

PRE-SUMMIT TEXTS - *Peter Eriksson*

Who are you?

I'm musician, viola player and chairman of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in Stockholm, a member of the Concert Hall Foundation Board and for 25 years member of the Stockholm Concert Hall Programme Council.

Since 1986 I am the founder and still artistic director of Saxå Chamber Music Festival. A festival of good national reputation.

I'm President of the Association Sweden Festivals, which gained increasing importance in the Swedish cultural landscape.

I, along with others, started a platform in the festival cooperation on the Nordic and Baltic region.

As a passionate chamber musician, I see it is important that new music will be available and that young musicians get a good education and support. Therefore, I have engaged myself as the head of the Music School at the Immanuel Church in Stockholm.

In 2011 I was elected as a member of the board of EFA. In 2011, I was awarded His Majesty the King's Royal Medal for recognition of eminent skills in the artistic field.

If your festival was a human being, what would it be most proud of?

The festival would be proud to create a meeting place for common cultural experiences in an inspiring environment. I am firmly confident that the festival, as it is designed, creates networks and significant experiences for the whole community.

Further, the festival offers professional musicians a network and gaming opportunities to create together with others in creative forms.

Inter-national/cross-national cooperation a necessity for the arts, the artists and your audiences. Do you agree?

As a professional musician, I am convinced that communication and exchange both nationally and internationally are of great importance. It inspires, enriches and transforms. Today, not least, the importance of cross-border understanding of what unites us as people here on earth. It is important for human value.

