



## TSINANDALI FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR SIXTH EDITION, PRESENTING MUSIC AT THE CROSSROADS OF EUROPE AND ASIA

31 AUGUST – 8 SEPTEMBER 2024



Gianandrea Noseda conducting the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra ©agenda.de

- **The Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra, comprising musicians from across the Caucasus region, returns to lead the Festival**
- **Directed by Gianandrea Noseda, the Orchestra opens the Festival with Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*, before returning for three further concerts**
- **Soloists include pianists Boris Giltburg, Alexandre Kantorow, Bruce Liu, Mikhail Pletnev and Andrés Schiff; violinists Kristóf Baráti, Lisa Batiashvili and Joshua Bell; clarinetist Martin Fröst**

Today the celebrated Tsinandali Festival announces its sixth edition. Having taken place every year on the Tsinandali Estate in the beautiful Kakheti region of Georgia since 2019, the Festival stages classical music at the crossroads of Europe and Asia with world-class artists and ensembles.

The Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra (PCYO) lies at the heart of the Festival, bringing together young musicians from across the Caucasus countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkey,

Ukraine and Turkmenistan. These budding professionals have the chance to collaborate with internationally renowned conductors, coaches and soloists, breaking down perceived barriers through music.

Conducted by its Music Director, Gianandrea Noseda, the PCYO opens the Festival with Verdi's mighty *Requiem* on 31 August. The Orchestra appears again on 3 September to perform Mahler's Symphony No. 4 and Wieniawski's Violin Concerto No. 2 with violinist Joshua Bell and soprano Barbara Frittoli. Under Vasily Petrenko, the PCYO takes on Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances* and Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 2 with soloist Alexandre Kantorow on 6 September. And on 8 September, the Orchestra closes the Festival with a programme of Schubert, Mendelssohn and Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 with soloist Lisa Batiashvili, conducted by András Schiff.

As well as orchestral programmes, this year's Tsinandali Festival presents extraordinary recitals and chamber music concerts with world-leading musicians. These include recitals by major pianists Boris Giltburg, Alexandre Kantorow, Bruce Liu, Mihail Pletnev and András Schiff. Distinguished musicians such as Steven Isserlis and Irène Duval perform as part of chamber ensembles, and the Lisa Batiashvili Foundation presents quintets by Korngold and the beloved 23-year-old Georgian composer Sandro Nebieridze.

Aside from presenting spectacular performances, the Tsinandali Festival seeks to foster a culture of education, encouraging understanding and peace in an historically fraught region. This is epitomised in seminars and masterclasses given by visiting artists and attended by young musicians performing at the Festival.

The sixth edition of the Tsinandali Festival will see a range of international classical stars performing together in a variety of lunchtime and evening concerts. All programmes have been curated by the Festival's joint Founders & Artistic Directors, Martin Engstroem and Avi Shoshani.

**Martin Engstroem and Avi Shoshani** comment:

*"As we present the sixth edition of the Tsinandali Festival, we are mindful that the work of the Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra is more vital than ever. By bringing together these gifted young musicians from around the region we hope to create a community that listens to each other and plays together to not only make great music but one that also transcends division and inspires hope. Their opening concert of Verdi's Requiem will have an emotional power that resonates far beyond the grounds of the Tsinandali estate. As always, we are indebted to the vision and support of George Ramishvili and his team."*

**George Ramishvili**, Chairman of the Silk Road Group & Chairman and Founder of the Tsinandali Festival:

*"The Festival's sixth season is coming and I am happy that with every season it gains more and more success and public interest. Tsinandali, our cultural gem, has become well known to the international audience of classical music lovers. More so, that it hosted the 2024 Europakonzert by the Berliner Philharmoniker. Tsinandali is a place of magic and I hope it will continue to bring more and more talented young musicians together to perform under the batons of the world's leading conductors and demonstrate the power of music, the power of artistic unity and the power of humanity."*

**Yerkin Tatischev**, Founder and Board Member comments:

*"The Tsinandali estate has attracted artists for centuries and the Tsinandali Festival brings today's greatest classical musicians and the rising stars of tomorrow together in the spectacular*

*surroundings of the estate. Everyone associated with the Festival is proud to bring people together for music making at the highest level.”*

**David Sakvarelidze, General Director of the Tsinandali Festival, comments:**

*“Georgia has a great history of producing some of the world’s finest artists who have influenced artists way beyond our borders. The Tsinandali Festival builds on this foundation of artistic excellence by acting as a hub for established and rising stars of the classical world to perform together, explore new repertoire and enjoy the charm and hospitality that Georgia is renowned for.”*

The Tsinandali estate on May 1<sup>st</sup> hosted the Georgian debut of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra. The Orchestra’s Artist in Residence, Lisa Batiashvili, described the Europakonzert in her Georgian homeland as the “highlight of my life”. The visit by the European orchestra was widely celebrated as a statement in support of Georgia’s candidacy for EU membership. Batiashvili performed Brahms’s Violin Concerto under the baton of Daniel Harding, who then conducted Georgian Miniatures and Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony. The concert can be viewed here:

<https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/concert/55188>

**For more information on the festival please visit <https://tsinandalifestival.ge/>**

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## **Editor’s Notes**

### **Tsinandali Festival and the Silk Road Group**

The Tsinandali Festival is part of the Silk Road Group’s long-term development plan for the Tsinandali Estate. This has included the restoration of Prince Alexander Chavchavadze’s manor house, a unique mix of Georgian and European architectural styles from 1812 that is 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 amphitheatre 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. The frescoes adorning the site belong to the beloved Georgian artist Tamara Kvesitadze.

### **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.

Tsinandali Festival is presented by Silknet

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Hosts: Radisson Collection Hotel, Tsinandali Estate Georgia, Park Hotel Tsinandali

## **FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

### **31 August**

#### **19:00 – Amphitheatre**

Gianandrea Noseda – Conductor

Erika Grimaldi - Soprano

Agnieszka Rehlis - Mezo-soprano

Charles Castronovo - Tenor

Marko Mimica - Bass-baritone

Chorus of the Georgian National Opera and Ballet Theater of Tbilisi

Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra

Giuseppe Verdi – Messa da Requiem

## 1 September

### **12:00 - Amphitheatre**

Bruce Liu - Piano

Jean-Philippe Rameau - Pièces de Clavecin  
Les Tendres Plaintes. Rondeau (from Suite in D Major, RCT 3)  
Les Cyclopes. Rondeau (from Suite in D major, RCT 3)  
Minuets I & II (from Suite in G Major/G Minor, RCT 6)  
Les Sauvages (from Suite in G Major/G Minor, RCT 6)  
La Poule (from Suite in G Major/G Minor, RCT 6)  
Gavotte et six doubles (from Suite in A Minor, RCT 5)  
Frédéric Chopin - Piano Sonata No. 2 in B-flat Minor, Op. 35  
Frédéric Chopin - Variations on "Là ci darem la mano", Op. 2

### **19:00 - Amphitheatre**

Mikhail Pletnev – Piano

Alexander Scriabin - 24 Preludes, Op.11  
Frédéric Chopin - 24 Preludes, Op.28

## 2 September

### **12:00 – Chamber Hall**

Joshua Bell – Violin  
Irène Duval – Violin  
Blythe Teh Engstroem - Viola  
Steven Isserlis - Cello  
Jeremy Denk – Piano

Gabriel Fauré – Piano Quartet No. 2 in G Minor, Op. 45  
Gabriel Fauré – Piano Quintet No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 89

### **19:00 - Amphitheatre**

Martin Fröst – Clarinet, Conductor  
Orchestra TBA

### **Dance Mosaic**

Jean-Philippe Rameau - Gigue from "Dardanus" (arranged for Clarinet and Orchestra by Hans Ek)  
George Frideric Handel - Dixit Dominus, HWV 232 (arranged for Clarinet and Orchestra by Hans Ek)  
Johannes Brahms - Hungarian Dance No. 1 in G Minor, WoO 1  
Göran Fröst/Martin Fröst - Nomadic Dances  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Gigue in G Major, KV 574 (arranged for Clarinet and Orchestra by Hans Ek)  
Andres Hillborg - Hyper Exit

Ludwig van Beethoven - Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92

### 3 September

**12:00** - Chamber Hall  
Steven Isserlis - Cello  
Mikhail Pletnev - Piano

Mikhail Pletnev – Sonata for Cello and Piano  
Sergei Rachmaninoff - Sonata for Cello and Piano in G Minor, Op. 19

#### **19:00 - Amphitheatre**

Gianandrea Noseda – Conductor  
Joshua Bell – Violin  
Barbara Frittoli - Soprano  
Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra

Henryk Wieniawski -Violin Concerto No. 2 in D Minor, Op. 22  
Gustav Mahler - Symphony No. 4 in G Major

### 4 September

#### **12:00 – Chamber Hall**

Edgar Moreau - Cello  
Julien Quentin – Piano

Felix Mendelssohn – Sonata for Cello and Piano No. 2 in D Major, Op. 58  
Johannes Brahms - Sonata for Cello and Piano No. 2 in F Major, Op. 99  
Franz Waxman - Carmen Fantasie based on themes by Georges Bizet for Cello and Piano

#### **19:00 - Amphitheatre**

Martin Fröst – Clarinet  
Joshua Bell – Violin  
Irène Duval – Violin  
Blythe Teh Engstroem - Viola  
Steven Isserlis – Cello  
Jeremy Denk – Piano

Johannes Brahms - Clarinet Quintet in B Minor, Op. 115  
Johannes Brahms - Four Pieces for Piano, Op. 119  
Johannes Brahms – Clarinet Trio in A Minor, Op. 114

### 5 September

#### **12:00 – Chamber Hall**

Boris Giltburg - Piano

Robert Schumann – Carnival, Op. 9  
Franz Liszt - Piano Sonata in B Minor, S.178

#### **19:00 – Chamber Hall**

András Schiff - Piano

Works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig van Beethoven

## 6 September

### **12:00 – Chamber Hall**

Kristóf Baráti – Violin

Johann Sebastian Bach – Partita for Solo Violin No. 3 E Major, BWV 1006

Johann Sebastian Bach – Partita No. 1 in B Minor, BWV 1002

Johann Sebastian Bach – Partita No. 2 in A Minor, BWV 1003

### **19:00 - Amphitheatre**

Vasily Petrenko – Conductor

Alexandre Kantorow - Piano

Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra

Pyotr Tchaikovsky - Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Major, Op. 44

Sergei Rachmaninoff - Symphonic Dances, Op. 45

## 7 September

### **12:00 - Amphitheatre**

Lisa Batiashvili Foundation Presents...

Veriko Tchumburidze – Violin

Sofiko Tchumburidze – Violin

Giorgi Mardaleishvili – Viola

Edgar Moreau - Cello

Sandro Nebieridze - Piano

Sandro Nebieridze - Piano Quintet No. 1 “Sisyphus” (world premiere)

Erich Wolfgang Korngold - Piano Quintet in E Major, Op. 15

### **19:00 - Amphitheatre**

Alexandre Kantorow - Piano

Johannes Brahms – Rhapsody in B Minor, Op.79, No.1

Franz Liszt - Transcendental Etude No. 12 in B-flat Minor, “Chasse Neige”

Franz Liszt - Années de Pèlerinage: Première année: Suisse, S.160 – No. 6 “Vallée d'Obermann”

Béla Bartok – Rhapsody, Op. 1, Sz. 26, BB 36

Sergei Rachmaninoff – Piano Sonata No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 28

Bach/Brahms – Chaconne from Violin Partita No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1004, arrangement for piano left hand

## 8 September

### **12:00 - Amphitheatre**

Kristóf Baráti - Violin

Edgar Moreau - Cello

Boris Giltburg - Piano

Bedřich Smetana – Piano Trio in G Minor, Op. 15  
Felix Mendelssohn- Piano Trio No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 66

**19:00 - Amphitheatre**

András Schiff – Conductor

Lisa Batiashvili - Violin

Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra

Franz Schubert - Die Zauberharfe. Overture in C Major, D. 644, "Rosamunde"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Major, K. 219

Felix Mendelssohn - Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Op. 90, "Italian"