

delian::quartett

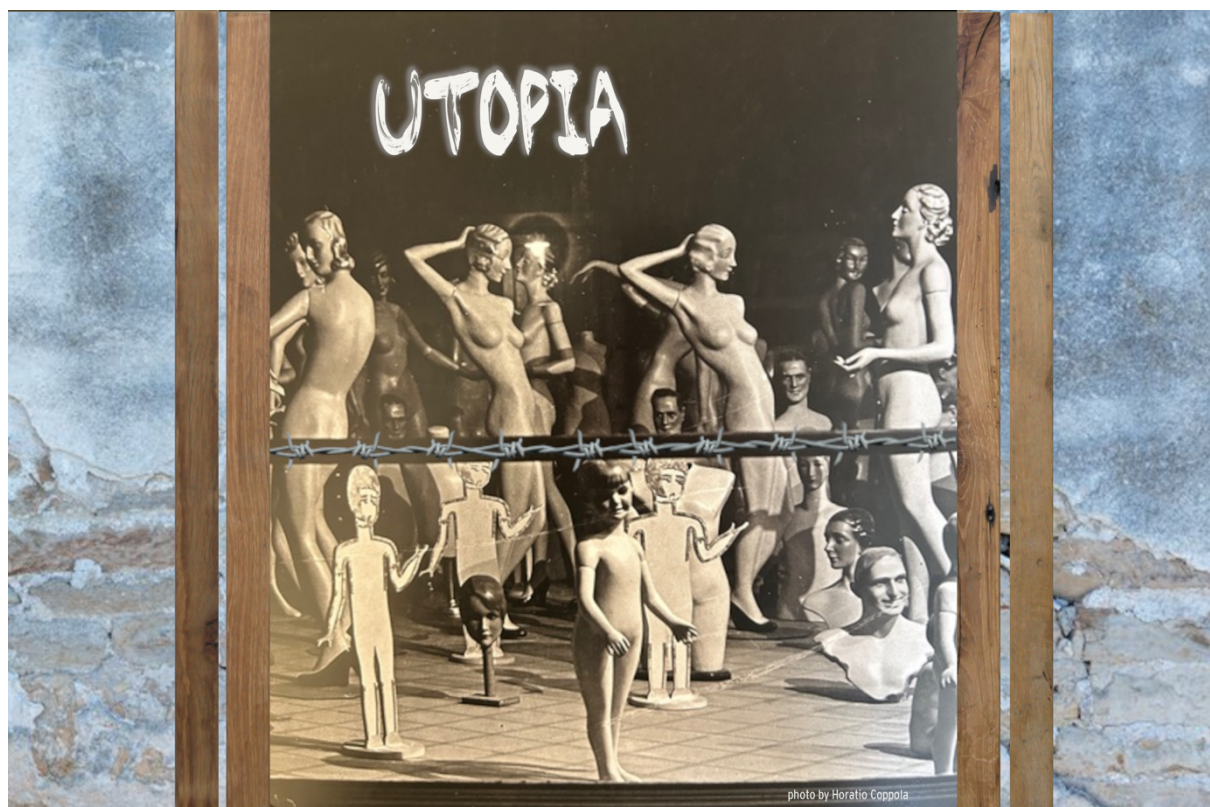
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## Ute Lemper & delian::quartett present



Even amid the **delian::quartett**'s consistently extraordinary body of work, this creation with Ute Lemper deserves a special place.

*Utopia*, joined by pianist Tobias Deutschmann, is so much more than "just" a fulfilling evening of concert music full of dramatic twists: it is a journey through time, and yet timeless; it is deeply entertaining and utterly heart-wrenching at once; it speaks of the Absolute while remaining profoundly human. A programme for the heart and soul...

*Utopia*, the new concert project by Ute Lemper and the **delian::quartett**, is a cathartic journey, a moving portrait of a bygone era. It begins amid the ruins of the First World War and leads through the wild, adventurous years of the Weimar Republic and its Golden Twenties into the darkest nights of the Nazi regime. The journey ends in the ruins of Berlin — yet with a glimpse of a brighter world.

All this is brought to life by Ute Lemper together with the **delian::quartett** and pianist Tobias Deutschmann, in a riveting performance of songs from those times, specially arranged for the ensemble. Kurt Weill, Hanns Eisler, Friedrich Hollaender and Viktor Ullmann have their say; Yiddish melodies stir the soul as an echo of those lost in the ghettos; Dmitri Shostakovich's quartet compositions comment on and reflect the unfolding narrative — and in the end, redemption comes in the form of a "children's anthem".

The interplay of joyful entertainment and loss, of dream and reality, of evil and hope runs through the entire programme, making *Utopia* an eternally relevant and enduring experience.

## ::programme

|              |                                                                |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Weill        | Berlin im Licht                                                |
| Eisler       | Der Graben                                                     |
| Weill        | Berlin im Licht                                                |
| Spoliansky   | Alles Schwindel                                                |
| Weill        | Surabaya Johnny                                                |
| Shostakovich | Sarabande from "The Human Comedy" op. 37                       |
| Weill        | Lied des Lotterieagenten                                       |
| Eisler       | O Fallada                                                      |
| Shostakovich | iii. Allegro from String Quartet No. 4 in D Major op. 83       |
| Weill        | Youkali                                                        |
| Weill        | I'm a stranger here myself                                     |
| -----        |                                                                |
| Hollaender   | Münchhausen                                                    |
| Weill        | My Ship                                                        |
| Ullmann      | Margaritkelech                                                 |
| Shostakovich | iv. Allegretto from String Quartet No. 4 in D Major op. 83     |
| Tamir        | Shtiler, Shtiler                                               |
| Weber        | Ich wandre durch Theresienstadt                                |
| Weinstein    | A Yiddishe Kind                                                |
| Weill        | Green up time                                                  |
| Shostakovich | ii. Allegro molto from String Quartet No. 8 in c Minor op. 110 |
| Eisler       | Kinderhymne                                                    |

**Ute Lemper** | singer

**Tobias Deutschmann** | piano

**delian::quartett**

Adrian Pinzaru | violin

Andreas Moscho | violin

Lara Albesano | viola

Hendrik Blumenroth | violoncello

## Ute Lemper

Ute Lemper's career is vast and varied. Since training at the Dance Academy in Cologne and the Max Reinhardt Seminar drama school in Vienna, she has made her mark on the stage, in films, in concert and as a unique recording artist on more than 30 CDs over 40 years of career. Her interpretations, sung in five different languages, of Berlin cabaret songs, the works of Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht, and the chansons of Marlene Dietrich, Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel, Léo Ferré, Jacques Prevert, Nino Rota, Astor Piazzolla, and many others, as well as her own compositions, have been universally praised. Her portrayals in musicals and plays on Broadway, in Paris, Berlin, and London's West End are considered major events.



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Ute Lemper has received countless international music and theater awards, as much as several Grammy nominations. She has won the British Laurence Olivier Award and the American Theater World Award for her performance as Velma Kelly in "Chicago" in the West End and on Broadway, and the French Molière Award for her portrayal of Sally Bowles in "Cabaret" in Paris.

Ute Lemper's artistic collaborations include, among many others, directors Robert Altman, Peter Greenaway, Peter Zadek and Volker Schlöndorff, the Pina Bausch Dance Theater, the London and Sydney Symphony Orchestras, the Czech National Symphony Orchestra, and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Zubin Mehta, the Michael Nyman Band, author Paulo Coelho, Astor Piazzolla's sextet from Buenos Aires in its original line-up, accordionist Gil Goldstein, trumpeter Wynton Marsalis and the Vogler Quartet.

She is touring around stages across all five continents with her numerous theatrical and musical projects such as "Rendezvous with Marlene Dietrich", based on a three-hour telephone call in 1988 with Marlene Dietrich, the "Songs for Eternity" with songs written by Jewish prisoners in German ghettos and concentration camps during World War II, her homage to the King of Tango Astor Piazzolla, the works of Brecht and Weill, Berlin Cabaret Songs and many others. Ute Lemper also enjoys writing and producing her own music. She has created

a Triptych of poetry in her own compositions: the Bukowski Project, the Pablo Neruda Songbook and the World Music Collage with words by Paulo Coelho. In 2023, she has completed her autobiography, "Die Zeitreisende: Zwischen Gestern und Morgen" (The Time Traveller: Between Yesterday and Tomorrow), that is a best-selling book in her native country of Germany. She is currently licensing it to international versions.

Ute Lemper says to have formed her artistic identity as a young German Woman in the early 1980s living actively in West Berlin theater community before the fall of wall. The worldwide release of her early Kurt Weill albums has catapulted her path into a mission, a responsibility and artistic journey to address themes about the failure of humanity and facing the crimes of the past: only through grief and constant dialogue can one learn and carry the trauma as a responsibility, and bear it as an artist and as a human being.

Ute Lemper has been living in New York with her family and four children for 30 years.

## delian::quartett

*"Original and brimming with esprit, dramaturgically daring and thrilling in its content: even longtime regulars of the concert series will find little in their memories to match an evening in which all these qualities were woven together as artfully and convincingly as in the performance of the Delian Quartet. [...] If proof were ever*

*needed of the ensemble's extraordinary class — in these breathless seconds it flared up with the force of a supernova. [...] Thanks for opening a new door into the world of music."* (Süddeutsche Zeitung)



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The **delian::quartett**'s namesake is the Greek god Apollo, worshipped as the god of the fine arts and of the Muses — especially of music — and also called "Delian" after his birthplace, the island of Delos.

Since its founding in 2007, the **delian::quartett** has given performances acclaimed equally by audiences and press throughout Europe, in China, and — as a cultural ambassador of the Goethe-Institut — as far afield as Africa. Its 2009 debut at the Berlin Philharmonie was met with a standing ovation already after the opening piece. Since then, the ensemble has been a celebrated guest in venues such as the Konzerthaus Berlin, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Prinzregententheater Munich, Unione Musicale Turin, Konzerthaus and Musikverein Vienna, Tonhalle Zurich, Beethovenfest Bonn, Kissinger Sommer, Ludwigsburg Schlossfestspiele, südtirol festival meran, Rheingau Musik Festival, Salzburg Festival, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Schubertiade Roskilde, and many more. Its unconventional and richly allusive programming has long made the **delian::quartett**'s concert projects distinctive and a hallmark of the ensemble.

The quartet maintains an active collaboration with broadcasters such as SWR, HR, WDR, Catalunya Música, Radio France, Danmarks Radio, BR, NDR, SR, ORF, and Deutschlandfunk. The ensemble's CD recordings for the label OehmsClassics reached top positions on the classical charts, were presented as the editor's choice by various broadcasters, and were chosen multiple times for Lufthansa's Album Selection. Its second CD, featuring the music of Joseph Haydn, received an ECHO Klassik award nomination in 2010. The acclaimed performance of Chausson's Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet, Op. 21, with the **delian::quartett**, Liza Ferschtman, and Benjamin Moser, was included as a live recording in the anniversary

edition of the Piano Festival Ruhr in 2018. The same year saw the release of the double CD "Cantai", featuring Bach's "The Art of Fugue" alongside Stefano Pierini's work "Cantai un tempo...", written for the **delian::quartett**. That recording received, among other honors, the maximum five stars from the Italian magazine ARCHI and a nomination for the OPUS KLASSIK 2019.

A major commitment of the **delian::quartett** is the expansion of the repertoire. It has given world premieres of works by living composers Alberto Colla, Per Arne Glorvigen, Gabriel Iranyi, Christian Jost, Stefano Pierini, and Uljas Pulkkis; most of these compositions are inscribed to it. In 2019, Aribert Reimann dedicated his last completed work – his adaptation of Schumann's song cycle "Frauenliebe und Leben" (A Woman's Love and Life) – to the **delian::quartett** and soprano Claudia Barainsky, who premiered it together at the Berlin Philharmonie. In 2024, the legendary label ECM Records released the album "Im wachen Traume", featuring, among other things, the world premiere recording of this work. Described as an *"original recording of rare beauty"* (nikonland.it), "Im wachen Traume" has been a classical music recommendation, must-listen, Choix Musical, or Sélection Disques for various European broadcasters and print media, and was included on the longlist for the German Record Critics' Award (Deutscher Schallplattenpreis). In the Süddeutsche Zeitung, critic Wolfgang Schreiber named the album the most beautiful CD of the summer, and the magazine Fono Forum awarded it the coveted "Star of the Month", with maximum ratings in every category.

With "Let's Get Classical!", the Delian format for young people and the young at heart, the ensemble also wins over concert newcomers to classical music. The **delian::quartett** has regularly performed and continues to perform alongside artists and ensembles including Gilles Apap, Fabio Bidini, Measha Brueggergosman, Gérard Caussé, the Deutsche Kammerakademie Neuss, Stella Doufexis, Andreas Frölich, Pavel Gililov, Bernd Glemser, Per Arne Glorvigen, Jens Harzer, the Henschel Quartet, Julia Hülsmann, Ralph Manno, Sergei Nakariakov, Ulrich Noethen, PiedraMudaLAB, Menahem Pressler, Dora Schwarzberg, Peter Shub, Peter Simonischek, Ulrich Tukur, Anatol Ugorski, and Angela Winkler. With the great actor Bruno Ganz, the Delians shared ten years of their artistic career until his death in 2019, in various acclaimed spoken-word reading projects.

Since 2017, the members of the **delian::quartett** have been united as Pirastro Artists in a partnership with the renowned string manufacturer. Adrian Pinzaru plays a violin by Giovanni Battista Rogeri, 1699, generously passed on by Christine Anderson; Andreas Moscho's violin is the Giovanni Battista Rogeri "Christmas", circa 1690. Lara Albesano's viola by Alfonso Della Corte, 1884, is on permanent private loan.

## Tobias Deutschmann

Tobias Deutschmann is a sought-after live and studio musician, arranger, conductor and musical director. His musical credo of stylistic versatility taken to the extreme makes him a constant boundary-crosser and wanderer between musical worlds.

Tobias Deutschmann studied classical piano, song accompaniment, jazz piano, conducting and musicology at the Saarbrücken University of Music and at Saarland University. His range of experience and field of activity extend from his work as a conductor and répétiteur at opera houses, through playing the continuo on the organ or harpsichord in a Baroque context, to musical direction and keyboarding in the musical theatre and show business.

The WDR Funkhaus Orchestra values his versatility and regularly calls upon his services on all kinds of keyboard instruments and as an arranger. As a musical director in both theatre seasons and on tour, Tobias Deutschmann has worked with all the major musical producers in the German-speaking world, including Stage Entertainment and BB Promotion. He has directed shows such as 'Bodyguard', 'Sister Act', 'Hairspray', 'Evita', 'The Rocky Horror Show' and many more.

During his international concert tours, he has performed with artists including Udo Jürgens, Andrea Bocelli and Ute Lemper. His arrangements, for example for the WDR Funkhaus Orchestra or the Wuppertal Symphony Orchestra, can be heard in live and online-streamed concerts and feature on a wide range of recordings.

As a conductor, he has led various symphony orchestras such as the Wuppertal Symphony Orchestra, the Robert Schumann Philharmonic Orchestra Chemnitz, the Oldenburg State Orchestra, the Jena Philharmonic Orchestra, the South Westphalia Philharmonic Orchestra and the Bergische Sinfoniker.

Tobias Deutschmann teaches in the Musical Theatre department at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen.



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