



UGAB
UNION GÉNÉRALE ARMÉNIENNE DE BÉNÉDIANCE

Comité Suisse

THE CONCERT

The concert will showcase musicological treasures.

Firstly, the breathtaking composition "Sinfonietta for Strings No. 1" by the talented Armenian composer Petros Shoujounian. Followed by the "Miniatures" of the renowned ethnomusicologist Komitas. These pieces reflect the rich cultural heritage of Armenia. Finally, Handel's "Messiah" will crown this unique event.

ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE

The Symphonic Choir of Vevey and the Orchestra of Symphonic Variations, conducted by the famous conductor Luc Baghdassarian, will bring these beautiful compositions to life. These melodies will resonate with the audience, creating a memorable and moving experience.



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**CONCERT
MEMORY, RESILIENCE & RESURRECTION**

PETROS SHOUJOUNIAN
SINFONIETTA FOR STRINGS No. 1
Moderato - Adagio - Allegro
(World Premiere)

KOMITAS - SOGHOMON SOGHOMONIAN
THE MINIATURES
(Excerpts)

GEORG-FRIEDRICH HÄNDEL
THE MESSIAH
(Excerpts)

OVS - ORCHESTRA OF SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS
CSV - SYMPHONIC CHOIR OF VEVEY
LUC BAGHDASSARIAN, Conductor

(The concert duration is approximately 90 minutes without intermission).

This event contributes to enriching the cultural landscape of Geneva, strengthening unity, and promoting tolerance and peace within our beautiful city and country.



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PETROS SHOIJOUNIAN - SINFONIETTA FOR STRINGS No. 1 - WORLD PREMIERE

Petros Shoujounian's Sinfonietta is a work of high emotional density and remarkable stylistic clarity. This eminent musician, born in Gyumri, Armenia, emigrated to Montreal in 1976 to pursue his studies in composition. His writing is intricate, contrasting, contrapuntal, and offers a powerful personal signature. Is it a narrative of grand history? A life journey? A revolt, resilience, acceptance, or all of the above? This profound, generous, and committed artist takes us on a journey into his distinctive sonic universe, dedicating this tragic and sensitive page to the wounded childhoods and victims of 1894 and 1915.

KOMITAS (1869 - 1935) - THE MINIATURES "THE ULTIMATE TESTIMONY OF A CIVILIZATION"

Under his real name, Soghomon Soghomonian, Komitas was a baritone-tenor, pianist, and composer. His talents led him to explore traditional Armenian folk songs and his "divine liturgy." Through his arrangements, he sought to restore the true harmonies and polyrhythms of these ancestral chants. No fewer than 3000 melodies are said to have been cataloged and arranged by him. The "Miniatures" are the archetype of a world of beauty, suffering, tenderness, melancholy, modesty, and love. Behind an apparent simplicity undoubtedly lies the "Armenian Mozart."

GEORG FRIEDRICH HÄNDEL (1685 - 1759) - THE MESSIAH "THE KING OF ORATORIOS"

Handel was capable of composing in all styles: from Oratorio to Opera, from Chamber Music to the symphony orchestra. Incapable of mediocrity, he aimed only for excellence! In 1741, the Duke of Devonshire invited him to Dublin, where the tranquility of life allowed him to work on a project that had been brewing in his mind for a long time: to compose a luminous and grandiose Oratorio. That became "The Messiah"! The melodies seem to emerge naturally as if they had existed for all eternity. A brilliant composer and improviser, he imposed his creative brilliance and demands on all his contemporaries. The Sun King of Music History!



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SYMPHONIC CHOIR OF VEVEY - CSV

The Symphonic Choir of Vevey brings together a hundred choristers under the direction of Luc Baghdassarian. The repertoire of sacred or profane music of the CSV is extremely varied. It ranges from Gregorian chant to the great baroque, classical, romantic, or modern repertoire. The Vevey ensemble has regularly collaborated with prestigious orchestras such as the OSR, the OCL, the Lausanne Sinfonietta, and the OVS. It has performed at the Auditorium Stravinski, Victoria Hall, Lausanne Cathedral, Bern Minster, Del Castillo Hall, St-Martin's Church in Vevey, and more recently in the Kulturhaus Hall in Zurich. www.csvevey.ch

ORCHESTRA OF SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS - OVS

Founded in 2014 by Luc Baghdassarian and Florence von Burg (Konzertmeisterin of the OVS), the Orchestra of Symphonic Variations is a professional ensemble with a variable geometry. It has already performed at the Auditorium Stravinski, Victoria Hall, Del Castillo Hall, and Carnal Hall in Rolle. Its repertoire is vast, ranging from baroque, classical, and romantic composers such as Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Rimsky-Korsakov, Tchaikovsky, Fauré, Grieg, without neglecting the musicians of the 20th and 21st centuries such as Hindemith, Bartok, Eisler, and Komitas. www.duo-symphonique.com

LUC BAGHDASSARIAN - CONDUCTOR

Luc Baghdassarian obtained his diploma in orchestral conducting with Arpad Gerecz and a first prize in piano virtuosity in the class of Maria Tipo at the Geneva Conservatory. As a conductor, he perfected his skills in Austria, France, and especially Italy with the late Carlo Maria Giulini. He won the competitions in Grenchen/CH in 2002 and Vienna/A in 2005. He has been a guest conductor with several orchestras such as the OCL, the OSR, the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra, the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia, and the Philharmonic of Cluj, among others. He has been conducting the Symphonic Choir of Vevey since 1998. www.lucbaghdassarian.com



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UNION GÉNÉRALE AMÉRICAINE DE BIENFAISANCE
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Together, let's build a harmonious bridge of culture and understanding
in the heart of Geneva.

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