



Media Release

The recorder player **Lea Sobbe** wins the 2021 "Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes"

Lucerne/Zurich 8 December 2020. The 2021 "Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes" has been awarded to the recorder player Lea Sobbe. She won over the jury during yesterday's final round at the Don Bosco Music and Culture Center in Basel with a varied program featuring works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Paolo Benedetto Bellinzani, Luciano Berio, and Emanuele Casale. Through her performance, the musician prevailed over three ensembles and another soloist.

The "Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes" is awarded every two years to a highly talented young musical figure. The prize comes with a cash award of CHF 25,000 and includes the opportunity to perform in the "Debut" series at Lucerne Festival. Lea Sobbe's concert will take place on 17 August 2021 during the Summer Festival. Details of the program will be announced at a later date. Lea Sobbe (26) is currently pursuing a postgraduate master's degree with Katharina Bopp at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis, where she previously completed her first master's degree with Conrad Steinmann with distinction. In 2019, she received the Migros Culture Percentage student award and, together with her ensemble Amaconsort, also garnered the BR Klassik Special Prize at the German Music Competition.

"One of the special features of the 'Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes' is that finalists compete with different instruments and types of ensembles," observes Noémie Robidas, Chair of the Jury and President of the Conference of Swiss Music Academies and Director of the HEMU – Haute Ecole de Musique et Conservatoire de Lausanne. "This makes choosing the winners more difficult but at the same time very exciting, because what counts here is the artistic presentation and the musical personality of the participants."

"I am looking forward to Lea Sobbe's debut as part of the 2021 Summer Festival," remarks Michael Haefliger, Executive and Artistic Director of Lucerne Festival. "It's wonderful to introduce her to our Festival audience and in this way to support her as she takes a step forward in her international career."

"The level that these young artists displayed during the competition was breathtaking," says Daniela Bertoli, Deputy Managing Director of the Credit Suisse Foundation. "It clearly shows that Switzerland's music academies offer young musicians ideal conditions in which to develop their talents."

The "Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes" has been awarded since 2001 and is a joint initiative of Lucerne Festival, the Conference of Swiss Music Academies (Konferenz Musikhochschulen Schweiz [KMHS]), and the Credit Suisse Foundation. Following an internal selection process, each conservatory was allowed to nominate a maximum of two participants for the semi-finals, which took place at the end of October at the Don Bosco Music and Culture Center in Basel and was organized by the Basel Music Academy / University of Music FHNW. At the semi-finals, two soloists and three ensembles qualified for the final in Basel: in addition to the winner Lea Sobbe, these included the guitarist Lorenzo Reggiani, the Atreus Trio, the Nerida Quartet, and the saxophone ensemble Kebyart. Serving as members of the jury were Noémie Robidas, Michael Haefliger, and guest expert Peter Hagmann, as well as Graziella Contratto (Bern University of the Arts), Philippe Dinkel (Haute école de musique de Genève), and Michael Eidenbenz (Zurich University of the Arts) as representatives of the Swiss music academies. For the Credit Suisse Foundation, Daniela Bertoli and Verena Häusler were guests of the jury.

Contacts

Press and Public Relations at Lucerne Festival | t +41 41 226 44 43 | presse@lucernefestival.ch
Media Relations Credit Suisse | t +41 844 33 88 44 | media.relations@credit-suisse.com