

24. maj 2023  
kl. 19.30

Konservatoriets Koncertsal  
Julius Thomsens Gade 1

DEBUTKONCERT



# LANA SURAN

KLAVER



DET KONGELIGE DANSKE  
MUSIKKONSERVATORIUM

Gratis adgang

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# LANA SURAN

Lana Suran gave her debut at Gothenburg Concert Hall at the age of eight and has since performed in all major concert halls in Sweden. She maintains an active career as a soloist and chamber musician across Europe, South America and the United States.

Lana has been invited to renowned festivals such as the Yellow Barn Festival, Academie Villecroze, Internationaal Kamermuziekfestival Schiermonnikoog, Helsingborg Piano Festival, Festival Internacional de Música de Esmeraldas, IMS Prussia Cove and gave her debut recital at Schubert Days at Flagey in October 2022.

1st Prize winner of the Berlingske Tidendes Musikkonkurrence in Denmark and RUM Competition for Young Soloists in Sweden, Lana won 1st Prize at the First Swedish Steinway Competition in 2001 and has since been hailed by critics for her “unique poetry” and “musical drama”. She is the 2nd Prize winner of the 17th Young Musician International Competition Città di Barletta, 3rd Prize winner of the Rovere d’Oro International Competition, Special Prize winner of the Val Tidone International Competition in Italy and recipient of special awards from the Royal Swedish Academy of Music, the Royal Danish Academy of Music and the American Scandinavian Foundation in New York. Other awards include the Paskéll Prize from SWEA International Foundation in 2015, the Steinway Award from Mannes School of Music in 2019, 2nd Prize at the Verão Clássico Award in 2020 and 1st Prize at the Oxana Yablonskaya International Piano Competition in February 2023.

As a soloist, Lana has appeared with Dalasinfoniettan, Orchestre Chambre Royal de Wallonie, Ars Nova Ensemble, Napolinova Chamber Orchestra and performed live on both national and international radio and television.

Lana began her musical studies in Stockholm with Victoria and Elena Power and holds degrees from New England Conservatory of Music and Mannes School of Music where she studied with Alexander Korsantia and Ursula Oppens. Lana is currently Artist in Residence at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Belgium and studies with Jens Elvekjaer at The Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen.

Tonight’s program is a reflective journey and homage to the people and places that have inspired me in the past few years. It is a reflection of where I am today, as an Artist and human being, a journey that has left me feeling many things and asking many questions.

This program will take us through the soundworld of John Cage, who composed “In a Landscape” with the idea that the purpose of the music was “to sober and quiet the mind, thus rendering it susceptible to divine influences.” This piece is a constant cycle of patterns that opens doors into reflection, and I found it beautiful to pair it with “Haiku” which has a Weber-like language and is inspired by a type of short form poetry originally from Japan.

The Op.34 Variations by Beethoven is truly unlike any piece he had composed before. To me, this set is more a short set of character pieces which each unfolds in a different key, meter and tempo. The 5th variation is a funeral march in C minor (perhaps his hint that the “Eroica Symphony” is on the horizon) while the piece ends in a folk-like dance and with the simplest of conclusions, it truly captures the genius that is Beethoven.

Babadjanian and Arutiunian both explore their native Armenian folk traditions with elements of jazz and more daring harmonies. I have included three pearls from their musical library here because it reminds me of the music my Kurdish father would play at his house. If you can imagine hearing a duduk, kemanche or an oud– you’re in for a treat.

The 4th Ballade is one of the greatest tales ever written. It manifests its otherness through its pianistic texture and through the kind of expression that distinguishes the musical narrative. To me, it is a pianistic poem with two major patterns: Variation and Polyphony. The narrative does not lead us through a straight path, but it will grow and bloom in ways that will heal and break your heart. A feeling that is impossible to put in words unless you let yourself be transported into another realm.

To finish, I invite you to hear the Six Moment Musicaux Op.16 by Sergei Rachmaninoff. A very underrated but touching cycle in six movements. I am including Rachmaninoff because his music has a way to go straight into the heart and makes me feel like I can fly. I wouldn’t be who I am today without his pianism and compositions.

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I would like to thank my mentor Jens for encouraging me to stay curious and play from the heart. Every meeting with you has brought me joy and new discoveries. I shall continue to practice slowly and search for magic, always!

Lana Suran

# PROGRAM

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## **JOHN CAGE (1912-1992)**

**In a Landscape**

**Haiku**

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## **LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)**

**6 variationer op. 34**

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## **ARNO BABADJANIAN (1921-1983)**

**Prelude**

**Impromptu**

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## **FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN (1810-1849)**

**Ballade nr. 4 op. 52 i f-mol**

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PAUSE (CA. 20 MINUTTER)

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## **ALEXANDER ARUTIUNIAN (1920-2012)**

**Fra "Three Musical Pictures"**

**II. Evening in the Ararat Valley**

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## **SERGEJ RAKHMANINOV (1873-1943)**

**Six moment musicaux op. 16**

Andantino

Allegretto, first version

Andante cantabile

Presto

Adagio sostenuto

Maestoso

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