

THANKS TO

- My Professor at RDAM, Eszter Haffner, for her patience, support and for accepting me into this prestigious soloist program in her class.
- My teacher in Switzerland, Janine Jansen, who is my biggest inspiration and role model in so many ways and the kindest soul I have ever met. She has become a mentor for life and a really big part of me as a musician and person has come from her inspiring example.
- My teacher in Brussels, Tatiana Samouil, who has changed my whole life as a violinist: without meeting her back in 2019, I would never be where I am today. It is so special and rare to have a teacher like this, where both technical excellence and musical sensitivity goes hand in hand. Thank you for those 6 years of unending knowledge!
- My teacher from France, Virginie Robilliard, for her kindness and believing in me from the very beginning, when things were hard, she never stopped encouraging me to pursue all my dreams!
- Prof. Tomo Keller, for his support, extreme dedication and precision.
- Prof. Tim Frederiksen for his encouragement and always helpful feedback, as well as for letting me play this beautiful Bergonzi violin during my studies.
- Erling and Jytte Steffensen for their support since I was little and loaning me a fantastic instrument during past 7 years.
- Coach Katharina Giegling, who helped me stay focused and calm during this intense period.
- French Connection Academy for all the opportunities.
- RDAM, for a great study environment.
- Frederiksberg Commune for their financial contribution to this event.
- Emilie Callesen-Doulcet for helping me with some project ideas.
- Cyprien Lengagne, who wrote the arrangement of today’s première.
- My beautiful orchestra for their enthusiasm and dedication while joining this concert.
- Our concertmasters: Marcjanna and Villads for their efforts and being there with me from the start, and of course to my fellow soloists of today Marina and Lara and our amazing conductor Ondřej!
- My friends and family for just being there and last but not least to our producer, Signe Zink, for all her help bringing the concert to life!

Justina la Cour

PROGRAM

CÉSAR FRANCK (1822-1890)

Violinsonate i A-dur
Allegretto ben moderato
Allegro
Recitativo-Fantasia. Ben moderato-Molto lento
Allegretto poco mosso

RUED LANGGAARD (1893-1952)

Aubade (Morgenständchen) for violin og klaver

Kort violinsonate
Allegro
Adagio divoto
Scherzo agitato
Finale

Marina Saiki, klaver

PAUSE (20 minutter)

EUGÈNE YSAÏE (1858-1931)

Poème Nocturne for violin, cello og orkester (arr. Cyprien Lengagne, 2025)

Lara Biancalana, cello

MAURICE RAVEL (1875-1937)

Koncertrapsodi "Tzigane" for violin, harpe og strygeorkester (Arr. Mikhail Bugaev)

ASTOR PIAZZOLLA (1921-1992)

Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas. Verano Porteño for violin og strygere (Arr. Leonid Desyatnikov)

28. maj 2025
Kl. 19.30

Konservatoriets Koncertsal
Julius Thomsens Gade 1



JUSTINA LA COUR

Returning Home



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MUSIKKONSERVATORIUM

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DEBUTKONCERT

VIOLIN

JUSTINA LA COUR

A young laureate of numerous international competitions, Justina la Cour is currently integrated in the Advanced Postgraduate Soloist Program at the Royal Academy of Music in Copenhagen under the guidance of Prof. Eszter Haffner.

Justina previously studied with the dutch superstar violinist Janine Jansen at the HEMU Valais (Switzerland) and with professor Tatiana Samouil at the Royal Academy of Music in Brussels.

Quickly building her musical reputation as a promising international artist, Justina is constantly searching for innovative performance ideas.

Apart from focusing on the traditional violin repertoire, Justina occasionally emerges herself in discovering and embracing new/contemporary music.

Justina currently plays on a precious Italian violin by Carlo Bergonzi (Cremona 1730) kindly on loan from RDAM.

PROGRAM NOTES

Dear audience, I am looking so much forward to perform this beautiful program for you tonight. All the pieces have a significant meaning to me and takes us through my whole journey as an artist, highlighting my international profile, travels, studies abroad and returning back home to Denmark.

To perform the first part of the concert I have invited a dear friend of mine, pianist Marina Saiki, who has come here all the way from Paris to play with me and share an unforgettable experience with all of us. We both met at the « French Connection Academy » in my home town Odense and later on, with the help of this great academy have created a beautiful duo performing in Paris as FCA artists. We will perform a special French-Danish themed répertoire, because that has become our brand now, representing our roots and our story.

C. Franck: Sonata
C. Franck sonata is one of our favourite sonatas ever written, it has a bit of everything: lyrical and nostalgic beauty, drama and passion, excitement and joy, hesitation and doubts, peace and acceptance...
The range of emotions makes this sonata feel like a whole story that we will live through together during those four contrasting movements.

R. Langgaard: Aubade and Short Sonata
R. Langgaard is usually always a second choice composer, left in the shadow of our famous danish legend C. Nielsen. That is exactly why I chose to take Langgaard out in the light and show his extraordinary, underappreciated works to the World. I fell in love with his music during the Langgaard competition 2024, where I emerged myself in a deep discovery of of his works. Sometimes odd, a bit « edgy » choices of the composer really makes you question tradition and wakes up curiosity, anticipating what will come next?
With Marina we will perform two very different shorter pieces by Langgaard: the soft, heart melting « Aubade » and the passionate and brave « Short Sonata ».

E. Ysaÿe: Poeme Nocturne
After the break I will bring a whole orchestra on stage with me and we will dive into probably the most exciting and courageous project of this whole concert: our Première arrangement of E. Ysaÿe’s « Poème Nocturne »
I am a huge « fan » of Ysaÿe as a composer, while studying in Belgium, I have learned numerous solo works by him and was always stunned by the genius and the complexity of his solo sonatas for violin.

Today we will bring to life a very rare composition: a double concerto like piece for violin, cello and orchestra: « Poème Nocturne ». The solo parts are so challenging and demanding, that it is safe to say: it is one of the hardest works we ever had to learn. Luckily both myself and my co-soloist Lara Biancalana are always up for a « dangerous » and exciting challenge and today we are so proud to have taken on the risk and tried to do something so innovative and brave.
As the orchestra part was originally lost in history, I have asked a friend and fellow student from Switzerland, Cyprien Lengagne to re-create the orchestra parts from the piano score. It was an enormous work for him and took almost a whole season of his work and dedication, so big applause to him as well and we hope the audience will appreciate this première today!

M. Ravel: Tzigane
Next piece in our concert will be the colourful « Tzigane » by M. Ravel. It is quite likely the piece I have performed the most in my life and therefore it has become very dear to me, bringing many personal memories. Thankfully at least the orchestra will have a rest while I will emerge myself in the Rhapsodic solo cadenza. Afterwards everyone will join in adding so many different colors and characters to the wildness of « Tzigane ». Big applause has to be dedicated to our harp soloist-Inês Cavalheiro and our solo violin of the orchestra-Villads Littauer who will share some solos with me throughout the piece.

A. Piazzolla: Verano Porteño
Last but not least, we will celebrate the upcoming summer months and the end of an era (my end of studies and starting a professional life) with Verano Porteño (Summer) from the Four Seasons of Buenos Aires by A. Piazzolla. I am extremely proud of our diverse international orchestra, everyone here is so unique and special, we have 22 musicians coming from 14 different countries: Denmark, Sweden, Japan, China, Australia, USA, Poland, Czech Republic, Italy, France, Switzerland, Germany, Portugal and the Netherlands. With this piece I want to show that no matter where you go in life, home is always where your friends are and where you can bring your music. That’s what it is to me. Returning home.

Thank you so much for joining us today it is my immense pleasure and privilege to perform here for you with all my friends on stage.
Justina la Cour

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Ondřej Soukup

Violin 1
Villads Bendixen Littauer
Marcjanna Derentowicz
Utana Hiragushi
Vasilisa Koroleva
Raven Mischke

Violin 2
Tilda Suntian Shen
Ines Soltwedel
Josephine Egede Franyó
Jonas Willaume Christoffersen

Viola
Jens Bendix Nielsen
Bengt Gilbert
Ivan Sanchez Bengtsson
Julia Reparip

Cello
Maria Helena Iglesias Vigil
Jia Gao
Xiaoya Lyu
Silja Clara Frej Møller
Amalie Askjær Staunæs

Double bass
Viggo Buttenschøn

Harp
Inês Barata Feio Paixão Cavalheiro