10th January
Evening of “Exoticisms” in the Great Hall of the Palace of Pena

- Soprano Dora Rodrigues, tenor Mário Alves, baritone Luís Rodrigues and pianist João Paulo Santos join together especially for this occasion
- 2nd concert in the “Musical Evenings in the Palace of Pena” cycle
- Works by Georges Bizet, Francisco de Sá Noronha and Alfredo Keil, among other composers

Video about the cycle: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qv41c3iz4kk&feature=youtu.be

Sintra, 6th January 2015 –, the second event in the cycle “Musical Evenings in the Palace of Pena” takes place on 10th January, is entitled “Exoticisms” and features a concert bringing together the soprano Dora Rodrigues, the tenor Mário Alves, the baritone Luís Rodrigues and the pianist João Paulo Santos, especially for the occasion.

The concert, beginning at 9.30pm, is preceded by a conference, presented by the musicologist Luísa Cymbron at 9pm. Both the conference and the concert are held in the Great Hall of the National Palace of Pena, which came out of restoration a year ago.

Co-presented by Parques de Sintra and Divino Sospiro - CEMSP - Centre of Portuguese Eighteenth-Century Musical Studies, the cycle runs through to 14th February and contains musical evenings including a concert and a conference. This seeks to evoke – through music – questions, images and the figures interconnected with the various 19th century ambiences both of Sintra and in particular of Pena. Beyond the love of nature (one of the great themes of the romantic imaginary experiencing a transversal affirmation through several forms of art) and the interest in exoticism, especially in architectural terms, another great passion of Ferdinand II was music as is more than clear whether from witness accounts from many of his contemporaries or from the legacy of his vast collection of musical scores.

The evening's program includes pieces by Ferdinand David, Camille Saint-Saëns, Georges Bizet, Carl Loewe, Francisco de Sá Noronha, Miguel Ângelo Pereira, Alfredo Keil, Francisco Xavier Mignon and Jules Massenet.

This concert counts on four of the Portuguese contemporary musical greats: soprano Dora Rodrigues, who regularly sings in Portuguese opera productions, such as those performed at the São Carlos National Theatre, productions by the Oporto Opera Company and São João National Theatre; the tenor Mário Alves, a regular guest of both the São Carlos National Theatre and the
Gulbenkian Orchestra, Casa da Música, Norte Orchestra, Metropolitan Orchestra, Ópera Norte and a broad range of orchestras and national concert, opera and recital institutions; the baritone Luís Rodrigues who, performing Chamber Music, has shared stages with the pianists David Santos, Nuno Vieira de Almeida, Jaime Mota and João Paulo Santos as well as groups including Drumming and Remix Ensemble; and the pianist and maestro João Paulo Santos, current Director of Musical Studies and the Musical Stage Director at the São Carlos National Theatre and a leading figure in the Portuguese musical panorama.

One of the characteristic features of the landscapes of Sintra and Pena is their architectural diversity (from the Neo-Manueline to the Neo-Arabesque), which enables a voyage through the 19th century fascination with various types of exoticism. In the field of music, this trend achieved a particular pinnacle in France, centred initially on interest in North Africa before spreading to the most remote regions of the globe. Furthermore, there is a substantial dose of this French influence found in the Portuguese composers of the second half of the 19th century, including Francisco Xavier Migonne, Francisco de Sá Noronha, Miguel Ângelo Pereira and Alfredo Keil.

The “Musical Evenings at the Palace of Pena” cycle is co-financed by POR Lisbon – the Regional Operational Program and also counts upon the support of the General Directorate of the Arts with Antena 2 acting as media partner.

Musical Evenings in the Palace of Pena

“Exoticisms”
Saturday, 10th January 2015, Great Hall
9pm: Conference with Luísa Cymbron
9.30pm: Dora Rodrigues (soprano); João Paulo Santos (piano); Luís Rodrigues (baritone); Mário Alves (tenor)
Tickets on sale at the usual outlets and online

“Elise Hensler, Queen of Pena”
Saturday, 31st January 2015, Great Hall
9pm: Conference with Luísa Cymbron
9.30pm: Cristiana Oliveira (soprano); João Paulo Santos (piano); Nuno Pereira (baritone); Paulo Guerreiro (trumpet)
Tickets on sale at the usual outlets and online

“Ferdinand and his Bavaria”
Saturday, 14th February 2015, Main Chamber
9pm: Conference with Luísa Cymbron
9.30pm: Ana Franco (soprano); Bruno Almeida (tenor); Carolina Figueiredo (mezzosoprano); João Merino (bass); João Paulo Santos (piano)
Tickets on sale at the usual outlets and online

TICKETS:
10 Euros per concert
On sale in the Parques de Sintra ticket offices, online at www.blueticket.pt and at FNAC,
About CEMSP – the Centre of Portuguese Eighteenth-Century Musical Studies
The main objective of the Centre of Portuguese Eighteenth-Century Musical Studies, with its headquarters in the National Palace of Queluz, involves raising the profile and promoting the musical heritage associated with the Palace of Queluz where music always held a central role reflected in the performance of dozens of serenades and operas. The Centre correspondingly stages in the rooms of the Palace concerts, events, conferences, symposiums and colloquiums as well as master classes and other initiatives seeking to study and restore the times and the traditions of the great musical events held in the season of the Royal Family's residence in the Palace of Queluz, simultaneously contributing to the public enjoyment of a high quality musical program and adding an additional dimension to the Palace's role as an unmistakeable landmark in the Portuguese cultural heritage.

www.divinosospiro.org

About Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua
Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A. (PSML) is a state-owned limited company with exclusively public capital that was created in 2000 following the recognition by UNESCO of the Cultural Landscape of Sintra as a World Heritage Site. The company was created to assemble the public institutions responsible for preserving and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage in Sintra. PSML has been entrusted with the management of the State’s main properties in the area. Because it does not resort to the State Budget, PSML depends entirely on proceeds from the tickets sale, shops, cafeterias and hiring of venues for events, in order to restore, maintain and promote the heritage it manages.
In 2013, the natural and cultural heritage managed by PSML (the Park and Palace of Pena, the National Palaces of Sintra and Queluz, the Chalet of the Countess of Edla, the Moorish Castle, the Palace and Gardens of Monserrate, the Convent of the Capuchos and the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art) welcomed approximately 1,700,000 visitors, over 90% of whom were from outside of Portugal.
The shareholders of PSML are the Directorate General of Treasury and Finance (Direção Geral do Tesouro e Finanças - representing the State), the Institute for the Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity (Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e Biodiversidade - ICNB), the Portuguese Tourism Board (Turismo de Portugal) and the Municipality of Sintra (Câmara Municipal de Sintra - CMS).
www.parquesdesintra.pt or www.facebook.com/parquesdesintra

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