

Marialy Pacheco & Omar Sosa

„Manos“

After more than 15 productions for SKIP, does **Omar Sosa** still have surprises in store? He does, and how! This time in a newly found format where the performing presented on two concert grands brings him on an equal footing with one of the most talented pianists on the jazz scene, the Cuban virtuoso **Marialy Pacheco**. Journalist Thomas Kölsch described their concert held and recorded live at Beethovenhaus Bonn in striking words: **“Fingers whir across keys, give birth to darting notes, phrasings that vie with one another, entwining melodies – music that dances.”** It’s the dialog between two highly gifted artists, two kindred spirits who feint and parry, join forces to sound out the instruments’ possibilities, at times ecstatic, then reassembled to let the flow of emotions run free. While one rides with keyboard runs that pearl from the wrist, the other sets the harmonic foundation. In turn, while he uses frugally placed electronic effects to generate an almost hypnotic atmosphere, she’s the one who employs subtle impulses to find the way out into the next phonic space. The newspaper *Bonner Generalanzeiger* concludes its concert review with the words: **“It is a revelation what two exceptional pianists are able to achieve when they can simply let themselves go.”** The sound is extraordinary, authentic and one-of-a-kind. It stokes anticipation for their upcoming concerts this year. Among the readily confirmed dates are festivals with a wealth of tradition like **Jazz Baltica** way up north or the **Jazzfestival Aalen**, yet also venues such as the **Alte Sendesaal Bremen** or the large **Freilichtbühne** open-air stage in **Würselen**. Eagerly awaited are the concert dates still to be added when **Marialy Pacheco** and **Omar Sosa** set their dialog forth on two concert grand pianos.