

## Press Release

# Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award 2012 The 2012 Winner: Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla

**(SF, July 28, 2012) Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, the winner of the third annual round of the “Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award 2012”, will conduct the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra at the Felsenreitschule on August 12.**

26-year-old Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla from Lithuania convinced the international jury chaired by Ingo Metzmacher at the first-ever Award Concert Weekend held at the Felsenreitschule at the end of April, conducting a concert with Camerata Salzburg. “It was a very close decision. In the end, her greater decisiveness and clarity carried the day,” Metzmacher said.

From 91 applicants, the international jury had selected three finalists (Christian Baldini, Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla and Jamie Phillips) who were presented to the public on April 28 and 29, conducting renowned orchestras at the Felsenreitschule.

“To me it is a great joy to be the winner of the ‘Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award in 2012!’” said winner Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla. “It is a wonderful gift and a great honor to prepare a concert with such a high-carat orchestra as the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra, and thus to have a presence as a conductor at the Salzburg Festival. Even more since Austria is my second, and above all, my musical home.”

The Award Winner’s Concert takes place on August 12 at 11:00 am at the Felsenreitschule. The soloist will be pianist Andrius Zlabys.

Program:

ALFRED SCHNITTKE • *Ritual*

WOLFGANG A. MOZART • *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in C major KV 467*

IGOR STRAVINSKY • *Petrouchka*

## **Supporting young talents**

The competition “Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award” was initiated in 2010 by Nestlé and the Salzburg Festival in cooperation with the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra. The goal of the competition is to give highly talented young conductors a decisive impulse for their career. The winners are selected by a jury chaired by Ingo Metzmacher. Apart from the classical and romantic repertoire, the interpretation of contemporary works is an important criterion. The award carries a cash value of 15,000 Euros and is awarded annually to a young conductor between 22 and 35 years of age.

“The ‘Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Youth Conductors Award’ combines two aspects that are very important and stimulating for Nestlé in a unique way: on the one hand the support of young talents and on the other the fact that innovation can be created from tradition. We are happy that with the ‘Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award’, we have managed to implement a platform for the support of young conductors that has already won international renown and attracts more applicants each year,” said Nestlé Project Leader Angelika Svoboda.

## **Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla**

Born in Lithuania, Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla studied conducting at the University of Graz and continued her studies in Bologna, at the Academy of Music and Theater in Leipzig and most recently at the Zurich Academy of the Arts. Gražinytė gathered a broad variety of experience at numerous public performances and through her successful participation in competitions, for example the 5<sup>th</sup> German Academy Competition for Orchestral Conducting. Her talent also convinced the Conductors’ Forum of the German Music Council, which has supported Gražinytė since 2009.

## **CD Presentation of the Prize Winner’s Concert 2011: Ainārs Rubiķis and the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra**

Starting immediately, the Prize Winner’s Concert of the “Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award 2011” is available on CD. The live recording from the Felsenreitschule has been released as part of the edition “Salzburg Festival Documents”.

The Latvian Ainārs Rubiķis conducted the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra in August 2011 with the following program:

Claude Debussy: *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*  
Benjamin Britten: *Four Sea Interludes*  
Igor Stravinsky: *The Firebird* (1919)

Ainārs Rubiķis had convinced the jury especially with his interpretation technique and virtuosity, and had been selected from about 50 international applicants as the winner of the “Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award 2011“.

## **Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award 2013**

Interested young conductors aged 22 to 35 are invited to submit their application materials by October 31, 2012. The jury will pay particular attention to the submitted DVDs. The following materials are to be submitted together with the application form:

- Curriculum Vitae including photograph
- DVD (meaningful video material is essential)
- Complete repertoire list, with special attention to works of the 20th and 21st centuries
- List of realized projects
- List of future projects
- References / Recommendation letters

The application form can be found at [www.salzburgfestival.at/nestle\\_yca](http://www.salzburgfestival.at/nestle_yca) for downloading.

### **The Jury of the “Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award” 2013:**

Ingo Metzmacher (Jury Chairman)

Peter Alward (Managing Artistic Director, Salzburg Easter Festival)

Marc-André Dalbavie (Composer)

Albena Danailova (Concertmaster, Vienna Philharmonic)

Gary Hanson (Managing Director, The Cleveland Orchestra)

Christoph Lieben-Seutter (General Artistic Director, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg)

Brian McMaster (former Director, Edinburgh International Festival)

Alexander Meraviglia-Crivelli (General Secretary, Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra)

Alexander Pereira (Artistic Director, Salzburg Festival)

Matthias Schulz (Artistic Director and Managing Director of the Mozarteum Foundation Salzburg)

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