

ZINDERING

Een festival rond de klank van stilte

Van 9 tot 13 december 2021

Casco Phil

Akhtamar Quartet

Golnar and Mahan Trio

Pak Yan Lau

Dirk Roofthoof

Esther Venrooy

Heleen Van Haegenborgh

Tsubasa Hori

www.zindingfestival.be

Een organisatie van Festival van Vlaanderen Mechelen
in het kader van Zinderende Stilte

ZINDERING

**Five-day festival in Mechelen
about the sound of silence**

11 CONCERTS

2 FILMS

1 LECTURE

Z I N D E R I N G

is organised by

the Festival of Flanders Mechelen / Lunalia
on the theme of Zinderende Stilte, blazing silence.

In partnership with Mechelen Feest,

nona arts centre,

Mechelen Cultural Centre,

DE MAAN,

Pastorale Ploeg O.L.V. o/d Dijle,

het Filmhuis,

and Klara.

ZINDERING

A festival about the sound of silence

9 - 13 december 2021



Zinding (Blaze) is a five-day festival held as part of Zinderende Stilte, 'blazing silence'. Eleven concerts and two films will explore different aspects of silence. From whispering arches to the heartrending silences in Alfred, Lord Tennyson's poetry, or meditative music of Arvo Pärt to lullabies for a Filipino dragon. From Armenian miniatures to the glowing quiver of female voices from Iran. From a game with white noise to an essay in film about the process of becoming silent.

Zinderling will emerge at twilight on the evening of Thursday 9 December. After sunset, the lights of the monuments create an eye-catching play of shapes and colours on the arches of the Church of Our Lady Over the Dyle. The soprano **Dorine Mortelmans** and organist **Peter Van de Velde** will transform this display into a blaze of light with a short mediation and the composition *O Domina nostra* by **Henryck Górecki**.

Also on the programme is the musical story *Enoch Arden* by **ACT2** in partnership with **Muziektheater Transparant**, the lecture about art and silence by **Virginie Platteau** and and minimalist music performed by the pianist **Kim Van den Brempt**.

In co-production with nona arts centre, **Pak Yan Lau** is launching the project *Bakunawa*. Bakunawa is a snake-like dragon from the Philippines. You can only get rid of it by creating a din or by lulling it to sleep with sweet music. These opposites provided the inspiration for a long piece that combines Asian ritual music, minimal music and ambient. The result is a world of unique sounds that envelops the audience. Especially for Zinderling, **Heleen Van Haegenborgh** has written a composition for four percussionists called *Squaring the Circle*. With **Tsubasa Hori** on the taiko drum, gongs and strings, she improvises another world in which space and time seem to be less important. A journey in sound through several dimensions.

The **Fnussjen quartet** evokes a peaceful world of sound on the harp, violin, piano and percussion in *Forest of Pictures*. As Guy Peters wrote: "*This is all about patience and turning time inside out. The music moves slowly, sparingly and meditatively, appearing to reach a mental state of rest.*"

Casco Phil, led by Benjamin Haemhouts, presents a blazing concert at St. Rumbold's Cathedral with meditative music by **Arvo Pärt**. The programme features three masterly compositions for strings, with harp and percussion: *Silouans Song*, *Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten*, *Festina Lente* and of course *Spiegel im Spiegel*.

The Armenian **Akhtamar Quartet** has appeared at many prestigious concert halls in Europe, but has made a point of performing at schools, hospitals, psychiatric centres and in people's living rooms as well. This will be their first concert in Mechelen. The programme features work that **Judith Adler de Oliveira** composed especially for the Akhtamar Quartet, as well as their signature pieces: Miniatures by the legendary Armenian composer **Komitas**.

The final day of the festival is dedicated to *The Female Voice of Iran*, a poignant documentary about female singers in Iran and their deepest desire: for their voices to be heard. It is an encounter with strong personalities and blazing voices, in partnership with **Filmhuis Mechelen**. The screening will be followed by a Q&A session with the makers of the documentary.

Golnar Shahyar is one of the protagonists of the documentary *The Female Voice of Iran*. She will bring Zinderling to a close with her **Golnar and Mahan Trio**. This trio deliberately ignores musical, linguistic and geographical borders, performing a cheerful combination of contemporary jazz, Eastern and West African folk, polyrhythmic grooves, Afro-Cuban and European chamber music.

Explore the full programme at www.zinderlingfestival.be.



Virginie Platteau and Jelle Dierickx © Karin Van Hees

ZINDERENDE STILTE

Curators **Virginie Platteau** and **Jelle Dierickx** are giving shape to the Mechelen theme year 2021-22: **Zinderende Stilte** (Blazing Silence). They are examining various aspects of silence within a social context.

This is done via a day of silence (31/10/21), a five-day festival (Zinding, 9-13/12/21), a symposium on silence and health (18-20/2/22), the installation Sjel in the nature reserves around Mechelen (spring '22) and a special on film and silence (March '22).

Silence is more than the absence of sound. It is silence that one can hear, feel and experience. Silence that creates clarity in difficult times. The theme year will deliberately not have an overloaded program.

It is chosen for a few moments in the year, for gentle transformation above spectacle. Emphases are placed that make silence and encounter possible. One of the goals is to create and investigate an alternative pace in public space, a city on a human scale.

Zinderende Stilte is an initiative of Mechelen Feest.

All info on: mechelen.be/zinderende-stilte

MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS
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