

## The first European platform of classical guitar festivals founded and it has global ambitions

**EuroStrings - European Guitar Festival Collaborative** is a first European Platform **founded by Zagreb Guitar Festival from Croatia** gathering 14 classical guitar festivals from all over the Europe. Platform will focus on highlighting the emerging guitar players offering them international career opportunities and enabling them further education in the classical guitar field. It is a ground breaking European classical guitar project, co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, aimed at developing and connecting the European with a world-wide classical guitar sector.

EuroStrings creates a hub of international opportunities for emerging guitar players from Europe and beyond, educational and training programs that foster the professional development of guitarists, and trends for sustainability of festivals in the field of classical music. The platform brings together guitarists and their audiences, breaking down barriers and actively involving both in the creation of classical guitar experience.

### **EuroStrings Festivals**

EuroStrings currently involves 14 classical guitar festivals holding international competitions for classical guitar players:

Guimarães International Guitar Festival (Portugal): 22 December 2017 – 14 January 2018

Internationales Gitarrenfestival Rust (Austria): 25 - 28 March 2018

Zagreb Guitar Festival (Croatia): 3 - 7 April 2018

Szeged Guitar Festival (Hungary): 12 - 15 April 2018

Sarajevo International Guitar Festival (Bosnia and Herzegovina): 26 - 30 April

2018

Twents GitaarFestival (The Netherlands): 10 – 13 May 2018

Nikšić Guitar Festival (Montenegro): 22 - 29 May 2018

Tampere Guitar Festival (Finland): 4-10 June 2018

Sofia GuitArt Festival (Bulgaria): 8 - 10 June 2018

Tallinn Guitar Festival (Estonia): 11 - 15 June 2018

International Guitar Festival Mottola (Italy): 7 - 15 July 2018

International Guitar Festival José Tomás Villa De Petrer (Spain): 7 - 21 July

2018

International Guitar Festival Nuertingen (Germany): 28 July - 5 August 2018

London Guitar Festival (United Kingdom): 25 - 30 October 2018

The Platform is looking to expand in the upcoming years with new Festivals.

#### EuroStrings Young Stars Exchange Programme for talents from all over the world

The main idea of the EuroStrings Platform is to promote winners of Festival's competitions. Starting from 2018 winners of EuroStrings Festivals competitions will become part of EuroStrings Young Stars exchange programme. Through **Young Stars exchange programme** emerging guitar talents will get the opportunity to tour EuroStrings Festivals reaching international audiences and accessing new markets. They will also have opportunity to learn from the best guitar players in the world and to participate in various outreach educational programmes.

The Young Stars will also be encouraged to challenge themselves and compete in annual **EuroStrings Winners' Competition**, giving them the chance to win prizes that will enable them to develop a world-wide career. Aside cash prize the winner will be offered concerts in the US and China.

EuroStrings is looking for new partners outside of Europe to collaborate with.

Emerging guitarists from all over the world now have the chance to apply to EuroStrings international competitions and win the title of EuroStrings Young Star for 2018/2019.

Currently open competitions are:

Szeged Guitar Festival

Sarajevo International Guitar Festival

# <u>Tampere Guitar Festival</u> Twents Gitaar Festival

### **EuroStrings Young Stars 2017/2018**

The EuroStrings Young Stars 2017/2018 that will be active in the first year of the EuroStrings Platform are:

Nicola Montella (Italy), Niklas Johansen (Denmark), Péter Girán (Hungary), Vedran Vujica (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Dmytro Omelchak (Ukraine), Antoine Moriniere (France), Antero Pellikka (Finland), Boyan Boychev (Bulgaria), Andrea Roberto (Italy), Domenico Savio Mottola (Italy), Raphael Feuillatre (France), Davide Giovanni Tomasi (Italy), Jesse Flowers (Australia/Germany), Giacomo Susani (Italy), Dominik Carevic (Croatia).

The first EuroStrings Winners' Competition will take place at Zagreb Guitar Festival, between 3rd and 8th April 2018.

### **EuroStrings annual scholarships**

To acknowledge the financial situation of many young guitar players and to support their international education, EuroStrings has developed an annual scholarship programme for students from lower income backgrounds. This scholarship will enable young guitarists to participate in Eurostrings Festivals international guitar competitions and masterclasses during 2018. The open call for the scholarship will be launched on EuroStrings website by the end of March 2018.

For further information: <u>www.eurostrings.eu</u>

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