



PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce the

PEJA INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL 2021

and the

6th International Classical Guitar Competition ‘Ehat Musa’

18–21 November 2021

featuring

EuroStrings Artists

Francisco Luis, Portugal

and

Lovro Peretić, Croatia – Winner of the Third EuroStrings Guitar Competition

Lovro Peretić was born in Zagreb in 1995 and began his guitar studies with Xhevdet Sahatxhija. Later, he graduated from the Academy of Music in Zagreb, where he studied with Darko Petrinjak. He has been successful in many national and international competitions. He has represented Croatia in many important festivals such as the Vladimir Spivakov International Foundation’s festival in Moscow and the European Union of Music Competitions for Youth’s Young Hearts for Music in Austria and Germany. He also regularly performs in his duo with violinist Katarina Kutnar and in the guitar trio Evocación. He has performed as a soloist with the Croatian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra, Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra, and Zagreb Soloists, among others. Lovro was awarded the Dean’s and Rector’s prizes of the University of Zagreb.

Thursday 18 November 2021

Francisco Luis, [online concert](#), 20.00

Friday 19 November 2021

Agron Peni Trio, [online concert](#), 20.00

Saturday 20 November 2021

Lovro Peretić, [online concert](#), 20.00

Sunday 21 November 2021

Petrit Çeku, [online concert](#), 20.00

and

EuroStrings Masterclasses with **Petrit Çeku**

About the EuroStrings Artists

EuroStrings Artists are a group of young professional guitarists, who are the laureates of the international competitions organised by the 17 EuroStrings platform members’ guitar festivals. They are invited to take part in the EuroStrings Exchange Programme, which is delivered through the EuroStrings Curriculum. The EuroStrings Exchange Programme was created for EuroStrings Artists to help them to develop professional careers as classical guitarists.

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Francisco Luis, one of the rising stars of Portuguese classical guitar, was born in Caldas da Rainha, in 1998. He started his guitar studies at the age of ten with Luís Roldão, in the Conservatory of Caldas da Rainha. After five years, he began his studies at the Music School of the National Conservatory, in Lisbon; studying guitar with Eurico Pereira, chamber music with Júlio Guerreiro and Paulo Amorim and basso continuo with Helena Raposo. He completed his Bachelor degree with distinction with Carlo Marchione, at the Maastricht Conservatorium, before beginning his Masters with Zoran Dukić at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague. Francisco Luis's numerous international awards include First Prize at both the Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival and the Festival International de Guitarra de Guimarães, as well Second Prize at both Uppsala International Guitar Competition and the Aalborg International Guitar Competition. In 2015, Francisco Luis was soloist in the *Concierto de Aranjuez* by Joaquín Rodrigo with the symphony orchestra of the National Conservatory of Lisbon. His varied repertoire includes transcriptions of works by Bach, Scriabin, Telemann and Rameau. He also frequently performs classical improvisations, mixing his musical knowledge with his creativity and distinctive musical personality. He has performed in venues such as Casa da Música in Porto and the Palácio da Ajuda in Lisbon.

For full **EuroStrings Artists profiles**, visit: <https://eurostrings.eu/young-stars/eurostrings-artists-of-2020-2021/>

About EuroStrings

EuroStrings is the first platform of European guitar festivals, led by Zagreb Guitar Festival and ever expanding with an initial 14 member festivals in 2018 and reaching 17 member festivals in 2021; with three Associate Festivals also added in 2021 as well as Affiliate Partners around the world, including the Americas and China, making it a truly global project. The project is co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union and is the first guitar project ever to receive such funding. Each member festival also stages an international guitar competition.

EuroStrings website: <https://eurostrings.eu>

About the Peja International Guitar Festival

The Peja International Guitar Festival in Kosovo was launched in 2015 as a joint initiative of the Cultural Administration of the City of Peja and its Artistic Director, Xhevdet Sahatxhija, to present an international event celebrating the long tradition of classical guitar playing in this city. So far, this four-day festival has attracted over 400 guitarists from all over the world, and the festival has become one of the main guitar events in this part of Europe for young guitarists to gain higher professional knowledge; it features lectures, guitar exhibitions, as well as masterclasses by leading professors, and the International Classical Guitar Competition 'Ehat Musa'.

About Peja International Competition

The **6th International Classical Guitar Competition 'Ehat Musa'** is online in five age categories: Categories I–IV: 18–19 November; and Category V (EuroStrings competition): 20–21 November 2021. The members of the jury are professors and prominent guitarists from home and abroad: **Ehat Musa** (Kosovo, France), **Thomas Offermann** (Germany), **Marko Feri** (Italy), **Alejandro Córdova** (Mexico), **Xhevdet Sahatxhija** (Kosovo, Croatia), **Ayşegül Koca** (Turkey), **Erhan Mujka** (Kosovo), **Darko Bageski** (North Macedonia) and **Ştefan Trifan** (Romania).

For the **complete programme**, please visit, <https://pejaguitarfestival.com/>

Contact

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