

ORQUESTRA JOVEM EUROPEIA

MAESTROS
MIGUEL ÂNGELO CONCEIÇÃO, FABRICE FORTIN, SORIN DUMITRU,
CHARLOTTE O'BRIEN, EMANUELE CREPET E PETRU MAZILU

23.MAI | 19h00

CENTRO CULTURAL OLGA CADAVAL
AUDITÓRIO JORGE SAMPAIO



Welcome,

Sintra is hosting the 13th European Youth Orchestra Meeting, bringing together young musicians from Fontainebleau, Lodi, Konstanz, Alba Iulia, Richmond and Sintra. This meeting also celebrates the 10th anniversary of the twinning between Sintra and the town of Fontainebleau, strengthening cultural and educational ties between European cities.

Under the artistic direction of Miguel Ângelo Conceição, from the Sintra School Orchestra Project, and with the collaboration of conductors from the international delegations, the programme is the result of four days of intensive work. With the theme 'Roots', the concert presents repertoires that evoke musical, cultural and historical identities, transforming the stage into a space where generations, cultures and dreams meet.

The initiative is supported by Sintra Municipal Council and the CulturSintra Foundation, reaffirming our commitment to cultural promotion and European cooperation through music.

Marco Almeida
Presidente da Câmara Municipal de Sintra

The Municipality of Sintra has entered into several formal twinning agreements with cities around the world. In 2016, it marked its twinning with the town of Fontainebleau (France) by celebrating the 10th anniversary with the 13th European Youth Orchestra Meeting, which featured a commemorative concert.

The European Youth Orchestra comprises young musicians from six European cities: Konstanz (Germany), Richmond (England), Lodi (Italy), Alba Iulia (Romania), Fontainebleau (France) and Sintra. This involves ongoing networking, culminating in a concert organised on a rotating basis by each of the cities, promoting the sharing of knowledge and social interaction among the young people.

ROOTS

European Youth Orchestra Annual Encounter

There are concerts that result from years of solitary work, and there are concerts that only exist because people from different places decided to meet. This is the second kind.

For four days, around 90 young musicians from Fontainebleau, Lodi, Konstanz, Alba Iulia, Richmond and Sintra joined with their instruments and with repertoire studied at home. What follows is the work: rehearsing, listening, yielding, adjusting, building together what none of them could achieve alone. Tonight's concert is the public result of that process.

The programme is called *Roots* and the title is not arbitrary. Throughout the works you are about to hear, the programme traces musical roots, roots of places and roots of memories shared through music. Beethoven opens the concert with the European Anthem, which is, strictly speaking, the theme from the final movement of his Ninth Symphony: a melody that continues to function as a signal of recognition among Europeans. Mozart appears with *La Clemenza di Tito*, a late opera about the weight of power and the possibility of forgiveness. Holst brings *Jupiter*, the gravitational centre of his suite *The Planets*, one of the most immediate and generous orchestral pages of the twentieth century. Berlioz completes this first section with the *Hungarian March*, a piece that began as an arrangement of a Hungarian folk melody and became one of the most electrifying things he ever wrote.

Cinema enters the programme by three distinct paths. Nino Rota composed *Amarcord* for Fellini, and the music carries the same nostalgia as the film: childhood, the provinces, time gone by. Ortolani signed *Fratello sole sorella luna* for Zeffirelli, and Klaus Badelt brought to *Pirates of the Caribbean* an energy that everyone in the hall will recognise. *Sîrba*, by Vladimir Cosma, forms part of the soundtrack to *Le Grand Blond avec une chaussure noire*, a French comedy from the nineteen-seventies: a dance piece with roots in Romanian folk music, which Cosma knew how to transform into something cinematically irresistible.

The national identities of the participating countries run directly through the programme. Anne Victorino d'Almeida wrote *Rapsodia dos Rios*. Frederico de Freitas, a twentieth-century Portuguese composer too often overlooked, is represented by his *Suite Medieval*. From Romania come two works: *Gramofon* by Eugen Doga, a Moldovan composer with an unmistakable chamber writing, and *Hora Staccato* by Grigoraş Dinicu, one of the best-known virtuoso pieces in the tradition of Eastern Europe. The programme closes with the *Fandango from the First Alentejo Suite* by Luiz de Freitas Branco, a landmark work of the Portuguese repertoire.

Soprano Emilia Azierska takes part in two moments: *Summertime*, by George Gershwin, is one of the most recorded songs in the history of American music; its apparent simplicity conceals a harmonic and emotional density that makes it inexhaustible. *Amor a Portugal* is a piece built on the theme from *C'era una volta il West* by Ennio Morricone, with lyrics by Dulce Pontes and Carlos Vargas: an Italian melody made Portuguese, which neatly summarises what this encounter tries to do each year.

PROGRAMA

L. BEETHOVEN

Hino Europeu

Fabrice Fortin | Direcção

W.A. MOZART

La Clemenza di Tito

Sorin Dumitru | Direcção

ANNE VICTORINO D'ALMEIDA

Rapsódia dos Rios, Op. 93c

Miguel Ângelo Conceição | Direcção

"The work **Rapsódia dos Rios, op. 93c, Anne Victorino de Almeida** were composed within the scope of the B-me project: blending melodies, bridging cultural identities, a partnership between Sistema Cyprus, Associação das Orquestras Sinfónicas Juvenis Sistema Portugal and Sistema Greece, and was co-financed by the Union European. B-me express the value of diversity, and the importance of music and culture for a more comprehensive and peaceful society"

G. HOLST

Jupiter - O que traz a alegria

Arr. Richard Ling

Charlotte O'Brien | Direcção

NINO ROTA

Amarcord

Arr. Giovanni Minafra

Emanuele Crepet | Direcção

R. ORTOLANI

Fratello sole sorella luna

arr. Giovanni Minafra

Emanuele Crepet | Direcção

GEORGE GERSHWIN

Summertime from Porgy & Bess

Emilia Azierska | Soprano

Fabrice Fortin | Direcção

KLAUS BADEL

Pirates of the Caribbean

Arr. Ted Rickets

Sorin Dumitru | Direcção

INTERVALO (10 min.)

H. BERLIOZ

Hungarian March - The Damnation of Faust

Fabrice Fortin | Direcção

FREDERICO DE FREITAS

Suite Medieval

IV. Cantar de Amigo

VI. Jogralesca

Miguel Ângelo Conceição | Direcção

EUGEN DOGA

Grammofon

Petru Mazilu | Direcção

VLADIMIR COSMA

Sîrba from Le Grand Blond

Sergiu Geogean | Nai / Flauta de Pan

Petru Mazilu | Direcção

GRIGORAŞ DINICU

Hora Staccato

Sergiu Geogean | Nai / Flauta de Pan

Petru Mazilu | Direcção

ENNIO MORRICONE | DULCE PONTES E CARLOS VARGAS

Amor a Portugal

Emilia Azierska | Soprano

Miguel Ângelo Conceição | Direcção

LUIZ DE FREITAS BRANCO

Fandango da 1ª Suite Alentejana

Miguel Ângelo Conceição | Direcção

ORQUESTRA / ORCHESTRA

Flauta | Flute

Alessia Fisco
Emma Damian
Eliza Brok
Ermine Patin
Lise Devaux
Petra Paşca
Sami Islam
Solemn Le Brize

Oboé | Oboe

Claudio Rigolli
David Monteiro
Inês Justino

Corne Inglês | Cor Anglais

Rebecca Wright

Clarinete | Clarinet

Aldara Medeiros
Anton Drossart
Chloe Cho
Giorgia Fisco
Hugo Azenha
Ionuț Țuț
Lily-Rose Morle
Teodor-Florentin Dănulețiu

Fagote | Bassoon

Carolina Herdade
Emily Cadogan

Trompa | Horn

João Rodrigues
Maria Inês Silva
Sam O'Brie
Vincent Boulanger

Tuba

Anatoly Catondo

Trompete | Trumpet

Adrien Trouiller
Arthur Quantin
Bérénice Fortin
Lola Boulanger
Rodrigo Camacho
Tiago Dias

Trombone

André Senna
Beatriz Alves
Lily Dickie

Harpa | Harp

Louise Bertault

Percussão | Percussion

Arianna Dizdarevic
Aris Mureşan
Maria Inês Rosa
Maria Lopes Nabais
Nuno Tavares
Sebastião Herdade

Violin 1

Ben Balschbach | Concertmaster
Nelson Nogueira
Mihai Almăşan
Gwen Lewis
Elena D'Alicarnasso
Yovela Hui
Nicolae Andrei Bulac
Mihaela Roşiu
David Ferreira
Isabelle D'Eredita
Savinien Descottes Heris
Luísa Semedo

Violin 2

Laura Fantana
Nelson Gomes
Ulisses Teixeira
Georgeta Farago
Noah Racz
Tânia Gato
Francisco Silva
Cláudia Borges
Samuel Ferreira
Artemisa Teixeira
Luana Cunha

Viola

Yana Pechenik
Patrícia Trabuco
Rafael Födele
Yoneko-Alexandra Mariț
Cosette Fung
Leonor Bárbara
Penelope Crook
Rita Proença

Cello

Mattias Schnell
Cătălin Mihail Pop
Hannah Eden
Yuna Darut
Laurenz Ruchti
Baptiste Delorme
Livia Kleiner
Karla Brok
Inês Miranda

Double Bass

Inês Francisco
Maria Delmar Fernandes
Diana Seabra
Miguel Borrego
Rita Vila
Davi Jesus

SPEECHES

Ms. Deputy Mayor of Sintra 's Municipality, Dra. Andreia Bernardo,

Good evening, everyone.

It is with immense joy, and profound pride, that we welcome to Sintra all the young musicians, conductors, families, international delegations, institutional representatives, and present guests. Hosting this project in Sintra is truly an honour.

Between the 21st and the 24th of May, our municipality will host the 13th European Youth Orchestra Meeting, an extraordinary project that unites talent, culture, education, and friendship between European countries, through what music empowers best: the ability to bring people together, build bridges, and break down borders.

This year, this meeting takes on an even more special meaning for us.

We are celebrating 10 years of the twinning between Sintra and Fontainebleau — a partnership built on dialogue, cooperation, sharing of experiences and a common vision of cultural, educational, social, and human development.

Over the years, we have strengthened important ties in various areas, and music is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful examples of this connection.

Therefore, it is a great source of pride to see Sintra hosting this celebration.

Today we have with us about 90 young musicians from France, Italy, Germany, Romania, the United Kingdom, and Portugal.

During these past days, they have shared much more than rehearsals. They have shared experiences, stories, culture, identities, friendship... and what we will witness today is precisely the result of this collective construction.

Under the artistic direction of Maestro Miguel Ângelo Conceição, from the Sintra School Orchestras Project, and with the collaboration of the conductors from the different delegations, this concert is the peak of intense days of teamwork, dedication, and enormous passion for music.

This year, the theme of our meeting is "Roots" and it couldn't be more symbolic. Because roots speak of who we are, of our identity, of our history, of our traditions... but also of what we choose to build together.

More than a concert, this is a living encounter between cultures, generations, and dreams. A clear demonstration of how art and education are fundamental tools for bringing people together and building a more humane, closer and inspiring Europe.

Let me now, offer some very special thanks.

To the young musicians, for the talent, dedication, and enthusiasm they brought to Sintra.

To the families, and in a very particular way to the host families, for the enormous generosity, availability, and affection shown in welcoming young people from other countries.

To the Directors of Sintra's School Clusters, to the teachers and non-teaching staff, for their permanent commitment to the education, culture, and development of our young people.

To the teachers of the Sintra's School Orchestras Project.

To the Pedagogical Coordinator of the project, Marta Gisela.

To the Artistic Director of Sintra School Orchestras Project, Maestro Miguel Conceição, for the remarkable work he has been developing.

To the CulturSintra Foundation.

To the Sintra Professional School for Heritage Restoration.

To the representatives of all the countries involved in organizing this meeting.

To the Twinning Committee with Fontainebleau.

Allow me, also, a very special greeting and thanks to the Mayor of Fontainebleau, Julien Gondard, for his continued commitment to this friendly relationship between our territories.

To the President of the Twinning Committee, Evelyne Wenzel.

And, to the representative of Sintra on the Twinning Committee, Charles De Sá, for his work, dedication and commitment to strengthening this important link between our communities.

To all of you, our sincere thanks.

And, above all, thank you for helping Sintra become a true home of music, youth, culture and friendship between peoples.

I wish you an excellent concert.

Thank you very much.

Charles De Sá, representative of Sintra on the Fontainebleau twinning committee

Mr. Mayor of Sintra 's Municipality, Dr. Marco Almeida,
Ms. Deputy Mayor of Sintra 's Municipality, Dra. Andréa Bernardo,
Mr. Dr. Frederico d'Eça,
Ms. Dra. Marta Castelo Branco,
Ms. Dra. Susana Coelho,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Unfortunately, I cannot be with you tonight, but I would like to express my sincere gratefulness to the Mayor of Sintra's Municipality, Dr. Marco Almeida and Deputy Mayor Dra. Andreia Bernardo for the warm welcome, and to Dr. Frederico D'Eça and Dra. Susana Coelho for their invaluable help in carrying out this project and for always being available to listen to us; they are dear friends.

Mr. Charles De Sá, representative of Sintra on the Fontainebleau twinning committee, carries with him and gives you my warmest regards.

Ten years have gone by, since the twinning agreement which links our two cities was signed, in Fontainebleau. A truly exciting moment, we are very proud of. The twinning of cities is so important for bringing people closer together; it allows us to get to know each other better, understand each other, and live in peace on our continent. Our relations have developed gradually, with the first steps taken by the schools, and have intensified. In fact, at the beginning of January 2026, Mr. Diouf, a Portuguese teacher, and two of his colleagues went to Sintra with about thirty students, and in mid-March, we received Prof. Cristina Rodrigues, along with three of her colleagues and their students.

Sports exchanges are also very regular and eagerly awaited on both sides of the Pyrenees. The End of Europe sporting event, a major event in Sintra, has been hosting the best athletes from Fontainebleau for several years, and the Foulée Impériale (Imperial Race) hosts the best athletes from Sintra.

Finally, Sintra joined the European Youth Orchestra. I had the honour of participating in the creation of this orchestra, which brings together teachers and students from all the music schools twinned with Fontainebleau: Constance, Richmond, Lodi, Sintra, and Alba Iulia. This is a huge undertaking for everyone involved, but also an important educational project that I hope will continue for many years. Since 2022, a young Polish singer from Krakow, Emilia Azierska, has been part of the orchestra.

What can be more wonderful than music, this universal language that unites our young people? My sincere thanks to all the teachers and musicians who, every year, sacrifice their free time for this intense work, carried out in very beautiful cities. They rehearse tirelessly to enchant us and, at the end of the concerts, leave without even having visited these cities!

Finally, I hope that increasingly close bonds of friendship will develop between the cultural, sports, and musical associations and the schools of our two cities.

Thank you, and I wish you all a wonderful musical experience.

Evelyne Wenzel, President of the Fontainebleau Twinning Committee



COM OS SINTRENSES, SEMPRE