New international music competition in the Netherlands

Surprising Stars: a new European music competition in the Netherlands since 2017. Any European pop or jazz musician between the ages of 16 and 26 aspiring a career in music can join Surprising Stars. The competition is unique in its kind: it is completely operated online. Moreover, the final candidate will win a solo performance with the world-famous Metropole Orkest.

The aim of Surprising Stars, the online music competition for pop and jazz, is to boost the musical career of young musicians in Europe. Lonneke Regter (39 years old), founder and director of Surprising Stars: “Young musicians are surprisingly good at inspiring peers with their music on online platforms. In the Netherlands, a country known for its progressive music scene, we must encourage this. Hence why I have launched an online music competition. It is a great way for young musicians gain online visibility as well as opportunities for live performances. I am delighted that the Metropole Orkest has supported this initiative by offering the prize-winner a collaborative live performance during one of their concerts in the Netherlands. Undoubtedly, it is the dream of any young pop or jazz musician to play with this infamous orchestra.”

The 2018 edition of Surprising Stars has just been launched. Young musicians from all over Europe can enter the competition until the 16th of March 2018 via the website surprisingstars.com. This year’s prize-winner will perform live with the Metropole Orkest Big Band and American singer China Moses at Bimhuis on the 16th of May 2018. Last year’s prize-winner, Alim Kurtmemetov from Ukraine, will perform with the Metropole Orkest at the Amersfoort Jazz Festival on the 26th of May 2018. The festival is free to attend for all. For more information please visit www.surprisingstars.com.

Note to the press:
Surprising Stars is part of the European network GIVE MUSIC A FUTURE. This network consists of eight partners from European countries, and supports young musicians at the start of their career (http://www.emcy.org/projects/give-music-a-future.html).

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For interviews or additional information please contact Lonneke Regter, director of Surprising Stars: info@surprisingstars.com.