

## PRESS INFORMATION

for immediate release

25 April 2012

Classical:NEXT | 30 May – 2 June 2012 | Gasteig / Munich

### Artists for Classical:NEXT Opening and Closing Announced

*Munich:* Today the organisers of Classical:NEXT announced the artists who will perform at the Classical:NEXT opening night on 30 May and the closing concert on 2 June. The international selection that awaits the professional audience reflects the wide scope of classical music today. Remaining true to the forum's name, the opening night will present a programme honouring the long and hallowed tradition of Western art music from baroque to romantic – the *conditio sine qua non* of 'classical' – while the closing concert will place emphasis on the 'NEXT' generation of classical music which is creating modern works and novel approaches.

#### Opening

(Wednesday, 30 May, 19:00, Carl-Orff-Saal)

- Eldar Nebolsin
- Tianwa Yang
- Barbara Kozelj & Jan Schultsz
- Florian Uhlig

#### Closing

(Saturday, 2 June 2012, 12:00, Black Box)

- Keynote James Jolly
- Moritz Eggert
- Orchester Jakobsplatz München
- QNG - Quartet New Generation

#### A 'Classical' Opening...

The first artist ever to perform on the Classical:NEXT stage will be the highly-acclaimed Uzbek pianist **Eldar Nebolsin** (Uzbekistan/Spain), who will play Soler and Bach at the opening night on Wednesday, 30 May. Next up, Beijing-born violinist **Tianwa Yang** (China/Germany) will perform a sonata of the Belgian composer Eugène Ysaÿe, followed by **Barbara Kozelj** (Slovenia/The Netherlands) & **Jan Schultsz** (The Netherlands/Switzerland) who will present works by Joseph Joachim Raff for piano and mezzo-soprano to the Classical:NEXT audience. The opening night will end with pianist **Florian Uhlig** (Germany) interpreting Schumann and Beethoven.

Tianwa Yang is looking forward to her appearance: *"I'm really excited and honored to be part of the performance in the very first forum of Classical:NEXT! This will be a wonderful platform for us musicians from all cultures and countries to gather together, exchange and experience the most important thing in our life: the classical music."*

The opening night will be presented by two groups which have been instrumental in bringing the initiative that is Classical:NEXT to life: CLASS, the Association for Classical Independents in Germany and initiating partners of Classical:NEXT; and Naxos, who signed up to this fledgling project from the outset, entrusting Classical:NEXT with their 25th anniversary and encouraging their international network to come to Munich.

#### ... and a 'NEXT' Closing

A closing event will be held on Saturday, 2 June at 12:00, gathering the community of classical music professionals one last time to round up the first Classical:NEXT edition. The closing event will start with a keynote of **James Jolly** (UK), Editor-in-Chief Gramophone magazine.

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This will be followed by a closing concert which will evoke the 'NEXT' aspect of the event - a word which looks to innovation and to what is yet to come. The host city of Munich will also be represented in the programme with two performances: **Moritz Eggert** (Germany) - a composer, pianist and professor of the University for Music and Theatre in Munich - will play works by John Cage. Also from Munich, the **Orchester Jakobsplatz München** (Germany) will interpret Ernst Krenek. Musicians from more than twenty countries currently play in the orchestra founded in 2005 by young conductor Daniel Grossmann (Germany). Last to take the stage will be the four young women of **Quartet New Generation**, who take recorder performance to previously unexplored territories with works composed especially for their ensemble.

Director Jennifer Dautermann states: *"The programs that open and close the first Classical:NEXT symbolize the duality of preservation and renaissance, both of which are crucial to the future of classical music. Reconciling these two sides is a goal to be reached not only on stage but throughout all aspects of Classical:NEXT."*

[http://www.classicalnext.com/press/downloads/opening\\_and\\_closing](http://www.classicalnext.com/press/downloads/opening_and_closing)

### Basic Information on Classical:NEXT:

Classical:NEXT is a new international professionals forum for classical music. From 30 May until 2 June international professionals from all sectors of the classical music scene will gather in Munich for the first edition of this new annual event – festivals, venues, publishers, labels, music educators, institutions, media, producers and, of course, classical music artists. The aim is to create cross-sector networks and to find new solutions for the future of classical music.

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