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Musica Maestra: With Alondra de la Parra

It's still rare to see a woman conducting an orchestra. But female conductors do exist – and one of them is Alondra de la Parra. Although the Mexican maestra is not yet 40, she's already conducted some of the best orchestras in the world. Since 2017, she's been Music Director of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in Australia. As well as the standard classical repertoire, she believes it is important to familiarize audiences with the work of South American composers. To this end, she's even founded her own orchestra. Alondra de la Parra also doesn't shy away from cooperation with pop and rock musicians. In the series Musica Maestra she introduces some of the artists she has performed with in the concert hall or on stage.

01 Alondra de la Parra in Paris and Budapest

In Paris, Alondra de la Parra talks to members of Ensemble Recoveco. The Venezuelan-Colombian group combines Baroque and classical music with jazz and samba. In Budapest, she meets the violinist Barnabás Kelemen, who is renowned for his masterful technique.

02 Alondra de la Parra in Zurich

After performing Mozart together in Zurich, Alondra de la Parra talks to the Canadian pianist Jan Lisiecki. He may be very young, but he is already regarded as one of the best pianists in the world.

03 Alondra de la Parra in Monaco

In Monaco, Alondra de la Parra conducts works by the Mexican composer Silvestre Revueltas. She then rehearses with and talks to the Brazilian musicians Yamandú Costa (guitar) and Ernesto Fagundes (percussion).

04 Alondra de la Parra in Bamberg and Stockholm

After a concert with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, Gautier Capuçon talks about the joy he feels playing the cello. In Stockholm, Patrick Raab and Johann Bridger introduce Alondra de la Parra to playing the marimba.

05 Alondra de la Parra in Brisbane

The Australian composer and conductor Joe Chindamo has written a new piece for his daughter, the vocalist Olivia Chindamo. After 23 years on the stage, the Spanish ballerina Zenaida Yanovsky prepares for her farewell performance. She'll be accompanied by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, led by Alondra de la Parra.