

Patricia Kopatchinskaja begins as Camerata Bern's artistic director in 2018/19

A Fearless Curiosity

With Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Camerata Bern has appointed as its new Artistic Director one of the most renowned violinists of our time. The Moldavian, known for her fearless artistic curiosity and broad musical horizon, will take up her appointment from the 2018/19 season. Starting in September 2018, she will work for an initial period of three years directing the orchestra and producing exciting new projects and programmes, including the creation of new works, in which she will appear as soloist in Bern and on tours, as well as on recording projects.

The celebrated violinist has been described as radical, amazingly creative, humorous and expressive. Undeniably a fascinating artist, she is always searching for new forms of interpretation and fresh repertoire. The Camerata Bern musicians have unanimously elected the Moldavian violinist as successor to Antje Weithaas, whose contract expires in 2018. Kopatchinskaja, who has lived in Bern for many years, has previously performed with Camerata Bern as guest leader and soloist, and has even composed a piece for the ensemble.

Patricia Kopatchinskaja was born in Moldavia to a musical family: her mother is also a violinist, her father Viktor is one of Moldavia's most famous cymbalist. Moving to Vienna in 1989 Patricia studied composition and violin at the *Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst*. She later came to the Bern *Konservatorium* on a grant and graduated in 2000 with distinction.

The jury of the 2013 Royal Philharmonic Society, in bestowing on Kopatchinskaja the Instrumentalist of the Year award, lauded her not only as one of today's most imaginative violinists, but also for the inspiration she brings to her colleague musicians and to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Exploring dark emotions in 20th century masterpieces or championing new works, she is an irresistible force of nature, passionate, challenging and totally original in her approach. Additionally she is also renowned for her refreshing interpretations of the mainstream classical and romantic repertoire – often performing on gut strings – but always with the intention that even well-known pieces can and should be experienced as though newly composed.

Patricia Kopatchinskaja performs with the leading orchestras of the world, among others the *Berliner Philharmoniker*, the Concertgebouw, the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, the London Philharmonic and the Cleveland Orchestra. She has a long-lasting association to both the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (Minnesota, USA).

Chamber music is immensely important to Kopatchinskaja and she performs regularly with artists such as Markus Hinterhäuser, Polina Leschenko, Anthony Romaniuk and Sol Gabetta, appearing at such leading venues as the Berlin Konzerthaus, London's Wigmore Hall, Vienna Konzerthaus and Concertgebouw Amsterdam.

Kopatchinskaja's repertoire ranges from the Renaissance, the baroque and classical period to new music and is also a prolific recording artist – her release on Naïve featuring concerti by Bartok, Ligeti and Peter Eötvös won the Gramophone Recording of the Year Award in 2012 and an Echo Klassik Award.

Information:

Louis Dupras, Director Stiftung Camerata Bern

louis.dupras@cameratabern.ch / +41 31 371 86 88 / +41 79 375 62 37