

## **BRYGGEN - BRUGES STRINGS // PROJECTS 2027-28**

BRYGGEN is a creative and dynamic string orchestra for whom innovation is key, whether in terms of repertoire or performance. Every BRYGGEN concert is an experience, both for the audience and the performers. Founded by artistic director Jolente De Maeyer, the ensemble explores the soundscape of Scandinavia and the Baltic, complemented with keyworks from 20<sup>th</sup>- and 21<sup>st</sup>-century postmodern music.

BRYGGEN strongly believes in the power of the string orchestra and in the added value that playing music in a smaller group offers in terms of sound, interaction, communication and focus. The ensemble works without a conductor and makes every effort to bring contemporary music to the heart of the audience not only through their ears but also through their eyes. The symbiosis between text, music, image and performance is therefore in the DNA of the projects that BRYGGEN carefully develops alongside narrators, actors, writers, directors, choreographers, dancers, choir, performance artists and more. For BRYGGEN, the future is very diverse.

16 November - 14 December 2027

16 January - 22 February 2028 and upon request

**Max Richter Four Seasons Recomposed with dance: four seasons changed**

**Concept, musical direction, solo violin: Jolente De Maeyer // Choreography, concept, set, light: Michiel Vandeveldelde // Dance: Amanda Barrio Charmelo OR Sophia Dinkel // Musicians: BRYGGEN // Music: Max Richter - Four Seasons Recomposed // Costumes: Milk of Lime // Production: BRYGGEN - Bruges Strings, Disagree. vzw**

Vivaldi reimagined with dance and endless patterns

Just as the seasons in nature shift and return, new interpretations can transform classical works. In this concert choreography, the boundaries between dance and music dissolve. BRYGGEN and choreographer Michiel Vandeveldelde add a further layer to the rich texture Max Richter introduced in his 2012 reimagining of Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. Richter's score is performed from memory by the musicians of BRYGGEN, led by violinist Jolente De Maeyer, who move across the stage in continuous patterns. A solitary dancer weaves among them, at times contradicting the music, at others intensifying it.

The choreography follows the same compositional logic that underpins Richter's reinterpretation of Vivaldi. Across earlier works such as *Ends of Worlds* (2019), *Neuer Neuer Neuer Tanz* (2019), *The Goldberg Variations* (2020) and *Dances of Death* (2021), Vandeveldelde has examined dance history as a living archive. This interest meets Richter's own dialogue with Vivaldi. Each season is linked to a distinct choreographic lineage: spring draws on Isadora Duncan, summer on Anna Halprin, autumn on Pina Bausch, and winter on Trisha Brown.

The electronic music for the prologue and epilogue is composed by Didem Coşkunseven. Together, these moments frame the cycle of birth and death, and the passage in between. The performance reflects on time itself: on how styles and forms, discourses and vocabularies constantly change, yet remain deeply interconnected. By rethinking stage presence, by moving freely through the space and performing from memory, both the dancer and musicians challenge the conventions of the concert format. What emerges is a shared inquiry into how classical works can be lived, embodied and reimagined, not as fixed monuments, but as a living practice shaped by movement, adaptation and the pleasure of continual reinvention.

**1 soloist, 18 musicians, 1 dancer**

Length: 60 min

Availability upon request

### **WEATHER**

**BRYGGEN - Bruges Strings under the direction of Jolente De Maeyer // Music: Michael Gordon // Sound installation: Chris Watson // Film installation: Carlos Casas // Concept: Manchester Collective**

A treat for the eyes and ears: heavenly sounds accompanied by stunning visuals in a unique 360° sound experience. A musical and visual journey in a unique setting. BRYGGEN brings the cult piece *Weather* (1997) by Michael Gordon to life as a musical tour de force. This is combined with soundscapes by sound artist Chris Watson and visuals by Spanish filmmaker Carlos Casas, creating a musical tour de force.

*Weather* takes you on a journey from a rainforest in East Asia to the world's oldest desert, from an Icelandic glacier to the sunken medieval city of Dunwich off the English coast. *Weather* is an artistic account of endangered environments and is urgent, gripping, and unforgettable.

Award-winning sound recording engineer Chris Watson has worked on some of the BBC's most beloved documentaries, including David Attenborough's *Frozen Planet* and *The Life of Birds*. For this project, Chris revisited his extensive archive to create an immersive sound installation that accompanies the hour-long performance by the string orchestra.

**26 musicians**  
**Length: 75 min**

Availability upon request

### **Tales from the Woods**

Nordic Folk

**BRYGGEN - Bruges Strings under the direction of Jolente De Maeyer**

In Scandinavia, traditional music goes hand in hand with classical music. Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg knew like no other how to incorporate folk music into his scores like no other. The Danish String Quartet played a CD full of arrangements of their beloved Scandinavian folk music 'Wood Works', for 'four simple instruments made of wood'. BRYGGEN performs these folk, Norwegian melodies in their version for string ensemble.

E. Grieg: Holberg Suite

A. Pärt: Summa

P. Vasks: Lonely Angel for violin and strings

E. Grieg: The Last Spring

Wood Works selection traditional (arr. Danish String Quartet)

**17 musicians**  
**Length: 75 min**

Availability upon request

### **Waltz with Bashir**

**BRYGGEN - Bruges Strings // Musical Direction: Jolente De Maeyer // Film: Waltz with Bashir // Director: Ari Folman // Music: Max Richter**

Anyone who has already seen *Waltz with Bashir* on the big screen knows what an overwhelming experience the film is. With his unique, animated documentary, director Ari Folman is rooting in his own past and memories of the Lebanese civil war. Through conversations with his army comrades, the horrors of the time very gradually seep back in. *Waltz with Bashir* pushed the boundaries of genre, winning film award after film award: a Golden Globe, a César, and also... a European Film Award for Max Richter's haunting soundtrack. Rightly so, because with his rarefied strings and rich synthesizer

soundscapes, the British composer pumped every frame full of emotion. BRYGGEN, under the direction of violinist Jolente De Maeyer, makes you experience this animated documentary like never before by bringing the music live to the film.

**16 musicians**  
**Length: 90 min**

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