

#FEBRUARI #FESTIVAL

Amare dedicates 5th anniversary edition of February Festival to Franz Schubert

January 17th, 2022

We're so glad to welcome you back! From Wednesday 23 to Sunday 27 February, Amare is organising its annual February Festival in The Hague's Nieuwe Kerk. This festive edition marks the Festival's 5th anniversary and is dedicated to the Austrian composer, Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Amare and the Nieuwe Kerk are open again and welcome you to five festive days of music. Immerse yourself in the magic of Schubert and learn more about this fascinating composer. Come and experience how exciting and inspiring classical music can be!

About the February Festival

The February Festival is an annual festival that celebrates a different composer each year. The Festival is held in the Nieuwe Kerk and is organised this year for the first time by Amare, the new home for the arts, events, education and cultural encounter on the Spuiplein. During this five-day event, top young talents share the stage with world-class musicians from around the globe. Don't worry if you aren't too familiar with classical music: a presenter will tell you everything you need to know before each concert starts.

The programme

The Austrian composer **Franz Schubert**, the king of *Weltschmerz* (world-weariness), is indisputably one of the most important composers of the Romantic era. Upon his death at the young age of 31, he left behind an oeuvre of some 1,500 individual works. Yet he was not recognised as a genius until many years after his death. Why? This question and others will be explored during the February Festival.

The talented string quartet **Simply Quartet**, audience favourite of two previous editions, returns to the February Festival. Alongside pianist **Ishay Shaer**, they will be performing the Dutch premiere of Schubert's iconic *Unfinished Symphony*, arranged by Shaer himself.

More than thirty musicians from the Netherlands and abroad will perform in eight concerts in the Nieuwe Kerk, including the French **Geister Duo**, **David Salmon & Manuel Vieillard**, who won the ARD International Music Competition 2021, as well as **Dana Zemtsov**, **Jeroen Dupont**, **Antje Weithaas**, **Pieter van Loenen**, **Emanuele Silvestri**, **Laura van der Heijden** and strings from the **Royal Conservatoire of The Hague**.

The Festival offers both popular and lesser-known compositions by Schubert as well as works by composers who admired him or followed in his footsteps: Albert Reimann, Edison Denisov, Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst and Richard Dünser.

Note for editors:

For the full programme and tickets, see februarifestival.nl

The February Festival is organised by Stichting Amare & Nieuwe Kerk Den Haag.

Partners: Residentie Orkest, Royal Conservatoire, NTR Radio 4, De Nieuwe Muze

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February Festival

The February Festival is an annual festival that celebrates a different classical composer each year. *De Volkskrant* newspaper commented: "(...) The Hague's February Festival overflows with chamber musical generosity and spirit."

This year marks the 5th edition and is therefore the first milestone anniversary of the Festival. The Festival will be held in the Nieuwe Kerk, directly across from Amare on the Spuiplein. The Nieuwe Kerk is a truly unique location with exceptional acoustics and an intimate atmosphere.

Amare

Amare is the new home for the arts, events, education and cultural encounter on The Hague's Spuiplein. This brand-new complex comprises concert halls, a theatre, studios, classrooms and rehearsal rooms, cafes, restaurants and much more besides, and is home to four of The Hague's most prominent cultural organisations: Stichting Amare (formerly Zuiderstrandtheater), Residentie Orkest Den Haag, Nederlands Dans Theater and the Royal Conservatoire.

Amare is a venue of the city, for the city, by the city. The building's various public areas are open for initiatives by Amare's residents and other cultural organisations, and by the citizens of The Hague. Amare offers a home for both young, upcoming talents and for icons of the performing arts from The Hague and all around the world. By offering a diverse range of varied programmes, Amare seeks to make the world of the performing arts accessible for everyone.