



GIOACHINO ROSSINI

CSO  
April 2019

Newsletter

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## Celebrating Rossini's 150<sup>th</sup> death anniversary in Easter concert

### A Glorious Stabat Mater

An opera composer to his bones, Rossini had, with characteristic eccentricity, decided to retire at the age of only 37. Perhaps the phenomenal achievement of having written over 30 operas in the space of just 19 years, many of which were – and still are – wildly popular, had left him feeling burnt out. True to his word, he never wrote another opera. But his irrepressible operatic spirit permeates the few pieces he did go on to compose, none more so than the magnificent Stabat

Mater. With its magical fusion of heartfelt solemnity and devotion with theatrical drama and joyous melodies, some even argue that this work represents the summation of his art. This Easter concert features soprano **Iman Moustafa**, mezzo-soprano **Jolie Faizy**, tenor **Amr Medhat**, bass **Reda El Wakil** accompanied by A Cappella choir under Choir Master **May Gvineria**. Music Director **Ahmed El Saedi** takes the baton in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Center.



**Iman Moustafa & Jolie Faizy**  
Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano in Easter Concert



**Amr Medhat & Reda El Wakil**  
Tenor, Bass in Rossini's Stabat Mater

## Panorama Concert

Join the CSO for a panoramic vision of the repertoire from Mozart to Stravinsky in a concert led by guest conductor **Nader Abbassi**.

Igor Stravinsky is widely considered as one of the most important and influential composers of the 20th century. *The Firebird* ballet, remained one of his most popular work that he conducted hundreds of performances, mainly in the form of the suites, of which the 1919 delightful suite



**LAURA VIRTANEN,**  
VIOLIN

Performs the Egyptian premiere of Jean Sibelius 6 Violin Humoresques on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

became the best known. On the other hand the rare Sibelius 6 Humoresques for violin and string orchestra, performed by his compatriot **Laura Virtanen**, will be a happy surprise to the audience, bearing in mind his great violin concerto.



**Francesca Khalifa**

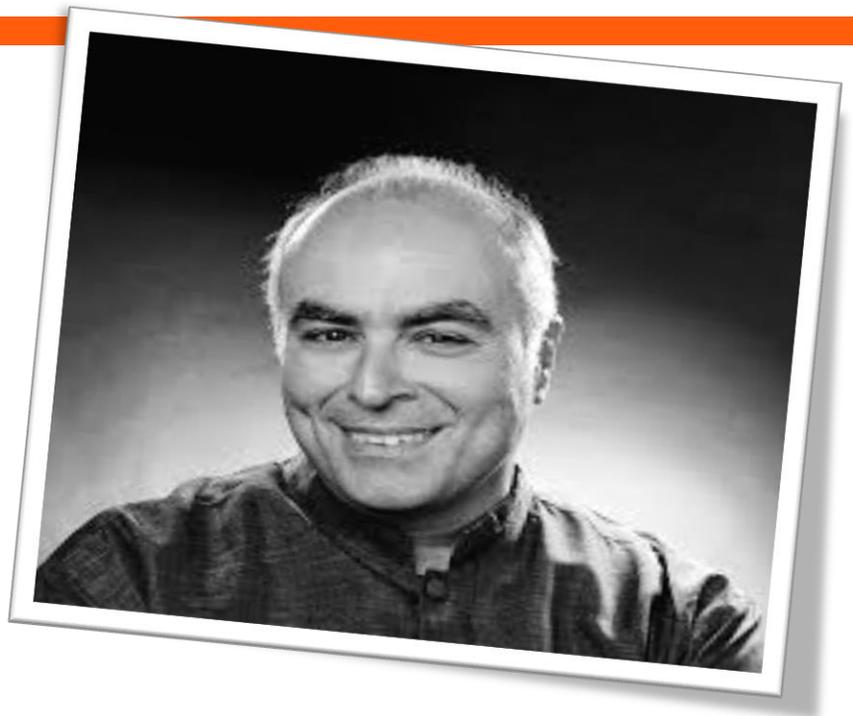
Is performing Mozart concerto No. 13 on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mozart Concerto in C major, K415 presents itself orchestral, grand and virtuoso. The orchestral opening is coloured in a military tone with a broader scope than the previous concerto, the solo sections are sharply distinguished. Our soloist **Francesca Khalifa** has plenty of room to show proof of her dexterity till the end.

A perfect conclusion is Wagner's Tannhäuser overture that contains many of the most important themes from the opera, including the Pilgrims' Chorus, written in the chorale style of J.S. Bach, highly chromatic music associated with the sensuous world of Venusberg, and the ode to Venus.

## Spring Concert

Spring is always associated with joy and capricious trends to forget winter tough moments. This is indeed what we will feel under the baton of music director **Ahmed El Saedi** on April 30<sup>th</sup>



Carpriccio Espagnol is often lauded for its orchestration, which features a large percussion section and many special techniques and articulations. Despite the critical praise, Rimsky-Korsakov was annoyed that the other aspects of the piece were being ignored: The change of timbres, the felicitous choice of melodic designs and brief virtuoso cadenzas for most instruments solo.

.On the other hand, Capriccio Italien was inspired by a trip Tchaikovsky took to Rome with his brother Modest as respite from the composer's disastrous marriage. Capriccio Italien has great power, even though it's practically a pops piece, Tchaikovsky knows

what the instruments can do in a virtuoso way. He brings them to their limit in the most thrilling fashion. He has a gift for mixing families of instruments just right – like cantabile strings along with mighty brass. We can hear the ballet element in everything Tchaikovsky writes, in his wonderful sense of rhythm.

Zoltán Kodály composed Tánze aus Galánta for the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra in 1933. He chose the themes from written librettos and the principle motifs of this work come from those typical Hungarian dances.

Our soloist is eminent pianist **Yasser Mokhtar** will perform

a short but very impressive work by Chopin. The coupling of the Andante spianato and Grande Polonaise is wonderfully effective and the only one of Chopin's works for piano and orchestra, other than the concertos, to have retained a regular place in the repertoire.

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