

2006

REYKJAVÍK ARTS FESTIVAL

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Ticket on-line www.artfest.is Opens March 1.

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Listahátíð í Reykjavík 2006 / Reykjavík Arts Festival 2006

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Saturday May 27

20.00 The Creation, Haydn's masterpiece performed by the North Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Icelandic soloists and choirs from the East Fjords, at the Church and Cultural Centre in Eskifjörður, east Iceland.

23.30 Midnight Concerts, part III. Spring Breeze. The versatile singer Andrea Gylfadóttir will be joined by jazz guitarist Björn Thoroddsen and his trio. Icelandic song programme. At Iðnó Theatre

Sunday May 28

11.00 Sunday Matinée with Schumann, part III – Coexistence, Illness and Death. Performers: Þorsteinn Gauti Sigurðsson, Kristín Jónína Taylor. At Ýmir Concert Hall.

17.00 I Fagiolini perform a Monteverdi programme at the Icelandic Opera.

20.00 Magnolia, Dada von Bzdülów Theatre, Poland, dance performance as part of Trans Danse Europe at Reykjavík City Theatre.

21.00 Mugison and band at Austurbær.



I Fagiolini – early music ensemble

I Fagiolini are acknowledged worldwide as the most innovative British vocal ensemble specializing in early music. For the Reykjavík Arts Festival, I Fagiolini will perform Vecchi's commedia dell'arte opera, L'Amfiparnaso. Through a virtuosic ensemble score, Vecchi brought to life wonderful characters of late 16th-century Venice. Each scene is introduced by a short comic spoken introduction performed by one of Iceland's leading actors, Hilmir Snær Guðnason. As a different programme, the group will also hold a Monteverdi concert – Flaming Heart – which has been hailed by The Times as "mesmerising... a compelling but upsetting piece of theatre..."



Music director: Robert Hollingworth

In collaboration with the Icelandic Opera.

Venue: The Icelandic Opera, May 25, 26 and 28; the Church and Cultural Centre in Eskifjörður (east Iceland), May 27.

Mugison in Concert

The popular, multitalented musician Örn Elías Guðmundsson, known as Mugison, is currently one of Iceland's brightest stars. The sincerity and unpretentiousness of his music has hit home both in Iceland and abroad, and his CDs have received rave reviews. Mugison is usually known for performing alone but this time he will team up with some of Iceland's most innovative musicians.

Venue: Austurbær, May 28



Le Pays – a French opera

Written by the French composer Joseph-Guy Ropartz at the beginning of the 20th century, Le Pays is the only opera by a non-Icelandic composer to be set in Iceland. It is based on actual events that took place in 1873 and tells the tale of a French sailor who survives a shipwreck off the Icelandic coast and falls in love with a local girl. The opera was premiered in Nancy, France in 1912 and staged in l'Opera Comique in Paris a year later. This performance will be the first for 88 years and an Icelandic premiere. Performed by the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra along with three of Iceland's best-known singers: Sigrún Hjálmtýsdóttir, soprano; Bergþór Pálsson, baritone, and Gunnar Guðbjörnsson, tenor. Conductor: Kurt Kopecky. Director: Stefán Baldursson. Dancer: Lára Stefánsdóttir

Venue: The courtyard at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House, May 26 and 27.

Thursday June 1

10.00 Sensi/able Spaces; Space, Art and the Environment. Hosted by the University of Iceland departments of Philosophy, and Geology and Geography. Conference at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

21.00 Anders Widmark and trio perform Widmark's critically acclaimed jazz version of Bizet's music for the opera Carmen. 1st concert at Club NASA.

Friday June 2

09.00 Sensi/able Spaces; Space, Art and the Environment. Conference at the University of Iceland, Askja.

20.00 Der Freischütz by Carl Maria von Weber. A group of talented young Icelandic singers and musicians performs this great classical piece for the first time in Iceland in collaboration with the National Theatre of Iceland. Conductor: Gunnsteinn Ólafsson. Premiere at the National Theatre of Iceland.

21.00 Anders Widmark and trio, Carmen programme, 2nd concert, at Club NASA.



REYKJAVÍK ARTS FESTIVAL

20th Festival from 1970 inception

2006



May 12 - June 2



Friday May 12

17.30 Opening Ceremony

The Mayor of Reykjavík, Steinunn Valdís Óskarsdóttir, opens the festival, followed by an exciting programme aired live on National Television, RÚV. At Reykjavík City Theatre.

19.00 The Settlement Exhibition based on the archaeological excavation of one of the first houses built in Iceland. Ongoing opening ceremony in the heart of Reykjavík.

20.00 Grupo Corpo, the Brazilian dance company, 1st performance at Reykjavík City Theatre.

Saturday May 13

11.00 The Icelandic Settlement Centre formally opens in Borgarnes, about 60 km north of Reykjavík.

13.00 Mr. Skallagrímsson, the Saga of Egill Skalla-Grímsson. Performed by Benedikt Erlingsson. Premieres at the Icelandic Settlement Centre, Borgarnes.

15.00 "Reykjavík through 100 Years" - the photographic exhibition opens at the Reykjavík Museum of Photography in Reykjavík City Centre.

15.00 Mr. Culbuto, a living toy. Performance for children in Reykjavík City Centre.

16.00 Karin Sander and Ceal Floyer present their recent works at the SAFN Contemporary Art Collection.

20.00 Mr. Skallagrímsson, special performance at the Icelandic Settlement Centre, Borgarnes.

20.00 Grupo Corpo, 2nd performance at Reykjavík City Theatre.

21.00 Motion Trio from Cracow, the amazing acoustic accordion trio, 1st concert at Club NASA.

23.30 Midnight Concerts, part I. The Diva and the Jazzman. Icelandic soprano Sólrún Bragadóttir and jazz saxophone player Sigurður Flosason team up for a programme of Icelandic songs. At Iðnó Theatre.

Grupo Corpo

– Brazilian dance company

Grupo Corpo is an internationally renowned contemporary dance company from Brazil, which has performed all over the world to outstanding reviews. The company's identity has always been linked to the idea of a national culture and despite continually renewing itself artistically it tries to stay true to its own traditions.

Venue: Reykjavík City Theatre, May 12, 13 and 14

Siminn



Grupo Corpo



METAMORPHOSIS

– Poetry in Motion

What poetry offers to literature, puppetry can bring to the theatre. The cast consists of the most intricate marionettes and rod puppets carved from wood, as well as unforgettable characters created simply using silk scarves and the puppeteer's hands and feet.

Ogrodnik has performed and created puppets and masks all over the world.

Director: Ágústa Skúladóttir

Venue: The National Theatre of Iceland, May 14

Sunday May 14

11.00 Sunday Matinée with Schumann, part I – Intimacy and Courtship. Performers: Miklós Dalmay, Helga Bryndís Magnúsdóttir. At Ýmir Concert Hall.

14.00 The Supremes, "in order of appearance..." A visual art exhibition hosted by the Living Art Museum and 100° Art Space.

14.00 Grupo Corpo, 3rd performance at Reykjavík City Theatre.

15.00 The Fly at the Festival, Collision of Culture and Nature. Opens at the National Museum of Iceland and Reykjavík City Library.

16.00 Pinter scrutinized. A seminar to celebrate Harold Pinter's recent Nobel Prize. Keynote speaker Michael Billington. At the National Theatre of Iceland.

17.00 Metamorphosis – Poetry in Motion. Premiere at the National Theatre of Iceland.

21.00 Motion Trio, the accordion trio from Cracow, 2nd concert at Club NASA.

Monday May 15

20.00 We are all Marlene Dietrich FOR, Icelandic Dance Company. Created by Erna Ómarsdóttir and Emil Hrvatin. Premiere at Reykjavík City Theatre.

Tuesday May 16

17.00 Nordic-Express, part I. Staged readings of four plays nominated for the Nordic Drama Prize. Works by Jon Fosse and Mathias Andersson at Reykjavík City Theatre.

20.00 We are all Marlene Dietrich FOR, 2nd performance at Reykjavík City Theatre.

20.00 A Prairie Home Companion, the popular American public radio variety programme, celebrating Icelandic life and culture and featuring Icelandic performers. At the National Theatre of Iceland.



Miriam Makeba – Grand Finale

The South African singer Miriam Makeba will give a Grand Finale concert in Iceland, the only country in Western Europe she has yet to visit. Known as "Mama Africa", Miriam Makeba has for many years been a leading artist and one of South Africa's most influential ambassadors. She has performed and recorded music with artists such as Harry Belafonte, which earned them a Grammy Award for Best Folk Recording in 1966. Pata Pata, Makeba's signature tune, was recorded in South Africa in 1956 and became a major hit around the world. Makeba's fearless humanitarianism has earned her many international awards, including the 1986 Dag Hammarskjöld Peace Prize and the UNESCO Grand Prix du Conseil International de la Musique. Miriam Makeba has decided to withdraw from the concert stage and devote herself to humanitarian work.

Venue: Laugardalshöll Concert Hall, May 20

Wednesday May 17

17.00 Nordic-Express, part II. Works by Kari Hotakainen and Jokum Rohde at Reykjavík City Theatre.

19.30 Caput Ensemble premieres Tears of Dionysus. Music: Lars Graugaard. Choreographer: Thomas Hejlesen. Narrator: Stina Ekblad. At Háskólabíó Concert Hall.

20.00 We are all Marlene Dietrich FOR, 3rd performance at Reykjavík City Theatre.

Thursday May 18

17.00 Women and Finnboogi at Galleri i8. Exhibition opening.

20.00 Dark Deeds and Delinquents – Reykjavík in Icelandic detective stories, at the National and University Library of Iceland.

Friday May 19

10.00 Music Promotion on the Internet. Keynote speaker: Paul Hoffert. Conference hosted by the Iceland Music Information Centre at Grand Hotel.

19.30 Word Music Polypoetry Festival. Iceland Music Information Centre and Bad Taste Ltd. hold concerts at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

Saturday May 20

14.00 Word Music Polypoetry Festival. Varied programme: words, music video and performance. Produced by Bad Taste Ltd. and Magnús Pálsson at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

16.00 Bulgarian Voices Angelite, the world-famous women's choir, 1st concert at Hallgrímskirkja Church.

16.00 La Strada – movie and music. Movie shown at the National Film Archive of Iceland, Hafnarfjörður.

20.30 Word Music Polypoetry Festival. Ongoing varied programme at Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

21.00 Miriam Makeba and Band, Grand Finale at Laugardalshöll Concert Hall.

23.30 Benni Hemm Hemm - the Big Band. The shooting star Benni Hemm Hemm - Big Band in concert. Expect a fresh and free approach to music at the Iðnó Theatre.

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The Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra – Mozart programme

The well established and well known Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra performs three concertos by Mozart to honour his legacy as in 2006 there are 250 years from the composer's birth.

The programme includes piano concerto nr. 25 in C major, violin concerto nr. 5 in A major and concerto for clarinet in A major.

The orchestra counts 35 excellent musicians and for this special concert three outstanding Icelandic soloists: Una Sveinbjarnardóttir, violin; Víkingur Ólafsson, piano and Einar Jóhannesson, clarinet.

Venue: Langhóltskirkja Church, May 21

Sunday May 21

11.00 Sunday Matinée with Schumann, part II – Court Case and Wedding. Performers: Ástríður Alda Sigurðardóttir, Richard Simm. At Ýmir Concert Hall.

14.00 Word Music Polypoetry Festival. Ongoing varied programme at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

16.00 Bulgarian Voices Angelite, 2nd concert at Hallgrímskirkja Church.

17.00 La Strada – movie and music in cooperation with the Dante Society. Hafnarfjörður Chamber Orchestra and pianist Dominico Codispodi perform the music of Italy's most influential film composer, Nino Rota. Director: Michele Marvulli. At Hafnarborg Cultural Centre, Hafnarfjörður, just outside Reykjavík.

20.00 La Strada – movie and music. Movie shown at the National Film Archive of Iceland, Hafnarfjörður.

20.00 Mozart's 250th Anniversary. Performed by the Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra and three outstanding Icelandic soloists. At Langhóltskirkja Church.

Tuesday May 23

20.00 The Rússíbanar band and tenor Kolbeinn Ketilsson. A rollercoaster ride through the music of Eastern Europe and Iceland. At the Icelandic Opera.



Thursday May 25

14.00 Sense in place / Site-ations. A collaborative visual art project involving 6 European countries. Exhibition opening on Videy Island, just off Reykjavík.

20.00 I Fagiolini perform L'Amfiparnaso, 1st performance at the Icelandic Opera.

Friday May 26

17.00 I Fagiolini perform L'Amfiparnaso, 2nd performance at the Icelandic Opera.

20.00 Le Pays, a French opera by Joseph-Guy Ropartz. Premiere at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

Saturday May 27

16.00 Le Pays, 2nd performance at the Reykjavík Art Museum, Harbour House.

16.00 I Fagiolini, L'Amfiparnaso, 3rd performance at the Church and Cultural Centre in Eskifjörður, east Iceland.

17.00 OBSTRUCSONG, Granhøj Dans, Denmark, dance performance as part of Trans Danse Europe at Reykjavík City Theatre.

20.00 Hélium, Mossoux-Bonté, Belgium, dance performance as part of Trans Danse Europe at Reykjavík City Theatre.