



LUCERNE FESTIVAL



CREDIT SUISSE

Media Release

Violinist Vilde Frang Is the Winner of the 2012 Credit Suisse Young Artist Award

The competition for the 2012 Credit Suisse Young Artist Award took place at the Musikverein in Vienna on November 30 and December 1, 2011. The jury, chaired by Michael Haefliger, Artistic and Executive Director of the LUCERNE FESTIVAL, unanimously awarded the prize to the violinist Vilde Frang. The prize money amounts to 75,000 Swiss francs, and the winner will perform as a soloist at the LUCERNE FESTIVAL on September 14, 2012, with the Vienna Philharmonic conducted by Bernard Haitink.

Born in Oslo in 1986, Vilde Frang is best known for the incredible expressiveness of her music and the high caliber of her virtuosity and musicality. At a young age, she became a leading violinist of her generation after Mariss Jansons hired her at age 12 to debut with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra. The highlights of her performances include appearances with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich. She has worked with conductors like Vladimir Ashkenazy, Mariss Jansons, Paavo Järvi, Donald Runnicles, Esa-Pekka Salonen, and David Zinman. She has performed recitals and chamber music at such festivals as Schleswig-Holstein, Lockenhaus, Gstaad, Verbier, and Lucerne. Her musical partners have included Gidon Kremer, Yuri Bashmet, Martha Argerich, Julian Rachlin, Leif Ove Andsnes, and Maxim Vengerov. Vilde Frang performed Bach's Double Concerto with Anne-Sophie Mutter and the Camerata Salzburg on a tour of Europe and the US. She studied at the Barratt Due Institute of Music in Oslo, with Kolja Blacher at the Hamburg University of Music and Theater, and with Ana Chumachenco at the Kronberg Academy. In 2009, EMI released her debut CD with violin concertos by Sibelius and Prokofiev; in 2011 it released her CD of violin sonatas by Bartók, Grieg, and Richard Strauss. Vilde Frang plays an instrument made by Jean-Baptist Vuillaume, on loan from the Friends of the Anne-Sophie Mutter Foundation.

The "Credit Suisse Young Artist Award" is an initiative supported by the Lucerne Festival, the Vienna Philharmonic, the "Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde Wien" (Society of Music Lovers in Vienna) and the Credit Suisse Foundation. It recognizes the exceptional talent of outstanding young musicians and provides them with the funds and performance opportunities required to make a major breakthrough. The award is worth 75,000 Swiss francs and is presented every two years (in alternation with the national Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes). The age limit is 30. Invitation to participate is based on nomination by music experts. In addition to the chair Michael Haefliger, the jury also includes Prof. Dr. Dieter Flury of the Vienna Philharmonic, Dr. Thomas Angyan, Executive and Artistic Director of the "Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde Wien", Dr. Peter Hagmann (Neue Zürcher Zeitung) and Pamela Rosenberg (American Academy, former director of the Berlin Philharmonic). The "Credit Suisse Young Artist Award" was presented for the seventh time this year. The previous winners of the award were Quirine Viersen (violoncello/2000), Patricia Kopatchinskaja (violin/2002), Sol Gabetta (violoncello/2004), Martin Helmchen (piano/2006), Antoine Tamestit (viola/2008), and Nicolas Altstaedt (violoncello/2010). CREDIT SUISSE has supported the summer LUCERNE FESTIVAL since 1993 as a resident sponsor of the Vienna Philharmonic.

Further information on the cultural commitments of the Credit Suisse Foundation and CREDIT SUISSE's cultural sponsorship can be found at:

www.credit-suisse.com/foundation or www.credit-suisse.com/sponsorship

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