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MOA TRIO

THE GOLDBERGS REINVENTED

WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2020 - 12 NOON



TEATRU MANOEL







MOA Trio

The Goldbergs Reinvented

Wednesday 22 January 2020 – 12 noon
Malta Maritime Museum, Birgu





The Valletta Baroque Festival

Since its launch in 2013, the Valletta Baroque Festival has treated audiences to a unique event featuring some of the best soloists and ensembles in the baroque music scene. Taking as its main venue one of the oldest working theatres in the world, Teatru Manoel, this prestigious two-week festival also plays out within many wonderful baroque and historical venues, such as St. John's Co-Cathedral and Verdala Palace. This year's musical programme has once again secured some of the best contemporary exponents of Baroque music from the international and local sphere to contribute to the celebration of Malta.

Front Cover Image

Detail from the composite portrait of the Van Lennep Family by Antoine Favray (1706-1798) from the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam.

Partners



Sponsors





Programme

Houtaf KHOURY (b. 1967)

MarimBach

Johann Sebastian BACH (1685-1750)

Goldberg Variations (arranged for clarinet, violin and marimba)

Musicians

Dimitri Ashkenazy, clarinet

Deborah Marchetti, violin

Jacqueline Ott, marimba



Programme notes

Bach's Goldberg Variations need no introduction. They are one of the most famous pieces for a keyboard instrument and one of the masterpieces of all time.

The MOA Trio took Dmitri Sitkovetsky's version for string trio as its basis for the somewhat radical step of arranging this baroque stroke of genius for clarinet, violin and marimba. Goldberg as you have never heard it before, with new colours and textures that only serve to reinforce the work's timeless transcendence of the physical world.

The MOA Trio commissioned this new work from Lebanese composer Houtaf Khoury with the aim of using the Goldberg Variations as the point of departure for an excursion into our musical times.

Khoury describes this undertaking eloquently:

"As we grow in the world, we inevitably lose the wholeness of our contact with the divine, and as our personalities develop, we in a sense hide behind one particular type and imagine that that represents our totality. It does not - our totality is our divine nature. From this point of view, composing a work based on Bach's music is dangerous because it is a test of humanity and musicality... and anybody can fail. It is a big responsibility I take because of the importance of Bach's music as well because of the freshness of the instrumental combination, a combination between the past and the future. I look forward to this challenge."

Artist Biography

MOA Trio

The MOA Trio is an ensemble of an extraordinary combination of instruments, dedicated to exploring new perspectives on the established repertoire in their own arrangements, as well as works of our times, either existing or commissioned. The three members joined forces in 2016 and can draw on rich experience as soloists, chamber musicians, contemporary ensemble members and concert promoters as they expand their audiences' musical horizons with their innovative programming.







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