



Miloš Karadaglić • Prom 25

Joby Talbot: Guitar Concerto

‘I wanted fireworks of sound and expression, and no compromises!’ Guitarist Miloš Karadaglić had high expectations of the brand-new Guitar Concerto written for him by British composer Joby Talbot. And he’s thrilled with the result. ‘It’s a really exciting piece, a very imaginative, programmatic work. Joby is a true magician of sound and colour, and working with him has been one of the most inspirational creative processes of my professional life.’

The two men met after Karadaglić heard Talbot’s score for the Royal Ballet’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. ‘It left me speechless and I was determined to find a way to work with him. His talent for spine-tingling intimacy and sweeps of extraordinary drama felt like the perfect match for the subtle but capricious nature of the guitar – and for my own style as a player.’

There was one technical issue that Talbot and Karadaglić had to resolve, however: balance. ‘We’ll carefully position speakers within the orchestra, so that the guitar sound feels amplified but natural – that way we can preserve a full orchestral size for maximum effect on stage.’

A hand injury has forced Karadaglić to take a break from playing since 2016. How does it feel to be back performing again? ‘That period was scary. But I’m returning to the stage renewed and re-energised, never more determined to follow my dreams and ideals.’