

World Premiere at the Menuhin Festival Gstaad: David Garrett Brings Together Legendary Stradivari and Guarneri Violins

A charity concert in support of the Menuhin Festival String Academy featuring some of the world's most extraordinary string instruments

Gstaad, July 2026 – On Sunday, 26 July 2026, the Menuhin Festival Gstaad will present an exceptional musical event of international significance. Under the title "Masters of Sound – A Charity Concert hosted by David Garrett & The Del Gesù Club", some of the most valuable and celebrated violins ever created will be brought together in this unique public concert for the very first time. Over 20 masterpieces by Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù will take centre stage in an unforgettable celebration at the Saanen Church. An iconic festival venue and the very location where Yehudi Menuhin started the Festival 70 years ago. Curated and hosted by violin superstar David Garrett, the entire proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Menuhin Festival String Academy, supporting the next generation of exceptional young string players.

David Garrett as Host and Curator

Alongside his international career as one of the world's leading violinists, David Garrett has long been dedicated to the study, preservation and appreciation of historic violins. With the founding of The Del Gesù Club, he created a platform that brings together exceptional instruments, their owners and some of today's foremost violinists. To mark the Club's fifth anniversary, Gstaad will host the first public concert of its kind. Together with Daniel Hope and selected members of The Del Gesù Club, David Garrett will present an evening centred on some of the world's finest historic violins. Audiences will not only experience the remarkable sound of these legendary instruments but will also discover the fascinating stories behind them and the artists who perform on them.

The Summit: Cultural Heritage and Historic Violins

Prior to the concert, The Summit—the Menuhin Festival Gstaad's new forum for dialogue between culture, society and business—will explore the cultural significance of historic string instruments. In the session "Cultural Heritage – The Case of Historical Violins," Marco Malagodi, Professor of Musicology at the University of Pavia and Scientific Director of the Arvedi Laboratory in Cremona, will discuss the cultural, scientific and historical importance of the world's most celebrated violins. The panel will take place during Summit Session IV on Sunday afternoon at the Grand Chalet Balthus in Rossinière, offering a fascinating prelude to the evening's concert and an in-depth perspective on the enduring legacy of the great Italian violin-making tradition.

Special Ticket Offer for Concertgoers Under 25

To give the next generation the opportunity to experience this extraordinary charity concert, the Menuhin Festival Gstaad has reserved a special allocation of tickets for audiences aged 25 and under. These are currently the only tickets still available for the concert. Under-25 tickets are available for CHF 30. Reservations can be made by email at tickets@menuhin.ch with proof of age.