



Karwendel Music Festival

Returns on August 14 - August 27, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - August 1, 2017

The Karwendel Music Festival returns to Mittenwald, Germany on August 14, 2017 for **seven concerts and a series of workshops, masterclasses, lectures and panel discussions over a two-week span**, showcasing 10 internationally acclaimed artists and 15 international young artists.

“It is our mission and goal to redefine the Classical music, and to inspire the young generation of the classical musicians with a focus on creativity and entrepreneurship. KMF is marching with a rapid speed on its path to establish a vibrant classical music scene in Mittenwald; through our summer festival program, outreach concerts and the upcoming international tours, we’re expanding our global footprints with increasing number of wonderful musicians. As the festival has just turned one-year old, it is truly encouraging and exciting to see the achievements we’ve made so far as well as what’s lying ahead.” - Xi Wang, General Director



Co-founded by violinists Xi Wang and Sven Stucke in 2016, in collaboration with Alpenwelt Karwendel and the Geigenbaumuseum, the Karwendel Music Festival takes place annually in Mittenwald, Germany, a town with an over 300-year history of violin making and trading. Praised by *München Merkur* as "a complete success. With a crowning finish," the inaugural 2016 Karwendel Music Festival showcased 10 internationally acclaimed artists and 18 fellows. With over €8000 scholarships distributed, KMF was able to support talented young musicians from seven countries and across four continents; further more, with sponsorship from Stephen Jansen Fine Bows, KMF awarded a €20,000 French violin bow made by Claude Thomassin to its outstanding alumna, Yixuan Ren, to use for free for a year; ultimately, Yixuan passed the audition of the worldwide prestigious Curtis Institute of Music, and will attend the school in Fall 2017 at the age of 13. Joined by the faculty and selected 2016 KMF alumni, the first season of the Karwendel Music Festival concluded with the successful Carnegie Hall debut concert in New York in February 2017, an event that received the official recommendation from the Consulate

General of Germany in New York. *The New York Concert Review* opines, "[...]the entire evening seem miraculous" and "Youthful vibrancy characterized the entire evening."

The 2017-2018 season, under the theme of "**A Kaleidoscope of the World**", further develops with bold and adventurous movements. This month, the festival announces the formation of the **Karwendel String Quartet** consisting of Xi Wang and Sven Stucke (festival directors and violinists), Liyuan Liu (violist) and Peter Hörr (cellist). The Quartet will give its **debut performance** at KMF's Celebrity Concert Series on **Friday, August 18, 2017 at 7:30 pm** at **Olympiasaal im Kongresshaus Garmisch**, featuring works by Schubert, Grieg and Bartok, as well as re-arrangements of folk tunes from China and Scandinavia by Xi Wang.

"The cultural background of Mittenwald is so rich for string instruments; After having gone into a hibernation of classical music for decades, this town is so ready to grab attentions from the world, and its soil nurtures every seed of our creativity and inspiration. It's like the Karwendel Mountain keeps on telling us that he wants to be heard most excitingly," says of Xi Wang. "That's how we realized that we need a string quartet that can represent the new spirit in Mittenwald, and act as an ambassador that connects Mittenwald and the world and carries on our mission to inspire with our creativity and our belief in the future of the classical music." The Quartet will embark on a China tour this Fall, and visit the United States in Spring 2018; the Quartet members will also appear as guest artists at the 8th International Violin Making



Competition in Mittenwald. Other highlights include the establishment of the "Karwendel Star" competition, extended outreach concert tours in China and the United States throughout the season, and **the making of the 5-episode documentary of the festival by Dalian Television from China**. The documentary, expected to be on air by the end of this year, will provide a comprehensive introduction of the festival to the Chinese audience through in-depth storytelling of the artists and musical activities

at the festival, as well as the tourist attractions and resorts in the greater Mittenwald area (including Garmisch-Partenkirchen).

2017 FACULTY:

Violinists

Viktor Tretjakov

Patinka Kopec

Nicolas Mann

Natalia Likhopoi

Sven Stucke

Violists

Patinka Kopec

Liyuan Liu

Cellists

Leonid Gorokhov

Peter Hörr

Piano Accompanists

Javor Bracic

Kärt Ruubel

CONCERT SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, August 16, 2017

Chamber Music Series

3:00 PM | Geigenbaumuseum

Chamber Music concert by KMF Young Artists

Friday, August 18, 2017

Celebrity Concert Series

7:30 PM | Olympiasaal im Kongresshaus Garmisch

“A KALEIDOSCOPE OF THE WORLD”

BARTÓK: Selections from Duo for Two Violins

SCANDINAVIAN TRADITIONAL (arr. Xi Wang): Three Scandinavian Tunes for String Quartet

CHINESE TRADITIONAL (arr. Xi Wang): Three Folk Tunes for String Quartet

GRIEG: String Quartet No. 1 in g minor, Op. 27

***SCHUBERT:** String Quintet in C major, D. 956, *Allegretto*

**KMF Faculty members with selected young artists.*

Saturday, August 19, 2017

Celebrity Concert Series

7:30 PM | Kulturhaus “VIERundeINZIG”, Innsbruck, Austria

“A KALEIDOSCOPE OF THE WORLD”

BARTÓK: Selections from Duo for Two Violins

SCANDINAVIAN TRADITIONAL (arr. Xi Wang): Three Scandinavian Tunes for String Quartet

CHINESE TRADITIONAL (arr. Xi Wang): Three Folk Tunes for String Quartet

GRIEG: String Quartet No. 1 in g minor, Op. 27

***SCHUBERT:** String Quintet in C major, D. 956, *Allegretto*

**KMF Faculty members with selected young artists.*

Sunday, August 20, 2017

Young Artists Concert Series

7:00 PM | St. Peter and Paul Church

KMF Young Artists present a collection of virtuosic solo pieces.

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

Chamber Music Series

3:00 PM | Geigenbaumuseum

Chamber Music concert by KMF Young Artists

Friday, August 25, 2017

Celebrity Concert Series

7:30 PM | St. Peter and Paul Church

***VIVALDI:** Concerto for 4 violins, cello, strings & continuo in B minor, Op. 3/10, RV 580

SMETANA: Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 15

MENDELSSOHN: String Quartet No.6, Op.80

**KMF Faculty members with selected young artists.*

Sunday, August 27, 2017

Young Artists Concert Series

11:30 AM | St. Peter and Paul Church

Festival closing concert performed by KMF Orchestra featuring selected soloists.

For more information on purchasing single or package tickets, please visit
www.karwendelmusicfestival.com

Media Contact: Xi Wang
info@karwendelmusicfestival.com

###