

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Alena Hron will be the first woman of the Prague Spring Debut**

Alena Hron will be the first woman in the ten-year history of the Prague Spring Debut format for young conductors. Tonight's concert with the Prague Symphony Orchestra will be held at the Prague City Hall. The concert with the Prague Symphony Orchestra FOK will take place at 8 pm in the Rudolfinum. The soloist of the evening will be cellist Tomáš Jamník, the winner of the 2006 Prague Spring performance competition and one of the most prominent contemporary artistic figures on the Czech music scene.

*“We dedicate the Prague Spring Debut to the most promising young conductors whose talent, musical qualities and artistic potential we are deeply convinced of,”* says the Prague Spring Director Pavel Trojan, who as a young conductor was entrusted with the first ever Prague Spring Debut in 2014. The tradition was initiated by the then president of the festival's artistic board, Jiří Bělohlávek.

*“Alena Hron will perform an ingeniously constructed programme combining Sergei Prokofiev's popular ballet Romeo and Juliet, the symphonic poem Roman Pinia, in which the Italian composer Ottorino Respighi evokes the eternal city with a rich play of colours, and Capriccio for cello and orchestra by the 20th-century Czech classical composer Jan Novák,”* says Josef Třeštík, the Prague Spring's Programme Director

*“My goal as a conductor is to be the best possible mediator between the score and the final sound of the piece. I am very happy that the FOK Orchestra is a great partner in this. I would say that the orchestra and I “fit together” and I am very pleased with the cooperation,”* says Alena Hron.

*“Novák's composition is not a concerto in the sense of a fierce struggle between soloist and orchestra, but a capriccio in the true sense of the word,”* says the soloist of the evening Tomáš Jamník. *“It is a whimsy that allows the audience to forget about the events outside the hall and to join us in a joyful musical adventure filled with ideas and wit,”* he adds.

The Prague Spring Debut's platform enables the most promising young conductors to collaborate with the best orchestras in the country and thus gain invaluable experience



and the opportunity to showcase their artistic qualities. At the beginning of their developing careers, Pavel Trojan, Marek Šedivý, Jiří Rožeň, Robert Kružík, František Macek and Marek Prášil, for example, made their debuts at Prague Spring. The Czech conductors were joined by two winners of the conducting competition in Besançon, France - Jonathon Heyward and Ben Glassberg.

Alena Hron had already conducted a number of symphony orchestras during her studies, including the PKF-Prague Philharmonia, the Hradec Králové Philharmonic, the North Bohemian Philharmonic Teplice and the Pilsen Philharmonic. Since 2022 she has regularly collaborated with the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra Ostrava (JFO), with which she has recorded the complete orchestral works of Vítězslava Kapralová. She co-founded the chamber choir Punkt, which under her direction won several awards at prestigious international competitions.

In the upcoming season she will tour Berlin and Paris with the JFO, give an opening concert with the South Bohemian Philharmonic, debut with the Czech Radio Symphony Orchestra, give a family concert with the Brno Philharmonic and guest perform with the Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic again, this time thanks to an award at the 27th International Music Festival Talentinum Zlín 2024.

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Photographs of the Prague Spring 2023 concerts are available here:  
[https://bit.ly/PJ2023\\_foto](https://bit.ly/PJ2023_foto)

Photographs from the festival concerts can be found [here](#).