

LUNALIA 2023
PRESS PACK

ZA 22.04
LUNALIA
LIFT OFF

Openingsfeest

ZA 22.04
Openings-
concert

You'll never be
alone anymore

ZA 22.04 –

DI 30.05

Pop-up
tentoonstelling

Goeyvaerts
Gespiegeld

ZO 23.04
Baston:
de andere
Josquin

Ratas del viejo Mundo

ZO 23.04
CASCADE |
ARCADE

Maarten Buyl

MA 24.04
Fijnbesnaarde
Argentijnse passie

Tangos entre cordes

WO 26.04
Loopwork &
History of
the voice

Kamikamka
& HYOID

DO 27.04
100% Karel
Goeyvaerts

I SOLISTI, Jan Michiels
& Liesbeth Devos

VR 28.04
Origins

Sjaella

ZA 29.04
Alma

Elise Caluwaerts
& Marianna Shirinyan

ZA 29.04
& ZO 30.04
Hear the voice!

The Karma Project

ZO 30.04
Meridians

Sjaella

DO 04.05
William Blake:
visionair

Reinoud Van Mechelen

Kristien Ceuppens

Inge Spinette

VR 05.05
Figurine

Lieselot De Wilde

ZA 06.05
On Solitude

Thomas Baeté

ZA 06.05
Jazz@Lunalia

Hannah Tolf

& The Milk Factory

ZO 07.05
Millennial
History

Resonate

Productions

LUNALIA 2023 22 APRIL - 7 MAY 2023

For its sixth edition, Lunalia, the spring festival of the Festival of Flanders Mechelen, will once again be taking over Mechelen city centre. Along with its partners, nona arts centre and Mechelen Cultural Centre, it will present a rich and adventurous programme.

The festival motto *You'll never be alone anymore*, derived from a 1975 composition by the Flemish composer Karel Goeyvaerts (1923-1993), lights a beacon of hope and places a finger on the wound of our time: loneliness. The programme charts a course between intimate recitals, challenging non-European sounds and contemporary music theatre in an extended tribute to Goeyvaerts' pioneering work. True to its DNA, the festival explores a wide range of styles, genres and forms. Besides concerts and productions, the programme includes a pop-up exhibition and a documentary concert, I SOLISTI will perform as the ensemble in residence, and the festival will welcome back artists in residence from its previous editions. Sigrid Hausen (artist in residence 2018), Reinoud Van Mechelen (artist in residence 2019) and Floris De Rycker with his *Ratas del viejo Mundo* will all be returning to Mechelen with new projects.

HIGHLIGHTS

FOCUS ON KAREL GOEYVAERTS

Given his role as a pioneer of electronic and serial music, Goeyvaerts still feels highly contemporary thirty years after his death. His *Zang van Aquarius* is the central work in the opening concert at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul on 24 April. I SOLISTI and the vocal quartet Niniwe team up for an astonishing musical trip in which compositions by Winnie Brückner and Charlie Chaplin's *Smile*, the song he wrote in 1936 for his film *Modern Times*, invite a warm embrace.

As well as I SOLISTI, the pianist Jan Michiels and soprano Liesbeth Devos will explore Goeyvaerts' work in partnership with the musicologist Mark Delaere. The portrait concert 100% Karel Goeyvaerts on 27 April will be recorded and broadcast by Klara on 8 June 2023, his one hundredth birthday.

The free pop-up exhibition *Goeyvaerts gespiegeld* (Goeyvaerts reflected) provides context for the concerts and presents a fascinating portrait of the composer. Scores, letters, photos and archive documents guide the visitor through the different episodes in his life. The exhibition is the perfect introduction for the curious and a welcome addition for Goeyvaerts' existing fans.

YOU'LL NEVER BE ALONE ANYMORE

SATURDAY 22 APRIL 8:30PM SAINT PETER AND PAUL
CHURCH

100 % KAREL GOEYVAERTS

THURSDAY 27 APRIL 8:15 PM SAINT PETER AND PAUL
CHURCH

GOEYVAERTS REFLECTED

SATURDAY 22 APRIL UNTIL TUESDAY 30 MAY
CULTUURCENTRUM MECHELEN



TANGO & JAZZ

Combining the authenticity of Argentinean tango with the subtlety of chamber music is the goal of the Franco-Argentinean ensemble Tango entre Cordes. Far from the clichés, this atypical quartet draws inspiration from the universal beauty of tango repertoire, surprising audiences with quirky arrangements and compositions. The fact that musically aligned souls find each other across borders is also proved by the collaboration between the Swedish vocalist Hannah Tolf and the Ghent-based jazz sextet The Milk Factory. Tolf sings, composes and improvises at the intersection of acoustic and electronic music, between pop and jazz, the familiar and the unexpected. They present their new album together.

TANGOS ENTRE CORDES

MONDAY 24 APRIL 8:15 PM STADSSCHOUWBURG

THE MILK FACTORY & HANNAH TOLF

SATURDAY 6 MAY 8:30 PM ARTS CENTRE NONA

WORLD PREMIERE HEAR THE VOICE!

Under the intriguing, metaphorical name The Karma Project, Sigrid Hausen has brought together a group of exceptional musicians, singers and performers for the première of Hear the Voice!, a directed concert inspired by the Indian Mahabharata. In musical terms, Hausen seeks out both polyphonic and dark, gothic sounds, combining the invocatory tones of Indian musical instruments with singing and electronic soundscapes. Bodies, voices and instruments merge kaleidoscopically into a whirling perpetuum. Hear The Voice! promises to be an experience on multiple levels, in a category of its own.

THE KARMA PROJECT HEAR THE VOICE!

SATURDAY 29 APRIL 8:30 PM STADSSCHOUWBURG MECHELEN

SUNDAY 30 APRIL 8:30 PM STADSSCHOUWBURG MECHELEN



ADVENTUROUS LUNALIA

As well as impressive and captivating work, Lunalia loves to focus on unusual and adventurous projects. In the musical diptych *CASCADE/ARCADE*, the soprano Naomi Beeldens and composer Maarten Buyl explore a constantly changing landscape of sound where the singer engages in dialogue with her recorded voice. Repeated and mirrored sounds also form the basis of *Loopwork*, enticing the listener into a vocal labyrinth of jazz, opera and contemporary music. The concert is programmed as a double bill with *History of the Voice*, a composition by the ground-breaking Irish composer Jennifer Walshe, in which she unleashes her fascination with the human voice on the vocal ensemble *HYOID*. The quintessential performer Els Mondelaers is stunning in both productions.

CASCADE | ARCADE

SUNDAY 23 APRIL 8:30 PM ARTS CENTRE NONA

LOOPWORK & HISTORY OF THE VOICE (double bill)

WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 8:30 PM ARTS CENTRE NONA



LUNALIA TO THE POINT

Nowhere better than in Thomas Baeté's *On Solitude* and the documentary concert *Millennial History* do we find the social relevance of the festival theme reflected. Armed only with his viol and the power of the spoken and written word, Thomas Baeté tackles feelings of loneliness. He finds them in music by Purcell and Barbara, and in literary and philosophical texts by writers including Michel de Montaigne. In the prestigious setting of De Wit tapestry factory, the artist seeks connection with the audience. The Dutch harpist Andrea Voets combines journalism with music, with the aim of analysing emotional blind spots in society. *Millennial History* was first created as a podcast. Ten young Europeans relate how they experienced episodes in early childhood that have left deep marks on recent history: German reunification, the Troubles in Northern Ireland, the Sicilian mafia and 'Ceausescu's children' in Romania. The live performance immerses you in their stories as the compositions by Andrea Voets, Luke Deane and Sarah Jeffrey create hundreds of layers of meaning in music and song. The day after the concert, Andrea Voets will give a guest lecture and workshop at Thomas More University of Applied Sciences on the themes of her next research project, *How to Feel Safe*.

ON SOLITUDE

SATURDAY 6 MAY 6:30 PM TAPESTRY MANUFACTURE DE WIT

MILLENNIAL HISTORY

SUNDAY 7 MAY 8:30 PM ARTS CENTRE NONA

LUNALIA EN VROUWELIJKE KRACHT

The moon resonates with female energy, and Lunalia honours the creative and spiritual power of women in Alma and Figurine. The soprano Elise Caluwaerts and pianist Marianna Shirinyan have become fascinated by the intimate, sensual yet intense work of Alma Mahler, in a project which has resulted in a CD recording. In Figurine, Hildegard Von Bingen's Ordo Virtutum forms a starting point for Lieselote de Wilde to reflect on artistry and existence from a female perspective. This music theatre production is part of a series of concerts, performances and visual works with the same title, in which the versatile singer and artist engages in dialogue with herself, in her characteristically subtle, refined and challenging style.

ALMA

SATURDAY 29 APRIL 7 PM SAINT PETER AND PAUL
CHURCH

FIGURINE

FRIDAY 5 MEI 8:15 PM CULTUURCENTRUM MECHELEN

Sjaella means 'soul' in Swedish, and anyone who has seen this ensemble at work will know that the six German singers couldn't have chosen a better name. With profound universality and a touch of wonder, each of their concerts invites audiences to explore a new universe. In Origins, their divine voices sing of the cycle of life, nature and woman. Meridians, their latest creation, is experienced as a journey through folk songs from different cultures. It is a journey that blurs the boundaries of melodies linked to specific times and places, emerging into musical timelessness.

ORIGINS

FRIDAY 28 APRIL 8:15 PM SAINT PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
MERIDIANS

SUNDAY 30 APRIL 7 PM SAINT PETER AND PAUL CHURCH

READ THE INTERVIEW
WITH ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JELLE DIERICKX
[HERE](#)

CONTACT & PRESS TICKETS

Festival van Vlaanderen Mechelen/Kempen
Onder-den-Toren 12, 2800 Mechelen

Michaela Defever
michaela@festival.be
+32 485 19 25 33
www.lunalia.be

