioni

Soloists:

Oboe – Cristina Gomez Godoy Clarinet – Jussef Eisa Bassoon – Zeynep Köylüoglu Horn – Merav Goldman





