

Press Release

Baltic Sea Philharmonic and Kristjan Järvi to make Venice Biennale debut with world premiere by Brian Eno

- **Orchestra to give two concerts at Teatro La Fenice on 21 October 2023**
- **World premiere of Brian Eno's *Ships***
- **First collaboration with British musical pioneer**
- **Baltic Sea Philharmonic to tour Germany and Italy in 2023 with 'Midnight Sun' programme**

Berlin, 4 April 2023. The **Baltic Sea Philharmonic** and **Kristjan Järvi** will make their debut at the **Venice Biennale** with the world premiere of ***Ships*** by pioneering British musician **Brian Eno**. On 21 October, 36 musicians of the orchestra will perform this sensational new work in two concerts at the Teatro La Fenice. Composer, musician, producer and visual artist, Brian Eno will receive the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Biennale Musica 2023. For the Baltic Sea Philharmonic, this world premiere reflects the orchestra's distinctive mission to take musical performances to new dimensions. The collaboration with Brian Eno is the latest in a string of unique projects and encounters with such musicians as the British indie-pop band Bastille (2020), the Estonian singer-songwriter Mick Pedaja (2019) and the pianist Olga Scheps (2022). With *Ships* the innovative ensemble and its conductor set course for the sound worlds of a musical legend.

Concert tickets are available at Biennale website [here](#).

Innovation at every turn

The Baltic Sea Philharmonic and Kristjan Järvi are excited to collaborate with Brian Eno and to be part of the 2023 Venice Biennale. The British musician, composer, record producer and visual artist is a musical pioneer – a true innovator in the world of music. His work spans genres such as ambient, electronica, rock and classical, and his influence can be felt in the work of artists from David Bowie to U2. He has produced some of the most iconic albums of the last four decades, including David Bowie's *Berlin Trilogy* and U2's *Achtung Baby*. He is also a major innovator in the field of soundscapes, and is credited with creating the genre of ambient music. Brian Eno is a true visionary, whose influence continues to shape the musical landscape of today.

Discovering new paths of innovation in 2023

The Baltic Sea Philharmonic is pursuing its own path of innovation with its renowned programme



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'**Midnight Sun**', which it will present in a series of exciting concert tours in 2023. The programme, which takes its name from the Nordic phenomenon of the never-setting midnight sun, will start on 21 June at the Berlin Philharmonie, with subsequent performances at the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg on 22 June and the Kissinger Sommer on 23 June. Later in 2023 the 'Midnight Sun' programme undergoes a transformation with more concerts in Germany and Italy. The orchestra and Kristjan Järvi will open the Usedom Music Festival on 16 September before touring Italy from 20–23 September, with visits to the Merano Music Festival (20 September), the Teatro Filarmonico in Verona (21 September) and the Teatro Amintore Galli in Rimini (22 September). For detailed information on the Baltic Sea Philharmonic's concert calendar, visit www.baltic-sea-philharmonic.eu.

Baltic Sea Philharmonic – a revolution in music and culture

The Baltic Sea Philharmonic takes the orchestral concert experience to a new dimension. Every performance is a voyage of musical discovery, as the musicians perform the entire programme from memory, creating a one-of-a-kind artistic journey. Each concert is a unique spectacle of sound, light, visual art, technology, choreography and playing by heart, and under the electrifying baton of Music Director and Founding Conductor Kristjan Järvi every performance has a special energy that's absolutely infectious. But even more than this, as a community of musicians from ten Nordic countries, the Baltic Sea Philharmonic transcends boundaries and has become a movement for bringing people together. Embodying all that is innovative and progressive about the Nordic region, this visionary ensemble is taking the traditional orchestral model further than ever before. 'It is a living breathing creature, with boundless energy and enthusiasm for the new – an adventure in itself,' says Kristjan Järvi.

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About the Baltic Sea Philharmonic

The Baltic Sea Philharmonic is a unique Nordic orchestra that brings together musicians from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden. The orchestra started life in 2008 as the Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic on the initiative of the Usedom Music Festival. It quickly established an international reputation, not just for its acclaimed performances under the baton of Kristjan Järvi, but also with its powerful message of unity and cooperation in a historically divided region. In 2015 the orchestra's achievements were honoured with the prestigious European Culture Prize by the European



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Culture Foundation 'Pro Europe'. In 2016 the orchestra was renamed the Baltic Sea Philharmonic. Since then it has toured innovative programmes that throw classical music conventions out of the window and enable audiences to experience new musical dimensions. After becoming the first orchestra in the world to perform Stravinsky's *The Firebird* from memory, the Baltic Sea Philharmonic is now widely known for its commitment to playing entire programmes by heart. The orchestra's growing discography with Kristjan Järvi includes four acclaimed recordings for Sony Classical, the most recent of which is Järvi's own arrangement of Tchaikovsky's ballet *The Nutcracker*. Recorded by the orchestra completely from memory, *Nutcracker. A Dramatic Symphony* was released in December 2022. In addition, Max Richter's album *EXILES*, recorded by the Baltic Sea Philharmonic and Kristjan Järvi, was released in August 2021 on Deutsche Grammophon. In 2022 the Baltic Sea Philharmonic continued its innovative digital project 'Musical Chain', which it launched in 2020 in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. This unique series of classical remix videos brings musicians from the orchestra together with international artists and creative collaborators. In 2023 the Baltic Sea Philharmonic will once again travel thousands of miles across Europe: With 'Midnight Sun' in June, the orchestra captures the magic of midsummer nights by weaving the special colours and rhythms of Nordic composers into a total artistic experience combining music, choreography, light and sound design. In September 2023 the orchestra and Kristjan Järvi will give further concerts in Germany and Italy in a second 'Midnight Sun' tour with a new programme.