



**For immediate release**

***EUYO announces a new partnership in Romania and projects in Italy and Myanmar for Europe Day 2019***

May 9<sup>th</sup>, Europe Day 2019, marks a special moment for the EUYO with three international events taking place across Europe & Asia on the same day, a unique moment in the Orchestra's history.

Following a highly successful Spring Tour, the EUYO annual celebrations for Europe Day include the announcing of a new partnership in Romania with Musica Ricercata, and events in Bologna, Italy, and Yangon, Myanmar, reaching opposite sides of the globe with the power of young people, music and international collaboration.

- EUYO signs a partnership agreement in Sibiu, Romania with Musica Ricercata, a dynamic new orchestra bringing together young European musicians, during the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and on the occasion of the EU heads of state Europe Day 2019 meeting in Sibiu;
- An EUYO wind ensemble celebrates Europe Day by performing in Bologna, Italy, at the Legislative Assembly of Emilia Romagna region as part of the Europe Direct and EuLab programme;
- An EUYO string and piano ensemble performs a Europe Day concert celebration in Yangon, Myanmar, at the invitation of the Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar and the Orchestra for Myanmar, alongside the Orchestra for Myanmar, and the New Children's Choir.

***Musica Ricercata Partnership***

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, on the occasion of the celebrations of Europe Day, the European Union Youth Orchestra and Musica Ricercata sign a two year partnership agreement to help develop the work of this new Romanian orchestra. Musica Ricercata gathers the finest young musicians from all over Europe to perform exciting musical programmes, spanning from the baroque to modern times, employing modern as well as old instruments.

*"It is with particular pleasure that the European Union Youth Orchestra enters into a partnership agreement with Musica Ricercata during the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and on the occasion of the EU heads of state Europe Day 2019 meeting in Sibiu, Romania, the home of Musica Ricercata", says the Secretary General of the Orchestra, Marshall Marcus. "Our agreement will enable EUYO musicians from all over the EU to help Musica Ricercata develop and advance its work, promoting the circulation of European musicians and works of art, increasing pan-European cooperation, and helping to develop this innovative and enterprising Romanian music ensemble".*

Conductor Gabriel Bebeșelea, artistic director of Musica Ricercata commented, *"When the ensemble Musica Ricercata was born, our main goals were to assemble the finest musicians from all over Europe, to research and bring to light neglected or long forgotten musical masterpieces of our common cultural heritage through our musical projects. The partnership between Musica Ricercata and the European Union Youth Orchestra starts a new chapter in achieving our goals by enabling our core musicians to bond with fellow musicians from all over the continent, to exchange experiences and share their European cultural identity with audiences everywhere. This partnership helps us grow and develop on all levels and our musical research and innovative artistic projects will get a new dimension of involvement. Personally, I do not believe in coincidences, so the fact that we officially inaugurate this important partnership on the day of the Informal European Council 2019 - which takes place in Sibiu, where our headquarters are located and where the Musica Ricercata Festival takes place - to me is a sign that we are to achieve our goals in the context of a United Europe".*

Future joint projects include EUYO cooperation in *BaRockIN Transylvania*, a series of concerts that will take place in June 2019 in Sibiu, Cluj-Napoca, Brașov, Mediaș, and Bucharest, Romania, performing well-known baroque music alongside rediscovered age-old compositions discovered in local archives, and transcribed and performed for the first time in modern times.

### ***Bologna Performance***

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate Europe Day in Italy, the European Union Youth Orchestra will take part in the celebrations of the Legislative Assembly of Emilia Romagna region, in Bologna, Italy with a wind quintet, which is also performing in the week of Europe Day in Ferrara for the EUYO's *Orchestra in Città* initiative.

The Bologna event will have institutional keynote speakers as well as the presentation of the social media campaign of EuLab, a European communication laboratory of the Department of Political Sciences of the University of Bologna, and the EurHope2019 photography prize award.

### ***Yangon concert***

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the EUYO performs in an open rehearsal at the Goethe Institute in preparation for a performance on Friday, 10 May. The Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar hosts the second "EU Meets Myanmar" concert at the historical and luxurious Strand Hotel Ballroom in Yangon.

Held as part of the Europe Day celebrations in Myanmar, the concert aims to promote unity in diversity through the universal language of music. Five alumni from the European Union Youth Orchestra – Amalie Kjældgaard Christensen (violin), Herlinde Verjans (violin), Sofie van der Schalie (viola), Tonka Javorović (cello) and Fionnuala Ward (piano) – will play

as an EU group, and also together with local musicians from the Orchestra for Myanmar, the New Children's Choir, and The Strand Singers.

As EU Ambassador Kristian Schmidt said, *"Music is a powerful bridge between cultures, traditions and nations. Every year, on the 9th of May, we mark Europe Day to celebrate peace and unity throughout the European Union. Through the concert, we hope to share this uplifting spirit and the warmth of Europe to all people in Myanmar."*

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### [About the EUYO](#)

The European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO) is one of the world's pre-eminent symphony orchestras. Described by the UK Guardian as having *"gripping, exhilaratingly good orchestral playing, surging with energy, laser-sharp focus and collective daring... [with] a technical prowess that is downright terrifying"*, and by EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker as *"the best possible ambassador for the European Union"* it has provided an exceptional bridge between music colleges and the professional music world for generations of Europe's finest musicians since its foundation in 1976.

The Orchestra has worked with many of the world's greatest musicians including Daniel Barenboim, Leonard Bernstein, Herbert von Karajan, Mstislav Rostropovich and particularly its three Music Directors and current Chief Conductor: Founding Music Director Claudio Abbado, former Music Director Vladimir Ashkenazy, former Music Director and current Conductor Laureate Bernard Haitink, and Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko.

The EUYO's 3,000 alumni have all come through the Orchestra's rigorous, annual audition process conducted in all (currently 28) EU Member States, and many are now notable conductors, soloists, teachers and instrumentalists working with the major orchestras of Europe and throughout the world. A truly global brand, the EUYO has performed in most of the world's major concert halls and festivals, including the BBC Proms at London's Royal Albert Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall and the Vienna Musikverein. From Amsterdam to Abu Dhabi, Moscow to Mumbai, Seoul to São Paulo, the Orchestra has appeared in many hundreds of venues across five continents.

Recent awards include the European Orchestra Award in Dresden from the European Culture Awards TAURUS, and a Cultural Diplomat of the Year Award at the Abu Dhabi Culture Summit. During the 2018-19 season, the Orchestra appears in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, the UK, China and Oman, with a further invitation to North Africa. In its Ferrara home, it launches a major new *Orchestra in Citta!* project in April 2019, and throughout 2019 devotes its season to *The Listening Project*, an initiative focusing on how orchestras and audiences listen.

The Orchestra's headquarters, legal seat and residencies in Italy are thanks to support from the Italian Ministry of Culture, the Municipality of Ferrara, the Italian national broadcast organisation RAI, and Bolzano Festival Bozen. Additionally the EUYO is resident orchestra at its summer home and principal venue partner Grafenegg in Lower Austria, and partner of Campus Grafenegg. The EUYO is supported by the *Creative Europe* programme of the European Commission and by the (currently 28) Member States of the European Union.

Founded by Joy and Lionel Bryer in 1976, the EUYO has been a Cultural Ambassador for the European Union for more than forty years. The EUYO's Honorary President is Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament, and its Honorary Patrons include the Heads of Government of the EU's Member States and the President of the European Commission. In recent years, the EUYO has added to its enviable tradition with a series of

innovative learning and performance programmes pioneered in its Creative Europe *Towards 2020* project, helping to train its members with the skills necessary to meet the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century society and audiences.

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## EUROPE DAY PERFORMANCE

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 10 am

Sala Guido Fanti, Assemblea legislativa Regione Emilia-Romagna, Viale Aldo Moro, 50, Bologna, Italy

### *Program*

**Ludwig van Beethoven** - Ode an die Freude (Anthem of Europe)

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** - Overture from Die Zauberflöte

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** - Divertimento in B-flat major, K.270

**Carl Nielsen** - Wind Quintet op.43

### *Performers*

Flute - *Matteo Sampaolo*

Clarinet - *Daniel Roscia*

Oboe - *Alberto Esteve Gimenez*

Bassoon - *Angharad Elin Thomas*

Horn - *Jacob Bagby*

## EUROPE MEETS MYANMAR

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm

Strand Hotel ballroom, 92 Strand Road, Yangon, Myanmar

### *Program*

**Saya Tin** - *Kaba Ma Kyei* (Myanmar National Anthem)

**Ludwig van Beethoven** - *Ode an die Freude* (Anthem of Europe)

**Nikos Skalkottas** - *Kleftikos* from *5 dances for strings*

**Swedish traditional** - *Ack Värmeland, du Skona* (arr: Danish String Quartet)

**Karol Szymanowski** - Etude op 4 n. 3 for piano solo

**Béla Bartók** - Duo n.14 *Párnás Tánc* (Pillow Dance) for 2 violins

**Béla Bartók** - Duo n. 44 (Transylvanian Dance) for 2 violins

**Cesar Franck** - Piano Quintet in F minor, 3rd movement

**Irish traditional** - *Danny Boy*

**Franz Schubert** - *Der Erlkönig*

**Jean Sibelius** - Romance in Db

**Johannes Brahms** - *Oh Schöne Nacht*

**Jussi Chydenius** - *I am The Great Sun*

**Antonín Dvořák** - *Song to the Moon* from *Rusalka*

**Jules Massenet** – *Méditation* from *Thaïs*

**Danish traditional** - *I Skovens dybe stille ro*

**Saw Sar Ae Saree** - *Eain Lay Thalone lo Chin Day* (arr: Mi Htu San)

**Ennio Morricone** - *Nella fantasia*

### *Performers*

EUYO alumni players:

Violin - *Amalie Kjældgaard Christensen*

Violin - *Herlinde Verjans*

Viola - *Sofie van der Schalie*

Cello - *Dana de Vries*

Piano - *Fionnuala Ward*

Orchestra for Myanmar  
New Children's Choir, Singers from Mr Roger's Orphanage, Kachin Baptist Church, and ISY, The Strand Singers

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**Honorary President** Antonio Tajani - President of the European Parliament **Co-Founders** Lionel & Joy Bryer  
**Founding Music Director** Claudio Abbado **Chief Conductor** Vasily Petrenko **Conductor Laureate** Bernard Haitink  
**Co-Chairman** Ian Stoutzker, CBE **Co-Chairman** Sir John Tusa **Chief Executive** Marshall Marcus

**Honorary Patrons & Committee**

**Head of the Honorary Patrons** Jean-Claude Juncker – President of the European Commission  
**Honorary Patron** Federica Mogherini – High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice-President of the European Commission

The heads of state and government of the 28 EU member states, President of the European Committee of the Regions



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