**NORDIC PIANO DUO CONCERT PROGRAM. DEC 27, 2020**

**PREMIERE**

Greeting and Introduction

**W. A. Mozart (1756–1791)–Edvard Grieg** (1843–1907)
Sonata in C major, K. 545
Allegro
Andante
Rondo. Allegro

**György Kurtág** (b. 1926)
from Játékok (Games)
Hommage à Schubert
Orosz tánc (Russian Dance)
Bogáncs (Thistle)
Hommage à Farkas Ferenc (3) (Evocation of Petrushka)
Hommage à Borsody László (Harmonika)

**Ferrucio Busoni** (1866–1924)
Finnish Folk Songs "Kultaselle," Op. 27
Andante molto espressivo. Allegretto moderato. Alla Marcia. Presto.
Andantino. Tranquillo. Vivace. Presto.

Words on the Program

**Selim Palmgren** (1878–1951)
Masked Ball, Op. 36
2. Dancing Girl

**Oskar Merikanto** (1868–1924)
Finnish Folk Songs for Piano
Minun kultani kaukana kukkuu (The Cuckoo's Call)
Käki kukkuu kultarinta (The Icterine Warbler's Call)
Minun kultani kaunis on (My Beloved is Beautiful)

**Béla Bartók** (1881–1945)
Romanian Christmas Carols, Sz. 57, BB 67
I. "Pă cel plai de munte" (from the region of Várhely, in Hunyad). Allegro
II. "Intreabă si-ntreabă" (from the region of Malomvíz, in Hunyad). Allegro
III. "Doi roagă să, roagă" (from the region of Malomvíz, in Hunyad). Allegro

**P. I. Tchaikovsky** (1840–1893)
The Seasons, Op. 37a
December: Christmas

**Anton Rubinstein** (1829–1894)
Bal costumé, Op. 103
No. 11. Cosaque et Petite Russienne

ARTIST BIOS;

**Lana Suran** is one of the leading Scandinavian pianists of her generation and 2nd Prize winner of the prestigious Verão Clássico Award (2020), Mannes Steinway Award (2019) and winner of the Swedish Paskéll Prize (2015).

1st Prize winner of the Berlingske Tidendes Musikkonkurrence in Denmark, Peter Jablonski Competition in Sweden 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” and ”artistic precision”. She is the 2nd Prize winner of the 17th Young Musician International Competition Cittá di Barletta, 3rd Prize winner of the Rovere d’Oro International Competition, Special Prize winner of the Val Tidone International Competition “Premio Bengalli” in Italy and recipient of multiple scholarships and special awards from the Swedish Academy of Music.

Lana has performed in all major halls in Sweden including Berwaldhallen, Konserthuset, Dunkers Kulturhus, Kulturhuset Ytterjärna and Kristinehallen in Falun. She gave her debut performance at Göteborg Konserthus at the age of eight and played her debut recital at Helsingborg Piano Festival at the age of twenty-one alongside Marc André-Hamelin and Haochen Zhang. She has played in renowned festivals such as Festival Internacional de Música de Esmeraldas in Quito, ICMF Stavanger, Musica Mundi Chamber Music Festival, PianoSummer at New Paltz, Art of the Piano Festival, Internationaal Kammarmuziek Festivaal Schiermonnikoog and From Easter to Ascension Festival in Tbilisi. She has also given recitals in France, Germany, Portugal, Norway, Ukraine and appeared in venues across the United States including Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Bargemusic and Jordan Hall.

Lana has made concerto appearances with Dalasinfoniettan and the Napolinova Chamber Orchestra and has appeared in live recordings for both Swedish and foreign Radio and Television. Notable chamber music collaborations include performances with Andrey Baranov, Astrid Schween of the Juilliard Quartet, the Kodály String Quartet and Semplice Players in New York. She has participated in masterclasses and worked closely with Simon Crawford-Phillips, Peter Friis Johansson, Richard Goode, Emanuel Krasovsky, Eldar Nebolsin, Vivian Hornik-Weilerstein, Donald Weilerstein, Paul Biss, Lucy Chapman, Laurence Lesser, Tomas Riebl, Hans Leygraf, Lang-Lang, Vladimir Feltsman, Oxana Yablonskaya, Leif Ove Andsnes and members of the Borromeo String Quartet.

Lana performed “Songs of Insurrection” by Frederic Rzewski for the composer at his 80th birthday celebration at Mannes in 2018 and recorded the world premiere of “…such words as it were vain to close…” for solo piano by J.K Randall on the New York label OpenSpace in 2019.

Born to Russian/Kurdish parents in 1992, Lana began her musical studies at the age of six with Victoria and Elena Power at Musikskolan Lilla Akademien in Stockholm. Lana moved to the United States at the age of sixteen to pursue studies with Hung Kuan Chen and Tema Blackstone at the Walnut School for the Arts. She holds degrees from New England Conservatory of Music and Mannes School of Music under the tutelage of Alexander Korsantia and Ursula Oppens. She is currently Artist in Residence at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Brussels studying with Louis Lortie and Avedis Kouyoumdjian and pursuing her Solist Diplom at the Royal Danish Academy of Music with Jens Elvekjær.

**Markus Kaitila** (b. Helsinki, 1992) has appeared as a soloist with the Joutseno Art Summer, Wratislavia, St. Peter’s Festival, Queens College, and Jackson Heights chamber orchestras as well as the One World and New Amsterdam Symphony orchestras, under conductors such as Tong Chen and Charles Neidich. He also conducted Bach’s Keyboard Concerto in E Major, from the piano at LeFrak Concert Hall (New York) in 2016. He won Bronze Prize in the 2nd WPTA Finland International Piano Competition 2020 and First Prize at the Köhler-Osbahr piano competition (Duisburg) in 2013. Additionally, he has won First and Second Prizes in national chamber music competitions (Juvenalia, E. Melartin) and remains an active and widely experienced chamber musician.

Markus’ performances in Europe and the United States include the Wiener Saal (Salzburg), Musica Mundi Festival (Belgium) Yamaha Artists Services Europe (Paris), Theater Duisburg and Jahrhunderthalle Bochum, Klavier-Festival Ruhr, the Embassy of Finland (Budapest), Palazzo Ricci (Montepulciano), Muziekcentrum Enschede, Helsingborg Piano Festival), and RNCM (Manchester); as well as New York’s Mannes, Merkin and Carnegie Halls. He has been awarded grants and stipends by Vantaan Perinnejazz ry, Wihuri and Finnish Cultural Foundation, Sibelius Academy’s Endowment Funds and the Queens College Foundation. Markus received the Stephen Schaible and Daron Builta Scholarship to attend the Music Academy of the West’s solo piano fellowship program, and completed residences at the Chautauqua Institution in New York, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and Pianofest in the Hamptons.

Markus began to play the piano at age six. After studies at the Junior Academy of Sibelius Academy with Dr. Hui-Ying Liu-Tawaststjerna, he studied at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen, Germany, with Till Engel. Markus holds a master of music and advanced certificate in piano performance and pedagogy from NYU Steinhardt, 2020, where he studied with Eteri Andjaparidze and taught piano lessons and keyboard skills as a member of the adjunct faculty in Piano Studies. In 2017, he graduated cum laude with a bachelor of music in piano performance from the Aaron Copland School of Music, City University of New York Queens College, under the tutelage of Nina Lelchuk. He has participated in masterclasses with Thomas Adès, Paul Badura-Skoda, Leon Fleisher, Alan Gilbert, Angela Hewitt, Leslie Howard, Jerome Lowenthal, Robert McDonald, Jon Nakamatsu and Boris Slutsky.