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PRESS RELEASE

Renowned Conductor Roberto Forés-Veses and Brilliant Pianist Alexandre Tharaud to Perform at the Romanian Athenaeum with the George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra on February 20 and 21

The George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra will hold two extraordinary symphonic concerts on February 20 and 21, featuring two internationally acclaimed guests: conductor Roberto Forés-Veses and prestigious pianist Alexandre Tharaud. The evenings will begin with the world premiere of *Oblatio lucis*, a composition by Alin Chelărescu, specially commissioned by the George Enescu Philharmonic as part of its program to support young Romanian composers. The program will continue with Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 and Schumann's Symphony No. 4. Tickets are available in limited numbers at www.oveit.com or directly via bilete.fge.org.ro.

Roberto Forés-Veses is the principal guest conductor of the English Chamber Orchestra and is a frequent presence at major international festivals, including La Folle Journée de Nantes and Tokyo, La Chaise-Dieu, Murten Classics, Printemps des Arts (Monaco), Stresa Festival, Les Flâneries musicales de Reims, Festival de la Vézère, and Festival de Polignac. He has won prestigious conducting competitions such as the Evgeny Svetlanov and Luigi Mancinelli Competitions. Throughout his career, he has collaborated with renowned orchestras, including the Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse, Orquesta de Castilla y León, Real Orquesta Sinfónica de Sevilla, Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire, Osaka and Nagoya Philharmonics, Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano, and the Israel Chamber Orchestra.

Alexandre Tharaud is an exclusive artist for Warner Classics and has recorded over 25 solo albums throughout his career. His recent recordings of Ravel's piano concertos have been highly praised by critics. He has performed with some of the world's leading orchestras, including the San Francisco Symphony, Orchestre National de France, and the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra. Tharaud has also given solo recitals at prestigious venues such as Wigmore Hall, the Philharmonie de Paris, and Concertgebouw Amsterdam.

In 2017, he published *Montrez-moi vos mains*, an introspective volume about the daily life of a pianist. He previously co-authored the book *Piano Intime* with journalist Nicolas Southon. His artistic journey has been captured in the Swiss filmmaker Raphaëlle Aellig-Régnier's documentary *Alexandre Tharaud, Le Temps Dérobé*, and he also appeared as the pianist "Alexandre" in Michael Haneke's acclaimed film *Amour* (2012).

Composer **Alin Chelărescu** describes his piece *Oblatio lucis* (*Offering of Light*), which will be performed as a world premiere and was commissioned by the George Enescu Philharmonic:



"Oblatio lucis tells the story of a hero whose life undergoes a radical transformation after a period of ascent. A completely unexpected event shakes the very foundation of his journey, forcing him to face sacrificial trials. A wave of questions and introspection continuously arises throughout this path (with musical references to Charles Ives' The Unanswered Question), leading him deeper into his existential quest. The hero's only hope lies in the power of thought, which instinctively reaches toward the light - the divine source that ultimately delivers him from times of hardship."

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