



**BEETHOVEN ON THE MOON
LUNALIA 2020**

PRESS

180 artists from 10 countries

22 concerts

16 extra concerts during the free
opening celebration of the festival
LUNALIA LIFT OFF

4 film screenings

LUNALIA

ZA 25.04
Beethoven
op de maan
Openingsconcert

ZO 26.04
Stokman
& Vos
Ta Ta Ta Taaa!

ZO 26.04
Reinoud Van
Mechelen
Aan de o zo verre geliefde:
Beethovens liedkunst

ZO 26.04
Aka Moon
Aka moon plays Beethoven:
Opus 111

MA 27.04
Beethoven & film
Intelligent Trees

MA 27.04
Zefiro Torna
& SEAD

Beethovens liefde
voor de natuur 6.0
past II>ORALE

DI 28.04
Ictus ensemble

Wir irren.
We vergissen ons allen, maar
iedereen vergist zich anders

DO 30.04
Zingend schip
In het licht van de maan
Familievoorstelling

ZA 2.05
Nora Fischer
& Marnix
Dorrestein
Hush

ZO 3.05
Nora Fischer,
Ragazze String
Quartet
& Remco Menting
The Secret Diary of Nora Plain

ZO 3.05
Evi Fillippou
& Katerina Fotinaki

Female power
tot de 2de macht
FF Duet

MA 04.05
Beethoven & film

A Clockwork Orange

DI 05.05
Beethoven & film

Ludwig Van

DI 05.05

'ka:mos
& Blowslap

Hemelse muziek voor
grootvader Van Beethoven

WO 06.05

Odd Size

Beethoven in miniatuur

WO 06.05

GingerBlackGinger
Feat. Claron
McFadden

Jazz in rood-zwart-rood

DO 07.05

& ZA 09.05

Jan Decleir,
Peter Van Den
Begin, I Solisti,
Vlaams Radiokoor

Egmont

VR 08.05

Koor en orkest
van Koninklijk
Conservatorium
Brussel

Beethoven monumentaal

ZA 09.05

Les Passions
de l'Ame

Salon Beethoven

ZO 10.05

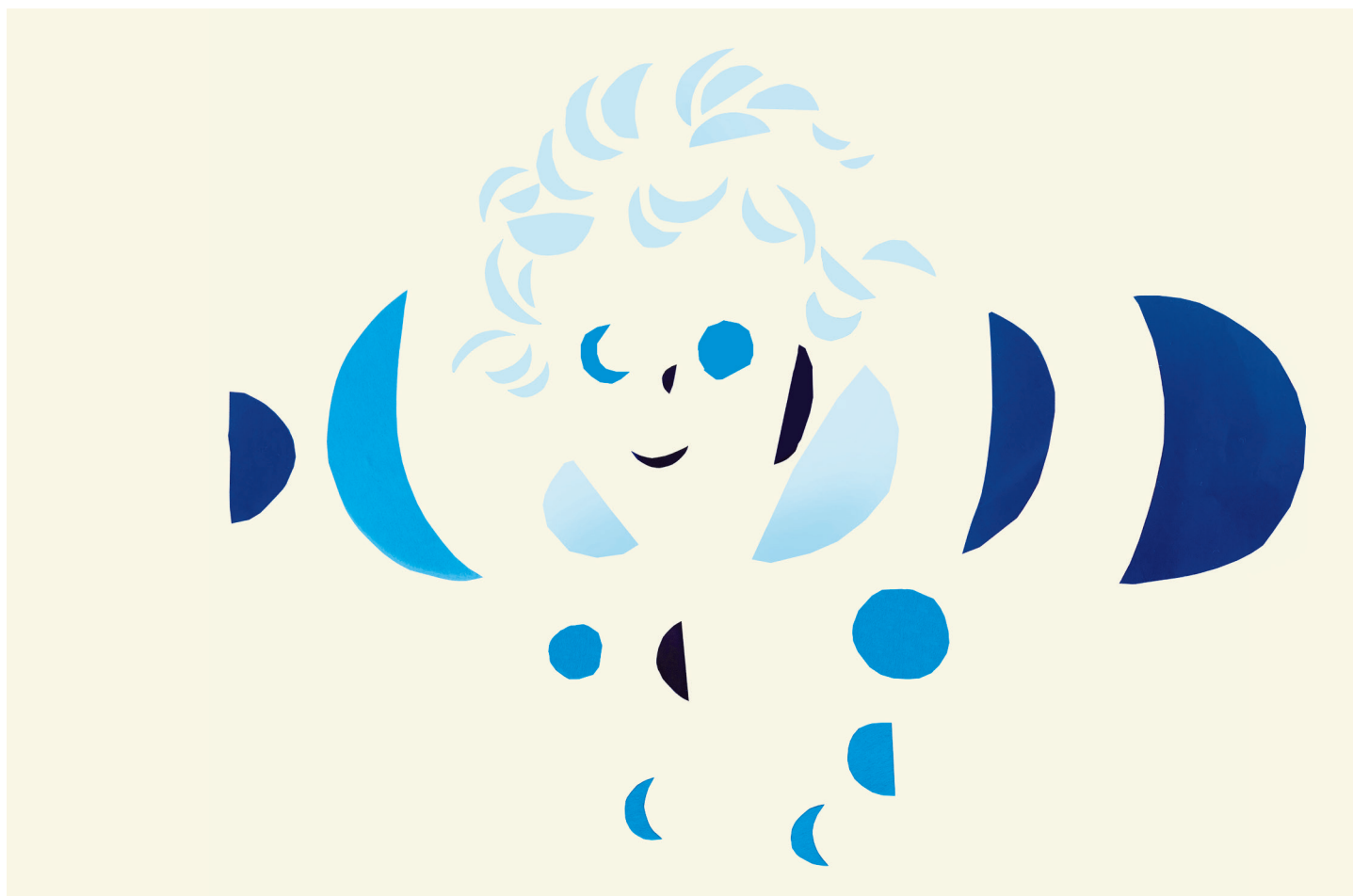
Jos van Immerseel

Maneschijn uit Wenen

LUNALIA

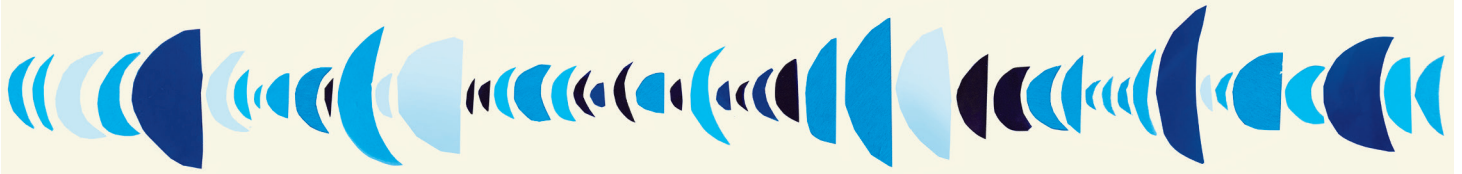
Beethoven on the moon

25 April - 10 May 2020



Ludwig van Beethoven: the guy with the wild shock of hair, Ode to Joy, Für Elise and dadada-dummm. That is pretty much the image most people have of the composer. LUNALIA, the Festival of Flanders Mechelen's spring festival, will well and truly shoot Beethoven to the moon, to give him a chance to recover from the myth that has been made of the man.

In 2020, Beethoven Year, LUNALIA will be focusing on Ludwig van Beethoven's vocal work, the least-known aspect of his oeuvre: songs, works for choir, canons, adaptations of folk songs and compositions linked to the theatre. As a festival of vocal music, it will search for the human being behind the myth, the man with roots in Mechelen. The young Beethoven's grandfather from Mechelen was the first professional musician in the family. You might say the music that made the name Beethoven world famous began right here, in the city on the River Dyle. What is more, Mechelen still boasts several unique locations, including concert venues, with a connection to Grandfather Beethoven: the Koraalhuis, St. Rumbold's Cathedral and St. Catherine's Church.



Ludwig van Beethoven's music, especially his vocal works, will be approached from various angles. **Reinoud Van Mechelen** and his ensemble *a nocte temporis* will tackle the composers' extensive repertoire of songs. The programme includes the song cycle *An die ferne Geliebte*.

Aka Moon will get to work on Beethoven's *Opus 111*, his last piano sonata. **Ictus and Ana Torfs** have chosen the lesser-known canons as the starting point for their mixture of film and performance.

As a counterweight to the Great Man Beethoven, LUNALIA XS presents two Great Ladies who will each introduce two projects: the soprano **Nora Fischer** and percussionist **Evi Filippou**. Nora Fischer will begin by presenting *Hush* with the guitarist Marnix Dorrestein. The recording won a well-earned Edison Award in 2018, and is a tribute to the masters of early music, from Purcell to Monteverdi. After *Hush* comes the music theatre production *The Secret Diary of Nora Plain*. It tells the story of the young Nora Plain, trying to find her way through a world where Big Brother has more and more impact. Along with the **Ragazze String Quartet** and others, she cheerfully breaks down the borders between pop, jazz and classical music.

Musical prodigy **Evi Filippou** doesn't fit into a pigeonhole either. She will present two of her ensembles. **Blowslap** will play the acoustics of St. Catherine's Church, the place where Grandfather Beethoven was baptised. The programme is a double bill with **Ka:mos**, a duo of **Aino Peltomaa and Nathan Wouters**, that explores the borders between light and darkness in music. Evi Filippou is also bringing her soulmate to Mechelen: she and the singer-songwriter **Katerina Fotinaki** form the FF Duet. FF stands for Filippou-Fotinaki, but also fortissimo and female to the power of two. Their performances are an apparently effortless combination of Guillaume de Machaut, Janis Joplin, Sappho and George Aperghis.

Zefiro Torna, in turn, will link the issues surrounding the climate with Beethoven's work and – as its name suggests – the ensemble **Odd Size** will perform a programme of Beethoven's music in an extremely reduced arrangement. Youth projects will be set up, including one with the dozens of canons that Beethoven composed, and of course there will have to be music in the bakeries of Mechelen, in honour of Beethoven's great-grandfather.

Grand dame **Claron McFadden** will also make a guest appearance with the band **GingerBlackGinger**, the dream project of the double bass player **Yannick Peeters**. Any extra weight is thrown overboard. No show, no unnecessary gestures, just honesty, purity and beauty in every possible form.

The icing on the cake will be the premiere of the music theatre production *Egmont*, with **I Solisti, Het Banket, Peter Van den Begin and Jan Declair**. As if that weren't enough, the **Royal Conservatory of Brussels** will embark upon a second *Egmont* production, but this time round it will be *Klärchen* calling the shots. None other than **Jos van Immerseel** presents, in the final concert of LUNALIA, the piano work that should not be missed during this festival: the so-called *Mondscheinsonate*.

Ludwig van Beethoven looks down from the moon and sees that it is good.

Jelle Dierickx, director Festival van Vlaanderen Mechelen



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