



PRESS RELEASE

5 September 2018

Violinist Janine Jansen wins Johannes Vermeer Award 2018



© photo by Marco Borggreve

5 September 2018 | The Minister of Education, Culture and Science, Ingrid van Engelshoven, has designated violinist Janine Jansen as the recipient of this year's Johannes Vermeer Award, the Netherlands' annual state prize for the arts. The jury, chaired by Els van der Plas, voted unanimously to nominate Janine Jansen. She will receive the award for the phenomenal way she performs. The presentation ceremony will take place on Monday 29 October 2018 in the Ridderzaal Hall at the Dutch Parliament complex in The Hague.

The jury praised Janine Jansen for her entire international career. "Her musical interpretations display real genius and gain unanimous admiration and respect from audiences and fellow musicians. Janine's talent, quality, dedication, commitment, and love for the vocation of violinist make her a true global star. Janine Jansen is also a role model for young musicians."

A lightning career

Janine Jansen took the Netherlands by storm in 1997 with her debut at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw. Her performance with the Philharmonia Orchestra in London in

2002, conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy, marked her breakthrough into an international career. A few years later she opened the BBC's First Night of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall and in 2014 she was a Featured Artist at the Proms, giving five performances. For fourteen years Janine Jansen was the artistic director of her own International Chamber Music Festival in Utrecht.

Last season she was Artist in Residence at New York's Carnegie Hall. In the 2018/2019 season, Janine Jansen will be performing with, among others, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (conducted by Valery Gergiev), the London Symphony Orchestra (conducted by Sir Simon Rattle) and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra (conducted by Bernard Haitink). Her love of chamber music is reflected in a European tour with pianist Alexander Gavrylyuk, performing in Amsterdam, London, Berlin, Munich, Vienna, Brussels, and Barcelona.

A much-lauded musician

Janine Jansen has won numerous prizes including four Edisons, the Dutch Music Award, the Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik, the NDR Musikpreis, the Concertgebouw Prize, and the Royal Philharmonic Society's Instrumentalist Award. She studied with Coosje Wijzenbeek, Philipp Hirshhorn (at the Utrecht Conservatory), and with Boris Belkin. Janine Jansen plays the "Rivaz-Baron Gutmann" Stradivarius (1707), made available by the Dextra Musica collection. In 2002 she was the first Dutch soloist to conclude an exclusive contract with the Decca label, which has since released her CDs worldwide.

About the award

The Johannes Vermeer Award is the Netherlands' state prize for the arts. It consists of the sum of 100,000 euros, which the winner may use to fund a special project in his or her specific field. The Dutch government established the award in 2009, its aim being to honour and encourage exceptional artistic talent. The award is intended for artists working in the Netherlands and across all disciplines. The jury for this year's Johannes Vermeer Award consists of Els van der Plas (chairperson), Michel van der Aa, Annabelle Birnie, Jeroen Krabbé, and Jamal Ouariachi. The Johannes Vermeer Award will be presented to Janine Jansen by Ingrid van Engelshoven, Minister of Education, Culture and Science, on Monday 29 October 2018 in the Ridderzaal Hall at the Dutch Parliament complex in The Hague.

Note for editors, not for publication:

Jury guidance and overall coordination of the Johannes Vermeer Award have been entrusted to the Boekman Foundation, study centre in Amsterdam for arts, culture and related policy. The award ceremony and PR concerning the event are in the hands of LUSTR, an agency that organises cultural events and programmes in The Hague. For more information about the award, contact +31 (0)70 381 8106, info@johannesvermeerprijs.nl. For media requests, contact Michiel Klerken, +31 (0)624 896 077.