

Press Release

Presale of the Baltic Sea Philharmonic's new 'Midnight Sun' tour with Kristjan Järvi starts today

- **Summer tour of the Baltic Sea Philharmonic and Kristjan Järvi from 21–23 June 2023 at the Berlin Philharmonie, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg and Kissinger Sommer**
- **Programme is inspired by the Nordic phenomenon of the midnight sun and features music by Tubin, Rääts, Kristjan Järvi, Stravinsky and Liis Jürgens**
- **Baltic Sea Philharmonic transforms concert experience into uninterrupted sonic excitement, with a programme played entirely from memory**

Berlin 6 March 2023. The **Baltic Sea Philharmonic** and **Kristjan Järvi** will bring their renowned programme '**Midnight Sun**' to Germany in the summer of 2023. The new tour, which takes its name from the Nordic phenomenon of the never-setting midnight sun, will start on **21 June** at the **Berlin Philharmonie**, then continue to the **Elbphilharmonie Hamburg** on **22 June** and conclude at the **Kissinger Sommer** on **23 June**. The three concerts will transport audiences into the unique world of a youthful, international group of forward-thinking musicians and their pioneering conductor. Concert-goers will experience a stimulating musical journey with no breaks or intermission, as the performers play from memory without the use of music stands. The musicians' kinetic energy on stage and their dynamic engagement with each other and their conductor further enhance the presentation.

This outstanding summer event brings together works by Tubin, Rääts, Kristjan Järvi and the orchestra's harpist Liis Jürgens. The highlight of the evening will be the 1945 version of Stravinsky's classic *The Firebird*. It is the centrepiece of a programme full of fresh and invigorating interpretations, all performed in inimitable Baltic Sea Philharmonic style.

Tickets for the Berlin concert, held in collaboration with the Young Euro Classic international music festival in Berlin, are available from 6 March [here](#). Tickets for the Elbphilharmonie concert go on sale from the same date [here](#). The 'Midnight Sun' tour is sponsored by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

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Immerse yourself in Nordic midsummer nights

The immersive sound spectacle of 'Midnight Sun' brings the magical atmosphere of a Nordic midsummer to Berlin, Hamburg and Bad Kissingen, inspired by the phenomenon of the never-setting midnight sun in the summer months above the Arctic Circle. After an uplifting introduction with Kristjan Järvi's *Ascending Swans*, which transports the audience from the hot Central European summer nights to the cool of the far North, the orchestra and conductor move into far more epic and exotic realms with Stravinsky. *The Firebird* was the first full-length work that the Baltic Sea Philharmonic performed completely by heart – the orchestra's world-premiere memorised performance of the Stravinsky classic took place in 2017 on the Swedish island of Gotland on the orchestra's 'Baltic Folk' tour. The longing for transformation and renewal so powerfully expressed in *The Firebird* has since been an important theme for the orchestra as it takes musical performance to new dimensions. After selections from Jaan Rääts' *Concerto for Chamber Orchestra No. 1*, the 'Midnight Sun' programme continues to the southeast of Estonia and the Seto region with the *Setu Tants* by Estonian master Eduard Tubin. *The Dream of Tabu-Tabu* by Baltic Sea Philharmonic harpist Liis Jürgens – a powerful, cinematic declaration of freedom of expression and against totalitarianism and violence – precedes the evening's closing piece, Kristjan Järvi's *Midnight Sun*.

Even more 'Midnight Sun' in Germany and Italy

Later in 2023 the Baltic Sea Philharmonic's 'Midnight Sun' programme undergoes another 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 .

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



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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.

Press contact

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Notes to editors:

'Midnight Sun'

Wednesday, 21 June 2023, 8.00pm, Philharmonie Berlin

Thursday, 22 June 2023, 8.00pm, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg

Friday, 23 June 2023, 8.00pm, Kissinger Sommer

Baltic Sea Philharmonic

Kristjan Järvi

Kristjan Järvi: *Ascending Swans*

Igor Stravinsky: *The Firebird* (1945 version)

Jaan Rääts: Concerto for Chamber Orchestra No. 1 (excerpts)

Eduard Tubin: 'Setu Tants' from the *Estonian Dance Suite*

Liis Jürgens: *The Dream of Tabu-Tabu*

Kristjan Järvi: *Midnight Sun*

Ticket link Philharmonie Berlin: <https://www.eventim.de/event/baltic-sea-philharmonic-kristjan-jaervi-philharmonie-berlin-16707477/>

Ticket link Elbphilharmonie Hamburg: <https://www.elbphilharmonie.de/de/programm/baltic-sea-philharmonic-kristjan-jarvi/19927>

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 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



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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 be able to travel thousands of miles across Europe, beginning in June with its first 'Midnight Sun' tour of Germany. With 'Midnight Sun', 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, complete with a new programme.