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Mari Samuelsen

Imaginative and eloquent, violinist Mari Samuelsen is known for her breath-taking artistry and adventurous approach to programming and presentation. With a technique that blends virtuosity and entrancing musical finesse, Mari presents an innovative musical universe that knows no barriers between the music of such composers as Max Richter, Arvo Pärt, Pēteris Vasks and Jeff Mills, and that of Bach, Beethoven and Vivaldi. Her drive to not do what is traditionally expected, is what has turned Mari Samuelsen into an inspiration for a global audience.

Mari has appeared as soloist and recitalist on many of the world’s leading stages, including New York’s Carnegie Hall, the Hollywood Bowl, London’s Barbican Centre, Berlin’s Konzerthaus and Paris’ Philharmonie and Théâtre des Champs-Elysées. She has recently performed with the Orchestre National de Lyon together with Max Richter, with appearances at the Berlin Philharmonie and Hamburg Elbphilharmonie, as well as the Radio France Festival in Montpellier.

The 2019/20 season will see Mari Samuelsen perform with the Baltic Sea Philharmonic (under Kristian Järvi) at the Berlin Philharmonie, Stettin Festival, Bad Kissingen, and Mariinsky St. Petersburg. Mari will also take part on the recording and later World premiere of Max Richter’s *Voices* at the Barbican in London. She works regularly with the British composer as a soloist in concert performances of both his “Recomposed “and “Memoryhouse “, as well as on his recent Deutsche Gramophon album “Three Worlds – Music from Woolf Works”. She joined Max Richter and the 12 ensemble to open the Montreux Jazz Festival to critical acclaim and her first single, Max Richter’s “November”, was released in January 2019 coinciding with the ARTE broadcast of her spectacular performance the previous year at Beijing’s Forbidden City.

Mari Samuelsen’s recent work also includes collaborations with electronic music artists Jeff Mills and Dubfire and multimedia artist Philipp Geist. Her ground-breaking explorations of contemporary art and classical music as artistic director of Oslo’s Yellow Lounge for its first two seasons have reaffirm her position as an innovative artist who is reaching out to new audiences.

Mari is an exclusive Deutsche Grammophon artist, releasing *MARI,* her debut recording for the Yellow Label. With this album, she sets to reach and challenge a new audience. Her presence, popularity and the impact of her music among the new public is already astonishing having reached 25 million views in her YouTube video of “Summer” from Vivaldi’s The Four Seasons, made with the Trondheim Soloists. Mari Samuelsen also has recorded the world premiere of James Horner’s double concerto for violin, cello and orchestra with her brother, Hakon Samuelsen, as the centrepiece of *Pas de Deux*, released on Mercury Classics (Universal Music). Very unusually for classical recordings, this album along-side with her first solo recording *Nordic Noir*, were hits in the Norwegian pop charts (reaching the No.1 and No.2 spots respectively).

A classically trained violinist, her studies with Arve Tellefsen and later at the Barratt Due Institute of Music in Oslo were followed by a decade with world-renowned professor Zakhar Bron at the Zurich University of the Arts.

Mari Samuelsen plays a G.B. Guadagnini violin (Turin, 1773), on generous loan from the Anders Sveaas Charitable Foundation, Oslo.