



# *Odessa Classics International Music Festival*

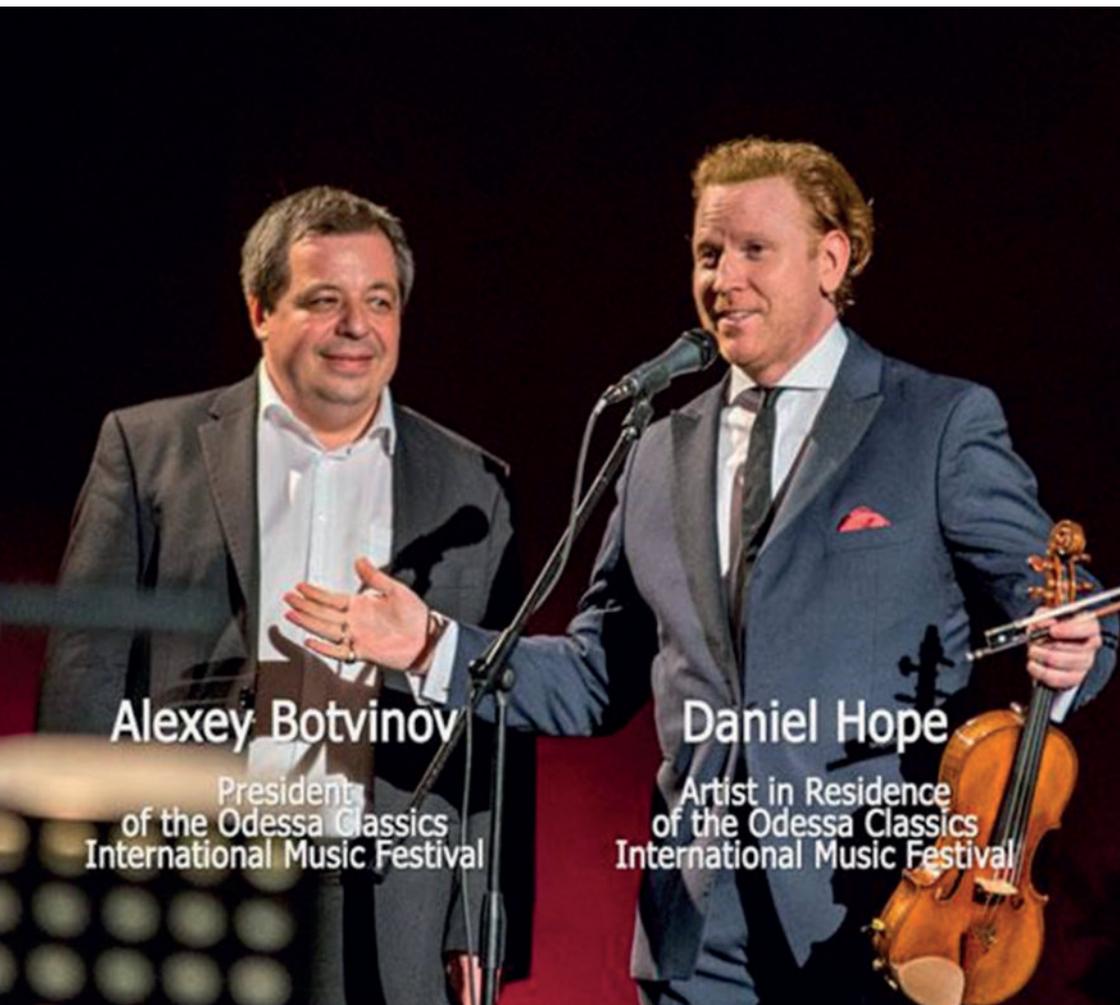
7th Edition, 2-12 June 2021

Odessa - the pearl of the the Black Sea - is going to present its 7th edition of „Odessa Classics“. After huge successes of the previous years this International Festival is developing as a high level European Festival with worldstars of classical music such as Daniel Hope, Vadim Repin, Maxim Vengerov, Misha Maisky, Sebastian Knauer, Matthias Goerne, Zurich Chamber Orchestra and many others. Concerts will take place again not only in the concert hall of the Odessa Philharmony but also in one of the most wonderful Opera Houses in the world and amazing open air concert on the famous Potemkin's stairs.

And last but not least, Odessa itself is a historical most beautiful city with strong mediterranean charisma and extremely friendly people with open hearts.

Alexey Botvinov, the founder of „Odessa Classics“ is the internationally renowned pianist who achieved special fame for his interpretation of Bach's Goldberg - Variations and as an expert performer of Rachmaninoff's music.

*A great experience not to be missed!*



**Alexey Botvinov**  
President  
of the Odessa Classics  
International Music Festival

**Daniel Hope**  
Artist in Residence  
of the Odessa Classics  
International Music Festival

## *Daniel Hope:*

*"Thrilled to announce a closer artistic relationship with the splendid Odessa Classics Festival from 2019. Alexey Botvinov and his team have done a wonderful job of building up this festival in a beautiful and historic city. And it is both extremely humbling and inspiring to think of many of my musical heroes and their role in Odessa's musical life: Pyotr Stolyarsky, David Oistrakh, Nathan Milstein, Boris Goldstein, Emil Gilels, Sviatoslav Richter, Zakhar Bron and many more. Looking forward to more music in Odessa!"*

In 2015 when **ODESSA CLASSICS** was established it lasted for 4 days; next year, in 2016 festival took 5 days. In 2017 this musical event was named the largest in Ukraine classical feast, it consisted of 7 days. In 2018 we already had 10 festival days. 2020 **ODESSA CLASSICS** lasted 2 weeks (10-23 August). But the main victory is not the number of the days. **ODESSA CLASSICS** managed to invite to it's stages the most prominent artist of the modern musical world. There were Zurich, Berlin and Brussels Chamber Orchestras, Daniel Hope, Mischa Maisky, Roby Lakatos, Maxim Vengerov, Zakhar Bron, Michael Guttman, Cyprien Katsaris, Pietro De Maria, Stefan Vladar, Sebastian Knauer, Antonio Meneses, Burhan Ocal, Dimitri Ashkenazy, Paata Burchuladze, Matthias Goerne, Vadim Repin and other star artists well known in Europe and in the US.



## *Odessa Classics President*

Pianist Alexey Botvinov is a world piano star, he is one of the best performers of Rachmaninoff's music in Europe. Among his extremely wide repertoire are more than 30 concerts for the piano and orchestra. Botvinov performed in 45 countries, and he is the only pianist in the world who has performed Bach's cult masterpiece "Goldberg Variations" more than 300 times live on stage.

"My dream is to make a festival which would be a landmark not only for Odessa but for the country. It could be similar in weight to the Salzburg Festival. I'd like it soon to be the main festival in at least Eastern Europe" - Alexey Botvinov, in an interview with "NV.UA" ("The New Time")

# *The Open Air*

## CONCERTS AT THE POTEMKIN STAIRS

The most attended concerts 2018-2020 were open-air at the Potemkin Stairs. It gathered every year appr. 10,000 people - at the steps and in nearby parks. To listen to Daniel Hope, Alexey Botvinov, Zakhar Bron, Zürich and Berlin Chamber Orchestras and the winners of Odessa Classics Young Pianists Competition there came people from different parts of Ukraine, as well international music lovers.







## *Odessa Classics 2019-2020 Headliners*

Headliners of the main ODESSA CLASSICS program were: British violinist Daniel Hope, Israeli cellist Mischa Maisky, French pianist Cyprien Katsaris, Belgium violinist Vadim Repin, Hungarian violinist Roby Lakatos, German pianist Sebastian Knauer, Canadian clarinetist Julian Milkis, Italian pianist Pietro De Maria, Belgian violinist Michael Guttman, German violinist Linus Roth, Belgian cellist Jing Zhao, Zurich Chamber Orchestra, German pianist Sebastian Knauer, Yen Han Ballet Company Zurich, ensembles "NICO" and "Air- baroque Journey".

## *Daniel Hope - Artist in Residence of Odessa Classics*

2019 was the third year for the violinist Daniel Hope at ODESSA CLASSICS. And a first year as an official Artist in Residence. He had 3 concerts - at the sold-out Odessa National Academic Opera and Ballet Theater and a full Potemkin Stairs of spectators. According to the contract a world stage star signed with ODESSA CLASSICS, he will perform in Odessa 2 or 3 concerts a year for the nearest 3 years.

### **Daniel Hope on his Facebook page:**

*I am delighted to announce a closer artistic relationship with the splendid Odessa Classics Festival from 2019. Alexey Botvinov and his team have done a wonderful job of building up this festival in a beautiful and historic city. And it is both extremely humbling and inspiring to think of many of my musical heroes and their role in Odessa's musical life: Pyotr Solomonovich Stolyarsky, David Oistrakh, Nathan Milstein, Boris Goldstein, Emil Gilels, Sviatoslav Richter, Zakhar Bron and many more. Looking forward to more music in Odessa!*







*Odessa Classics  
- Stages*

The main program of **ODESSA CLASSICS** festival was held at these stages:

- Odessa National Academic Opera and Ballet Theater (1400 seats)
- Odessa Philharmonic Theater (1000 seats)
- The Potemkin Stairs ( up to 15000 seats)

The most large-scale open - air concert took place on the Potemkin Stairs. It gathered in 2019 more than 12 thousand spectators. "Musical euphoria and thousands of spectators," "Grand open air concert was held with predictable success," "The classics are alive and collects tens of thousands of fans," were the headlines in media.

Media especially praised a high number of young people in audience at all festival concerts - the result of innovative culture politics in Odessa by Alexey Botvinov during last years.

Tickets for a large part of the main program concerts were sold out long before the start of the festival. "Sold out" concerts of classical music are the best indicator of the significance of **ODESSA CLASSICS**.

In addition to the main program, **ODESSA CLASSICS** consists of:

- Children's Piano Competition named after Serafima Mogilevskaya. Appr. 30 young pianists (11 - 15 y.o.) competing in the legendary Special Music School of Pyotr Stolyarsky,
- Art exhibitions - they are held in Odessa Museums and art galleries,
- A series of lectures before festival concerts (Odessa Philharmonic),
- The program of new Ukrainian music.

## *Masterclasses*

Master classes of the famous violinist Daniel Hope (2019) and world legendary Professor Zakhar Bron (2018) had huge interest and attention of the audience. They took place at the Stolyarsky school and gathered a big number of spectators. In 2019 three young fiddlers (Alexandra Chekalenko from Odessa, Sandra Vasilkova from Kyiv and Sofia Plakhtsinskaya from Lviv) not only had a lesson with Daniel Hope, but later performed with him in Odessa Opera House in front of 1400 spectators.



## *Odessa Classics - 2021*

Detailed program of ODESSA CLASSICS - 2021 will be announced soon.

As usually we're going to invite the most actual projects of the modern classical stage. For instance, festival will present 3 concerts of Daniel Hope (10-12 June) with different music formations and world leading chamber orchestra - legendary Zurich Chamber Orchestra.

There will be many other sensational programs of world top artists.

Some of artists we're expecting: The Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and their world famous chief conductor Neeme Jarvi with music of cult modern composer of nowadays Arvo Pärt; Chamber Orchestras from Belgium and Israel; new sensational project of extraordinary German pianist Sebastian Knauer "This Is (Not) Beethoven"; concerts of world star pianists, violinists and singers. And of course it will be open-air concert with video-and light show on the legendary Potemkin Stairs. The Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and Alexey Botvinov will create magical moments for festival audience.