

INDIA TOUR 2018

(from 13th to 25th oct 2018)



THE LANDWEHR, ITS HISTORY AND ITS PRESTIGE AT THE SERVICE OF BOTH MUSIC AND FRIBOURG

The Landwehr is the official concert and marching band of the canton and the city of Fribourg and its ambassador throughout the world.

It gives dignity and grandeur to formal and historical events and enthuses audiences in the most prestigious halls.

With a remarkable history starting in 1804, this world-class orchestra is constantly expanding new musical horizons. Whether travelling overseas or marching in the streets of Fribourg, the Landwehr plays every single note of its repertoire with emotion.

And, in order to ensure that this can continue, it trains the musicians of tomorrow in its music school.

www.landwehr.ch



A LONG HISTORY

The music is the most important thing. Regardless of how long the history of the band is, its wonderful achievements and lasting impression it leaves, the only thing that counts is the flourishes from the clarinets and the excitement that rises when the harmonies fill the air. The Landwehr is the official music of the canton and city of Fribourg. Its first concerts were held in 1804. The 90 musicians who form the orchestra today are the latest in a long line of predecessors. The people of Fribourg have traditionally been singers and musicians, and the members of the Landwehr share that heritage.

With this in mind, they have developed their ensemble into a world-class orchestra. As amateur musicians, they are brought together by harmony and friendship. Although their uniforms – the same worn by the Fribourg troops in 1858 – recall the richness of their past, their performances look distinctly towards the future, inspiring and lifting to all those who listen.



The Landwehr was founded in 1804, and was originally known as the Corps franc. At that time, Napoleon Bonaparte's Act of Mediation required all cantons to create military contingents. These were accompanied by musical corps. Since time immemorial, musicians have strode across battlefields, issuing orders, exalting the troops and intimidating enemies. This military component was the historical foundation of the Landwehr. Since its creation, the Fribourg ensemble has risen like a phoenix from its own ashes several times in different eras and under different names. Finally, the Landwehr was born. Now controlled by the Conseil d'Etat, it no longer plays a role in battles and wars, but in promoting music first and foremost.

MUSIC CONNECTS!

Under the direction of Benedikt Hayoz, the wind orchestra focuses on performing an extensive and varied repertoire. Works ranging from spectacular descriptive pieces to street music allow the musicians to showcase the entire spectrum of their technical and expressive skills. The Landwehr seeks to meet the public's expectations, but also wants to surprise them by introducing them to new discoveries. Throughout the year, it entertains audiences both in Switzerland and abroad.

It is also invited to perform abroad on a regular basis. The Landwehr therefore acts as an ambassador for both Fribourg and Switzerland. Outside Europe, it has performed in Iran, Japan, China, the USA, Canada, Argentina and Australia. It travelled to Croatia to bring a peaceful note during wartime.

The Landwehr was the first international musical corps to participate in the large Columbus Day Parade on New York's Fifth Avenue.

The band was also the guest of honour at an audience with Pope John-Paul II, the musicians of the Guardia degli Carabinieri and the Pontifical Swiss Guard.

The Landwehr also took part in the festivities to mark the 700th anniversary of the founding of the Principality of Monaco, during which it was decorated by Prince Rainier III. Since then, Prince Albert of Monaco has been an honorary member of the Landwehr. From New York's Carnegie Hall to Washington's Arlington cemetery, from the Sydney Opera House to St. Peter's Square in Rome, and from the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires to the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, the Landwehr has filled the most prestigious of halls and squares around the world.





CONCERT PROGRAM

Benedikt Hayoz, Conductor

(Changes Reserved)

Gauri (Priscilla Brühlart), Kathak Dancer

Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare

Richard Strauss

Harlequin

Franco Cesarini

S'isch äbe-ne-Mönsch uf Ärde (The Lonely Maid)

Traditional, arr. Thomas Rüedi

Armenian Dances, 4th Movement: Lorva Horovel

Alfred Reed

Lawrence of Arabia

Maurice Jarre, arr. Alfred Reed

Yiddish Dances, 5th Movement: Freylachs

Adam Gorb

Slumdog Millionaire

A. R. Rahman

Commissioned Work – World Premiere

Benedikt Hayoz

Le Ranz des Vaches de la Gruyère

Traditional, arr. Thomas Rüedi

William Tell Overture, Finale: March of the Swiss Soldiers

Gioachino Rossini, arr. Carlo Balmelli





PROGRAM NOTES

Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare

It was in 1924 when Richard Strauss composed this festive Fanfare on the occasion of the first edition of the famous Vienna Philharmonic Ball. Since then, the ceremonial fanfare announces every year the opening of this illustrious event. The brief piece shows Strauss' skills in writing striking brass parts and one can easily understand why it has become a classic of the repertoire

Harlequin

Curtain up! The Harlequin enters the circus arena, stumbles, tumbles, walks on hands, makes faces and jokes. But is it all just masquerade and show? The Swiss composer Franco Cesarini has succeeded in this overture in musically tracing the ambivalent character of the Harlequin on the one hand through turbulent, garland-like woodwind runs, paired with a funny rhythm, and on the other hand with romantic, atmospheric sound pictures.

S'isch äbe-ne-Mönsch uf Ärde (The Lonely Maid)

The Swiss German sentence „S'isch äbe-ne-Mönsch u Ärde“ (there is a man on earth – and I can't be with him) is the beginning of the traditional „Guggisberg Song“, one of the oldest Swiss folk songs. It tells the sad story of the lonely maid Vreneli and her beloved Hansjoggeli who can't come together. Thomas Rüedi interweaves both the dancing character of the refrain and the sad mood of the verses to an ingenious arrangement.

Armenian Dances – Part II, 4th Movement: Lorva Horovel

In his Armenian Dances the American composer Alfred Reed used original Armenian folk songs. The 4th movement entitled “Lorva Horovel” is based on a very old plow song describing the life of the farmer with his physical and spiritual being during his work: Good progress and bright spirits are represented by a fast dance. A slow and plaintive song tells of a longing for his country. Finally the mood picks up with a presto dance theme with its dramatic closing.



PROGRAM NOTES

Lawrence of Arabia

David Lean's epic film "Lawrence of Arabia" won seven Oscars, including Best Original Score for Maurice Jarre's masterful musical depiction of the exotic world through which T.H. Lawrence traveled. Alfred Reed's setting of the music for concert band is built on two of the main themes: the Arabian motif, with its blazing color and almost-barbaric effects; and the Lawrence theme, a haunting, poignant melody that reflects both his love of the desert and his internal, psychological conflicts

Yiddish Dances, 5th Movement: Freylachs

Adam Gorb's Yiddish Dances are based on Klezmer music, the music of the Yiddish speaking people. The 4th movement entitled "Freylachs" means simply "happy". And thus is the character of this piece: A fast varied dance integrating the themes of the previous movements and leading to riotous finale.

Slumdog Millionaire

One of the main factors of the success of Slumdog Millionaire is its vibrant soundtrack written by A.R. Rahman in only two months. The song "Jai Ho" used to accompany the end credits of the motion picture became an international music hit.

Commissioned Work

To celebrate its India Tour 2018 in a special manner the Landwehr commissioned the young Swiss composer Benedikt Hayoz to compose a piece of music for this occasion, not knowing that the composer will become some months later also its new musical director. The composition features the Swiss Kathak dancer Gauri (Priscilla Brühlhart) combining in this way Swiss and Indian culture. The Landwehr will premiere this new piece of music whose title is not yet known on its India Tour. What a surprise!





PROGRAM NOTES

Le Ranz des Vaches de la Gruyère

A “Ranz the Vaches” is a simple melody originally sung by Swiss herdsmen to call their cattle for milking, back to the cowshed or out to pasture. The most known “Ranz des Vaches” is the one from Gruyère situated in the canton of Fribourg. The arrangement by Thomas Rüedi features the Alphorn, the traditional long wooden trumpet played by the herdsmen in the Swiss mountains.

William Tell Overture, Finale: March of the Swiss Soldiers

The William Tell Opera by Gioachino Rossini relates the story of the legendary Swiss national hero of the same name who stands for liberty and independence. With the galloping climax of this famous overture the Landwehr Landwehr interprets one of the most distinctive themes in classical music: The ‘March of the Swiss Soldiers’ which depicts the victorious battle of the Swiss to liberate their homeland from Austrian repression.

Benedikt Hayoz – Conductor

Benedikt Hayoz is a trained horn player. He holds a diploma in composition from the University of Arts Zurich and a concert diploma as a wind ensemble conductor at the University of Music Lausanne. In 2010 he won the Landis and Gyr Foundation Scholarship and studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Beside his work as a composer and musical director he is lecturer in musical theory at the Fribourg Site of the University of Music Lausanne (HEMU) and teaches orchestration at the University of the Arts in Berne. He is a regular guest conductor with top wind orchestras. Since the beginning of 2018 Benedikt Hayoz is musical director of the Landwehr of Fribourg.

Gauri (Priscilla Brühlhart) – Kathak Dancer

Gauri is born in Switzerland as Priscilla Brühlhart. She belongs to the Benaras Gharana and is a disciple of Pt Ravi Shankar Mishra from Benaras. She started her artistically studies at the conservatory of music and the dance school Dance Plus in Monaco. She also attended Workshops at the Laban Dance Center in London and Rosella Hightower in Cannes. Gauri performs kathak in Europe and India trying to carry on this cultural heritage, also through her association “Sangeetswiss”. She is participating in several projects as own creations around kathak, contemporary and aerial silk acrobatics.

