

Press Release



Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic debut concert in Paris, 31 March 2015, 8pm at Théâtre des Champs-Élysées

- **A *Baltic Sea Voyage* under the baton of Kristjan Järvi**

Berlin, 26 March 2015. Renowned for its exhilarating live performances, Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic makes its Paris debut on Tuesday 31 March 2015 at the city's prestigious Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. Under the baton of Founding Conductor and Music Director, Kristjan Järvi, the orchestra brings to France for the first time its electrifying concert programme, *Baltic Sea Voyage*, celebrating the rich and diverse musical landscape of the entire region. The concert is under the joint patronage of the Ambassadors of all Baltic Sea states to France.

Discover the unique sound of the Baltic Sea region

Audiences will have the chance to hear music from composers representing every country in the Baltic Sea region: Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. The programme of musical riches features 10 pieces of music, and will take audiences on a journey of discovery across the Baltic Sea. Russian composers such as Mussorgsky and Tchaikovsky feature on the programme as well as Sibelius from Finland and Grieg from Norway. New music from young, contemporary composers such as Gediminas Gelgotas from Lithuania will also be heard.

Unique voice from the North

Founded in 2008 as a joint initiative of the Usedom Music Festival and Nord Stream AG, the Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic features musicians aged 18-30 from, or studying in, the ten countries bordering the Baltic Sea. Retaining national specialities but opening up to international perspective, the musicians share their influence, knowledge and perspective to create a unique voice for the region. More than a youth orchestra, it is a project for cultural and social integration and cooperation to create unity in a historically-divided region.

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Concert programme

Ludwig von Beethoven (Germany): Overture from Die Geschöpfe des Prometheus, Op. 43
Jean Sibelius (Finland): Karelia Suite (Excerpt)
Krzysztof Penderecki (Poland): "Adagio" from Symphony No. 3
Wojciech Kilar (Poland): Orawa
Wilhelm Stenhammar (Sweden): "Mellanspel" from Sängen, Op. 44
Carl Nielsen (Denmark): Overture from An Imaginary Journey to the Faroe Islands (Excerpt)
Edvard Grieg (Norway): "Triumphal March" from Sigurd Jorsalfar, Op. 56
Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (Russia): Capriccio Espagnol Op. 34
Arvo Pärt (Estonia): Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten
Gediminas Gelgotas (Lithuania): Never Ignore the Cosmic Ocean
Imants Kalniņš (Latvia): "Rock Symphony" No.4, I. Allegretto

About the Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic

The Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic was founded in 2008 as a joint initiative of the Usedom Music Festival and Nord Stream AG, who have continued to support the orchestra ever since. The orchestra has been funded since 2013 by the Baltic Sea Music Education Foundation. www.bmef.eu

Usedom Music Festival

The sound of the Baltic Sea has been heard since 1994 on the island of Usedom. Every year in the late summer, the Usedom Music Festival devotes itself to the cultural region around the Baltic Sea. The festival presented the musical life of Russia, Poland, the Baltic States, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark, as well as former Prussia. Soloists such as Mstislav Rostropovich, Gidon Kremer, Olli Mustonen, Nina Stemme, Bo Skovhus as well as Jan Garbarek and the Esbjörn Svensson Trio enthralled their audiences. The Peenemünde Concerts, frequently featuring the NDR Symphony Orchestra, are among the highlights of the more than 40 events presented by the Festival each year. From 19 September to 10 October 2015, the musical and cultural life of Finland will be the focus of the Festival. www.usedomer-musikfestival.de

Nord Stream AG

Co-founder and lead sponsor of the Baltic Sea Youth Philharmonic, Nord Stream AG is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and subsequent operation of a natural gas pipeline to link Russia and the European Union through the Baltic Sea. Sponsorship of the BYP is part of Nord Stream's programme of cultural, scientific and environmental initiatives that benefit the Baltic Sea region. Nord Stream AG stands for sustainable development, environmental, economic and social responsibility in the energy sector. The idea of a Baltic youth orchestra struck a chord with Nord Stream immediately: like Nord Stream the BYP would be innovative, cross-cultural and only made possible through teamwork and close collaboration across frontiers. www.nord-stream.com