

Media Information
May 7, 2016

Indra Rios-Moore winner of the BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016

The series of concerts will be continued in 2017 following the motto “Amazing bass!”

Munich. The American-Danish ensemble of singer Indra Rios-Moore has won the 2016 BMW Welt Jazz Award, following a thrilling final between them and the American-Swiss group Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma on Saturday, 7 May. The award was presented by Dr Ian Robertson, Member of the Board of Management of BMW AG.

With sets influenced by this year’s motto “Inspired by Legends”, both ensembles captivated the audience in the sold-out auditorium of the BMW Welt. In the end, it was the selection of famous folk pieces combined with Indra Rios-Moore’s distinctive bluesy jazz voice that convinced the panel of expert jurors.

The expert jury explained their final decision like this: “With both performances being outstanding – one more extrovert, one more introvert – the jury made a very subjective choice to pick the more mellow, introspective candidate. The judges were moved by Indra Rios-Moore’s extraordinary voice and convinced by the concept to counterbalance American music tradition with an extremely reduced Scandinavian sound. Indra Rios-Moore belongs to a group of new astonishing singers who completely trust in their individual expression. The jury strongly believes that we will hear a lot more of her in the future.”

The winning ensemble of Indra Rios-Moore received 10,000 EUR prize money and a trophy designed by BMW Design, while the runners-up, Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma, were awarded 5,000 EUR.

Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma won this year’s audience award and can look forward to an exclusive stay at resort Schloss Elmau and an appearance at the resort’s annual Jazz Classica Festival in July 2016.

During the final concert, Dr Ian Robertson also announced the theme for the 2017 season. Next year, the hugely popular series of concerts will follow the theme “Amazing bass!”, with the focus firmly on what is arguably the most iconic instrument of the jazz genre.

Speaking at the final in Munich, Dr Ian Robertson said, “This year, the BMW Group celebrates its centenary, keeping our focus on ‘The Next 100 Years’ and looking ahead to the future. That’s why we’ve also decided to take the BMW Welt Jazz Award one step further, introducing the BMW Welt Young Artist Jazz Award. One emerging young ensemble based in the city of Munich will be given the opportunity to perform amongst others at the Leipziger Jazztage, a festival which the BMW Group has supported for many years. Once again, this shows our commitment to the jazz scene and I’d like to thank all those fans of the BMW Welt Jazz Award, who have helped make our free Sunday matinee concerts such a success since the award began back in 2009. I’d also like to thank the many amazing ensembles who travel to Munich from all over the world in order to participate. Of course this evening, I have particular pleasure in congratulating Indra Rios-Moore on their terrific performance and well deserved success.”

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Dieter Reiter, mayor of the city of Munich, said, "I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank BMW for its outstanding commitment to the cultural endeavours of our city. With its consistently high international level and its exceptional popularity among audience and experts alike, the BMW Welt Jazz Award has become an integral part of Munich's cultural scene. In addition, the newly-established BMW Welt Young Artist Jazz Award is a wonderful opportunity for our local young talent, one that makes me very happy indeed."

The BMW Welt Jazz Award celebrated its eighth edition in 2016. From January to March, six renowned international ensembles excited and delighted the packed audiences during the Sunday matinees at the Double Cone of the BMW Welt. In addition to the two finalists, the other participating ensembles were: Dieter Ilg: My Beethoven (Germany), Oded Tzur Quartet (Israel/USA), Stefano Battaglia Trio (Italy), Latham-Carniaux-Egan: Constellations (USA).

The distinguished panel of jurors included renowned jazz experts and specialists of the jazz scene, who chose the winner of BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016. Chaired by Oliver Hochkeppel (journalist for music and cultural affairs at the German daily "Süddeutsche Zeitung"), the jury included the following members: Andreas Kolb (editor-in-chief of the magazines "JazzZeitung.de" and "neue musikzeitung" and co-publisher of the new music magazine "SILBERHORN"), Roland Spiegel (editor at the music desk and jazz expert at German broadcasting station Bayerischer Rundfunk "BR-KLASSIK"), Heike Lies (musicologist, Music and Music Theatre Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the state capital Munich) and Christiane Böhnke-Geisse (Artistic Director of the international jazz festival "Bingen swingt").

The 2016 edition of the BMW Welt Jazz Award once again enjoyed the generous support of its partners BR-KLASSIK, jazz magazine SILBERHORN, resort Schloss Elmau and the Department of Cultural Affairs of the city of Munich.

Photographic material is available at BMW PressClub (www.press.bmwgroup.com) and via LoeschHundLiepold Kommunikation GmbH on behalf of the department for public relations of BMW Welt.
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www.press.bmwgroup.comEmail: presse@bmw.de**About BMW Group's Cultural Commitment**

For almost 50 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural cooperations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on contemporary and modern art, classical music and jazz as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Jeff Koons, Daniel Barenboim, Jonas Kaufmann and architect Zaha Hadid have co-operated with BMW. Currently, female artist Cao Fei from China and American John Baldessari are creating the next two vehicles for the BMW Art Car Collection. Besides co-initiatives, such as BMW Tate Live, the BMW Art Journey and the "Opera for All" concerts in Berlin, Munich and London, the company also partners with leading museums and art fairs as well as orchestras and opera houses around the world. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all its cultural activities – as this initiative is as essential for producing groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business.

BMW Welt – at the heart of the brand, on the pulse of the city

With more than 3 million visitors in 2015, BMW Welt in Munich is Bavaria's most visited attraction and has become a real magnet for visitors since its opening in 2007. With its pioneering architecture, BMW Welt is the heart of all the brands in the BMW Group – BMW, the sub-brands BMW M and BMW i, MINI, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars and BMW Motorrad, which are impressively presented in their own worlds of experience. But it is not only the exhibitions and the collection of new vehicles that are highlights for car lovers from all over the world. Visitors can enjoy a year-round programme of varied events covering culture, art and entertainment along with culinary delights in several restaurants. Whether it's a jazz concert, clubbing event, a film premiere, gala event or panel discussion – BMW Welt is the perfect platform for innovative events. In the BMW Welt Junior Campus, children and youngsters can enjoy exciting guided tours and workshops on the themes of mobility and sustainability.

The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2015, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.247 million cars and nearly 137,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2015 was approximately € 9.22 billion on revenues amounting to € 92.18 billion. As of 31 December 2015, the BMW Group had a workforce of 122,244 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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