

# FRANCESCO RISTA

28. februar 2024  
Kl. 19.30

Konservatoriets Koncertsal  
Julius Thomsens Gade 1

GUITAR

DEBUTKONCERT



● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ □  
DET KONGELIGE DANSKE  
MUSIKKONSERVATORIUM

Gratis adgang

[dkdm.dk](http://dkdm.dk)

# PROGRAM

---

## STABAT MATER (2023)

Musik af Marco Rosano (1964), John Dowland (1563-1626),  
Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643) og Francesco Rista (1997)

Stabat Mater  
O Quam Tristis  
Come Heavy Sleep  
Flow My Tears  
Sancta Mater  
Si dolce è'l tormento  
Fac Me Cruce  
Amen

Electrio (Sandra Lind Þorsteinsdóttir, Francesco Rista og Simone Giordano)

---

PAUSE (CA. 20 MINUTTER)

---

## KEVIN SWIERKOSZ-LENART (F. 1988)

**Away from the flock “Omaggio a Damien Hirst” (2021)**  
for klassisk guitar (uopførelse)

---

## FINNUR KARLSSON (F. 1988)

**Slow movements (2022)** for klassisk guitar og effektpedaler (uopførelse)

Cumulus  
Wake  
Weary Days  
Current

---

## ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

**Koncert i D-dur RV 93 (1730)** for lut, to violiner og basso continuo

Allegro Giusto  
Largo  
Allegro

Emma Garðarsdóttir og Sólrún Ylfa Ingimarsdóttir, violin  
Oskar Friis-Hansen, cello  
Sergei Teplyi, cembalo

---

## OLIVER DAVIS (F. 1972)

**Guitar Concerto (2020)** for klassisk guitar og orkester (uopførelse)

Allegro  
Andante  
Allegro

Emma Garðarsdóttir, Sólveig Steinþórsdóttir, Carlota Combis Clara og  
Giuly Johannsen, violin 1  
Cassandra Andrea Juul, Sólrún Ylfa Ingimarsdóttir, Josephine Egede Franyó og  
Jonas Willaume, violin 2  
Vice Arneodo og Þórhildur Magnúsdóttir, bratsch  
Helena Iglesias Kołodzyńska og Oskar Friis-Hansen, cello  
Piotr Hetman, kontrabas  
Kristín Ýr Jónsdóttir, fløjte  
Gunnar Helgason, basun  
Ivan Doujak, klaver  
Tanne Harder, harpe

---

# FRANCESCO RISTA

Francesco Rista is a versatile musician with a passion for various musical genres. His repertoire spans from baroque to the avant-garde landscapes of contemporary and crossover music. He has played in various music festivals, including Grand Nordic Festival, Dansk Guitar Selskab, Klima Klang Festival and he worked closely with composers such as Finnur Karlsson, Kevin Swierkosz-Lenart, Nick Martin, Marianna Filippi, and Evagoras Solias Apokidis. He has taken masterclasses with renowned professors including Oscar Ghiglia, Raphaël Feuillâtre, Cristian Saggese, Lars Ulrik Mortensen, Viggo Mangor, Hopkinson Smith, Elisabeth Zeuthen Schneider, Peter Spissky, Jakob Lindberg and Carmelo Lacertosa.

Francesco's recordings include "J. S. Bach Violin Partita No. 2 BWV 1004" for the label Stradivarius, as well as other works such as "Serie Barrios/Paganini" and John Cage's "Dream" on electric guitar. His performances have taken him to diverse venues across Denmark, Sweden, Lithuania, Switzerland, Iceland, and Italy. He studied at the Conservatorio "G.F. Ghedini" with Davide Ficco, at the Royal Danish Academy of Music with Jesper Sivbæk and Per Pålsson and at the "Accademia Chigiana" with Oscar Ghiglia. Currently he is enrolled in the master's program at the Malmö Academy of Music (Lund University) under the guidance of Göran Söllscher and David Hansson.

# PROGRAMME NOTES

**STABAT MATER** is a reflective exploration on the suffering of Holy Mary during Christ's crucifixion. In this project, Electricio brings together voice, guitar, and electronics to offer a fresh perspective on this narrative. Drawing from Marco Rosano's work, they recreate a Stabat Mater by reinterpreting pieces from Dowland and Monteverdi that convey the theme of mortality symbolically and poetically. The electronic elements consist of a range of noises and sounds seamlessly interwoven from the first to the last song through shared elements. These include aggressive and occasionally unsettling sounds, harmonizing with a pure and crystalline voice to reconstruct this prayer. Metaphorically linking the holy mother to Mother Earth, their prayer extends to our planet, with the hope that it remains unharmed. The aspiration is embedded in reinterpreting Baroque pieces, crafted over 400 years ago, now rearranged in a modern context and performed today. In this musical odyssey, they seek to communicate the timeless essence of music and articulate their fervent wish for it to be more than just the exclusive enduring legacy on this planet.

Francesco Rista

**AWAY FROM THE FLOCK** is a piece inspired by Damien Hirst's work of the same name. The underlying concept of the musical discourse is 'suspension', the absence of points of arrival, the random and capricious isolation of a given moment from the flow of world events. On a compositional level, this translates into the absence of any systematisation of language, which is perpetually mobile and cannot be framed in any theoretical determinant (be it diatonic or chromatic). Likewise, the piece refuses to be definitively framed in a particular character: it is neither rhythmic nor lyrical, but alternates different moments. The inspiration to Damien Hirst coincided in my research with a "unicum" in some ways alien to my world: while I usually prefer spiritual themes or those linked to formal art, in this case I let myself go to the postmodern suggestion of a great meaningless agitation around nothingness. It goes without saying that, precisely because of this very special character, I am extremely attached to this work, and enthusiastic about the dedicatee's treatment of it.

Kevin Swierkosz-Lenart

**SLOW MOVEMENTS** was commissioned by Francesco Rista in 2022 for his debut from DKDM. The writing of the piece was a collaborative effort, with me and Francesco sending sheet music, recordings, ideas and feedback back and forth. We also met a handful of times in person, but most of this happened digitally even though we were neighbors at the time. The piece is written around the use of effect pedals, most notably a digital sustain pedal that is used throughout the whole piece. The piece was written with support from Statens Kunstfond.

Finnur Karlsson

### **Vivaldi Lute Concerto in D Major**

One of four works composed by Vivaldi to feature the lute, RV 93 is a chamber concerto scored for solo strings, lute and continuo. During Vivaldi's lifetime, the lute was nearing the end of a long and distinguished career as a solo instrument, its final glory achieved in the suites of Bach and his fellow German, Silvius Weiss. The Concerto in D major was written for the Czech Count Wrtby while on a visit to central Europe when his operas were being performed in Vienna and Prague around 1730. Vivaldi infused his characteristic vigor and virtuosity into the plucked solo part, which shines in rousing episodes in the first and third movements. As with Vivaldi's other lute works, the concerto in D was not published during Vivaldi's lifetime.

The autograph manuscript is preserved in the Biblioteca Nazionale, Turin.

Francesco Rista

### **Oliver Davis Guitar Concerto**

A few years ago I was introduced via social media to Argentinian guitarist Sergio Puccini. He asked whether I had written anything for classical guitar and the only piece I had to present was a one-minute sketch written several years earlier. Upon hearing it he asked if it could be expanded and so the work matured into a three movement guitar concerto. Initially it was conceived as a work for two guitars and orchestra but I then altered the arrangement changing the second guitar part into a harp part which was performed on the recording by harpist Oliver Wass. Sergio recorded the solo part remotely in Rosario, Argentina. The premiere recording was made by Sergio Puccini (guitar), Oliver Wass (harp), Oliver Davis (piano) and Henry Hanssen (trombone) with the Budapest Scoring Orchestra and Peacock Ensemble conducted by Péter Illényi and released in 2021 through Signum Classics.

Oliver Davis

# MUSICIANS AND COMPOSERS

### **ELECTRIO**

The Ensemble Electrio was born from the previous collaboration between the guitarist Francesco Rista, the electroacoustic composer Simone Giordano and the soprano Sandra Lind Porsteinsdóttir. Their varied interests include crossover music, baroque music as well as electronic contemporary music. It is certainly a nontraditional ensemble that wants to unite the "classical" world with the contemporary music world. The sweet sonority of the voice with the clear and crystalline sound of the guitar together with sounds of multiple colors belonging to the electronics. They debuted at MENGI in Iceland with their first project STABAT MATER in July 2022, and won the Klima Klang Festival Award and performed in KoncertKirken in October 2023.

### **KEVIN SWIERKOSZ-LENART**

Kevin Swierkosz-Lenart was born in Velletri in 1988, he graduated in Classical Guitar in 2012 from the Conservatorio 'S. Cecilia' in Rome under the guidance of Maestro Simonetta Camilletti, then studied composition privately with Maestros Angelo Gilardino and Dusan Bogdanovic from 2017 to 2022. He has published several works as a composer with Bèrben, Editions d'Oz, Guitart and Singidunum Music. His music has been performed by recognised performers around the world (Carnegie Hall in New York, Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, Conservatorio di S. Cecilia in Rome, Festival della Chitarra di Morelia in Mexico, Festival 'Trame Sonore' in Mantua, etc.) and recorded for numerous record labels (Brilliant Classics, DotGuitar, Da Vinci Classics).

### **FINNUR KARLSSON**

Finnur Karlsson is an Icelandic composer of instrumental and vocal music. He studied composition at the Iceland University of the Arts and the Royal Danish Academy of Music with Hans Abrahamsen, Úlfar Ingi Haraldsson, Atli Ingólfsson, Simon Løffler and Niels Rosing-Schow. Finnur's piece, Accordion Concerto, which was written for Jónas Ásgeir Ásgeirsson and Elja Ensemble, was selected as the "Work of the year" at the Icelandic Music Prize in 2021. He was also nominated in the same category in 2015 and 2018. His music has been performed by ensembles like Brák Baroque Band, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, Elja Ensemble, Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Kimi, Loadbang, Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra, Soggi String Quartet, Tak and Århus Sinfonietta.

### **OLIVER DAVIS**

Oliver Davis graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in 1994 and has since established himself as a preeminent composer for ballet, film & TV, and the concert hall. His albums on Signum Records have consistently charted highly in the UK Classical Charts and achieved regular airplay, notably on Classic FM and New York radio station WQXR. Many of his works have been choreographed too and in March this year he will have three separate ballets performed simultaneously in Chicago, Columbus and Seattle. His ninth album will be recorded by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in September.

## **HJÖRTUR PÁLL EGGERTSSON**

The Icelandic cellist and conductor Hjörtur Páll Eggertsson began his conducting studies in 2020 at the Malko Academy. Since then he has participated in masterclasses with Herbert Blomstedt, Nicolás Pasquet, Eva Ollikainen and Fabio Luisi and conducted concerts with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Athelas Sinfonietta and Elja Ensemble. He is currently a student of the conducting class of Ed Spanjaard at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam.

## **TANNE HARDER**

Tanne Harder is a Dutch harpist studying Masters with Zachary Hatcher at the Royal Danish Academy of Music. She is a successful freelance orchestral musician, working internationally in the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. Orchestras that Tanne regularly plays with include the Aarhus Simfoniorkester, DR Symfoniorkester, Göteborgs symfoniker, Lapin Kammariorkesteri and Copenhagen Phil.

# **THANKS TO**

- All the people who are sharing the stage with me tonight because they are the one who are making this concert possible and full of life.
- My trio, Sandra for her colorful soul and voice, and Simone for working with so much dedication on the arrangements even if we were thousands of kilometers away. Most of the work was done through WhatsApp.
- My girlfriend Emma, not only for taking part in both Vivaldi and Oliver Davis as a concertmaster, but also for hearing me practicing over and over and listening all of my crazy ideas and change of mind in the past three years.
- All my friends, in particular Vice, who made me discover Oliver Davis's Concerto by sending me the recording on Spotify and for playing tonight.
- Sólrún, Sergej and Oskar, for being so inspiring to work with.
- The conductor and the harpist for being here tonight even with their busy career.
- All the composers involved in this concert, Kevin, Finnur and Oliver, for writing the music and for being here from Italy, Iceland and England.
- The composer Marco Rosano for being so kind and open to let me transcribe part of his Stabat Mater for this unconventional ensemble.
- My teachers, David Hansson, Göran Söllscher, Jesper Sivebæk, Per Pålsson.
- Atli, the photographer who took the picture of the Poster.
- Federico Mattioli for recording the voice tape in the "Amen".
- The producer Signe and the tonmeister Bo.
- The musicians in the orchestra: Emma, Sólveig, Carlota, Giuly, Jonas, Cassandra, Sólrún, Josephine, Vice, Þórhildur, Helena, Oskar, Piotr, Gunnar, Kristín, Ivan, Tanne.
- All the people in the audience who travelled all the way here tonight to be with me, in particular my family and all of my friends.

Francesco Rista