

News Release
Monday 17 June 2019

SWITZERLAND OPENS FIRST MAJOR PURPOSE-BUILT CONCERT HALL IN ANY ALPINE SKI VILLAGE WITH CONCERT BY BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER

- **Designed by Studio Seilern Architects, the Andermatt Concert Hall is a culmination in the transformation of Andermatt into one of the world's top year-round destinations**



Andermatt Concert Hall, ©Roland Halbe (left), Opening Concert with Berliner Philharmoniker ©Monika Rittershaus (right)
High-resolution images and press kit for download: <https://tinyurl.com/Andermatt>

Last night (16 June 2019), a special inaugural concert by the Berliner Philharmoniker and conductor Constantinos Carydis opened the new Andermatt Concert Hall, a world-class centre for music that will establish the Swiss Alpine village of Andermatt as an important cultural destination alongside its celebrated sports facilities.

Designed by Studio Seilern Architects led by Christina Seilern and realised by Andermatt Swiss Alps and BESIX (Belgium), the Andermatt Concert Hall is the first major purpose-built concert hall in any Alpine ski village. The intimate 650-seat hall features an exceptionally flexible stage capable of incorporating a 75-piece orchestra. The acoustics and theatre design are respectively by Kahle Acoustics and dUCKS scénó – the same teams behind the Philharmonie de Paris.

The Andermatt Concert Hall is located in a panoramic area of Andermatt, a mountain village and municipality located in the canton of Uri in the heart of Switzerland. The hall represents a culmination in the transformation of Andermatt into one of the world's finest year-round destinations, following major development led by Andermatt Swiss Alps. Facilities include a new village square at the heart of which is the new concert hall and where the new hotels, residential and chalet facilities are also located.

The opening concert serves as a prelude to the hall's ambitious Opening Season, which continues in the autumn with a satellite of LUCERNE FESTIVAL which has programmed three concerts in October, featuring the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, soloists of the LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA, conductor Daniel Harding and pianists Gabriela Montero and Benjamin Grosvenor. Responsibility for the new hall's programme lies with Andermatt Music, a new operation managed by a trio of young British producers – Maximilian Fane, Roger Granville and Frankie Parham, who together co-founded The

New Generation Festival, an organisation which supports young music talents from around the world, showcasing them at events across several countries throughout the year and at an annual flagship festival in the heart of Florence, Italy.

Samih Sawiris, Chairman of Andermatt Swiss Alps, said, "The Andermatt Concert Hall is the fruit of my life-long passion for classical music. When I was a university student in Berlin, I lived 100 metres from the Philharmonie and sat in the back of hundreds of concerts by the Berliner Philharmoniker and Herbert von Karajan. To have that orchestra open our fantastic new hall is the realisation of a 30-year-old dream. As an art form, classical music is at a crossroads and needs more encouragement than ever. The Andermatt Concert Hall will not only add enormous value to Andermatt as a destination, but it will also hopefully make a real contribution to music in Europe and bring pleasure to visitors and local people alike."

Christina Seilern, Principal of Studio Seilern Architects, said: "This was a whirlwind of a project where we turned what was to initially be a conference room into a 'proper grown up concert hall' for musicians of the highest calibre. Audiences can experience everything from solo recitals to full orchestral concerts in equal intimacy and comfort in this exceptional, light-filled space. I have to thank Samih who put his full trust in us to deliver what we hope will be a magnificent cultural venue for generations to come."

Maximilian Fane, Musical Director of The New Generation Festival said: "At the Andermatt Concert Hall, The New Generation Festival will create a platform for the world's finest young rising stars to collaborate and inspire a new generation of audiences. The diverse programme will see operas, orchestras, chamber music and recitals rub shoulders with jazz and rock. 50% of our audience in Florence is under 35, and we have the ambition to continue breaking down barriers between art forms and generations."

Andermatt Concert Hall

Bärengasse

6490 Andermatt

Switzerland

<http://www.andermttmusic.com/>

Press Enquiries

Erica Bolton or Dennis Chang, Bolton & Quinn

Tel: +44 (0)20 7221 5000; Mobile: +44 (0)7711 698186

Email: erica@boltonquinn.com / dennis@boltonquinn.com

Andermatt Music Autumn Festival 2019

Thursday 24 October

Mozart Piano Sonata No. 10 in C major, K. 330

Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 21 in C major, op. 53

Brahms Three Intermezzi, op. 117

Gabriela Montero Improvisations

Gabriela Montero, piano

Friday 25 October

Mozart Piano Quartet No. 2 in E flat major, K. 493

Mahler Piano Quartet in A minor

Brahms Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor, op. 25

Soloists of the LUCERNE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA:

Benjamin Grosvenor, piano

Raphael Christ, violin
Wolfram Christ, viola
Jens Peter Maintz, cello

Saturday 26 October

Dvořák Slavonic Dances, op. 72
Brahms Symphony No. 2 in D Major, op. 73

Chamber Orchestra of Europe
Daniel Harding, conductor

Notes to Editors

Andermatt Music

Andermatt Music is the newly formed entity responsible for the programming of the Andermatt Concert Hall and the greater Andermatt Swiss Alps campus in Andermatt Reuss. The artistic team comprises three British producers: Maximilian Fane, Roger Granville and Frankie Parham, the co-founders of The New Generation Festival. The Andermatt Concert Hall is the crown jewel of the Andermatt Swiss Alps project that includes six new 4- and 5-star hotels, along with apartment buildings, chalets and an 18-hole, par 72 championship golf course. The 5-star luxury hotel The Chedi Andermatt opened in December 2013. Radisson Blu Hotel Reussen opened in December 2018.

www.andermttmusic.com

Christina Seilern Principal, Studio Seilern Architects

Christina Seilern established London-based creative practice Studio Seilern Architects (SSA) in 2006. Applying her unique style across a range of building typologies, geographies and scales she re-engages in an approach that carefully addresses each project from an in-depth consideration of the detail to the overall massing strategy. She tackles a range of projects from large scale city masterplans, down to the more intricate scale of furniture and light fitting design, both in the emerging and developed markets. Prior to establishing SSA, Christina Seilern was the founding director of Rafael Viñoly Architects (RVA) and was responsible for key projects such as 20 Fenchurch in London, the Curve Performing Arts Centre in Leicester, Mahler 4 tower in Amsterdam, and Wageningen University Plant Research Centre in the Netherlands. SSA was established with the intent of continuing the strong design ethos developed during Christina's time at RVA. Her diverse portfolio includes RIBA-award winning projects such as Gota House in Zimbabwe, Ansdell Street in Kensington, a world-class concert hall in the Swiss alpine village of Andermatt, award-winning Wellington College Performing Arts Centre in Berkshire, and Boksto 6 masterplan – a UNESCO heritage site in Vilnius, Lithuania. She is a frequent panellist and guest speaker both in the UK and abroad and is also a regular juror for the AR MIPIM Awards, World Architecture Festival, the RIBA EyeLine, LEAF Awards and PAD London.

www.studioseilern.com

Andermatt Swiss Alps AG

From vision to destination: Andermatt has developed into a year-round destination in recent years, with apartment buildings, hotels and chalets, the Scottish-style 18-hole golf course, which presents golfers with a welcome challenge, and the SkiArena, which is not only one of the most modern ski resorts in Switzerland but also the largest in Central Switzerland, with pistes from Andermatt to Sedrun and Disentis. The 5-star deluxe hotel The Chedi Andermatt, with its perfect combination of alpine simplicity and urban sophistication, radiates a special magic, as does the Radisson Blu Hotel Reussen, with public indoor pool and wellness and fitness area. More apartment buildings and hotels will be built in the coming years.

www.andermtt-swissalps.ch / www.andermtt-facts.ch