PROGRAM: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12th 2015

6.00 PM Doors open

6.30 PM Pre-Talks:
Artistic Director Jan Bjeranger (1B1) and Creative and
Artistic Director Paola Prestini (National Sawdust) present
the cooperation between National Sawdust and 1B1.

Artistic Director Jan Bjeranger describes the ideas behind
the Holberg Variations recording, for which 1B1 received a
Norwegian Grammy.

CDs and LPs will be available for purchase.

7.00 PM Holberg Variations Part 1
The orchestra and piano versions of Edvard Grieg’s
Holberg Suite, Op. 40, performed by 1B1 and
Christian Ihle Hadland (piano).

8.00 PM Reception hosted by the Norwegian Consulate General
and the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce.
A greeting from The Norwegian Minister of Culture,
Thorhild Widvey.

Light refreshments and drinks will be served.

9.00 PM Holberg Variations Part 2, “Recomprimprovariations”
Improvised version of Edvard Grieg’s Holberg Suite +
Romanian Folk Dances by Béla Bartók, performed by 1B1
and Erlend Skomsvoll (piano).

OTHER EVENTS DURING 1B1’S NOVEMBER RESIDENCY:
November 11th, 1 PM: Bach @ One concert in St. Paul’s Chapel,
Trinity Church Wall Street

November 13th, 8 PM: The Great Beauty live score at National Sawdust

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1B1 AT NATIONAL SAWDUST, NEW YORK

The young and progressive Norwegian string ensemble 1B1 makes its debut at the National Sawdust venue. The residency includes concerts, recording sessions and a reception attended by the Norwegian Minister of Culture, Thorhild Widvey.

Working with National Sawdust Partners, Artists in Residence and Curators during its residency, 1B1 will accompany a screening of The Great Beauty (part of the Dillon Series) with live music, partnering with the Choir of Trinity Wall Street, and also work with composers Glenn Kotche, Gity Razaz, Andy Akiho and Paola Prestini, as well as percussionist Ian Rosenbaum.

On Thursday November 12th, the Norwegian Minister of Culture, Thorhild Widvey, will attend a reception to celebrate the musical partnership between 1B1 and National Sawdust and to highlight Norwegian music in New York, as promoted by the Norwegian Consulate General together with Music Norway. The reception will be co-hosted by the Norwegian Consulate General and the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce. The event will also mark the 100-Year Anniversary of the Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce.

During this evening, 1B1 will perform the entire album Holberg Variations, three versions of Edvard Grieg’s Holberg Suite, for which the ensemble received a Norwegian Grammy. The performance is a highly original tribute to Edvard Grieg, as 1B1 has teamed up with jazz musician and composer Erlend Skomsvoll and one of Norway’s most exciting pianists, Christian Ihle Hadland, creating new and updated versions of Grieg’s perennial classic the Holberg Suite.

1B1 was founded in 2008 by visionary violinist and pedagogue Jan Bjøranger. The orchestra was assembled from a pool of outstanding professional and student musicians from southwestern Norway – each marked out by a desire to learn, a willingness to work and a passion for music in all its forms.

From 1B1’s first public performance in 2008, its hallmarks were audible: a tight, smooth sound with a dash of fizz and noticeable sense of rhythm – of groove. Never, Bjøranger decided, would the desire to express emotion be sacrificed on the altar of perfection – whether the music was by Vivaldi, Mozart, Shostakovich or Reich. Taking the lead from rock, jazz and world musicians, the ensemble removes music stands wherever possible – eliminating the barrier between performers and fans.

Today, 1B1 still stands apart from every other orchestra in Norway. One week it might give a life-changing performance of Handel’s Messiah with high school students who have never heard a live orchestra before, let alone sung with one. The next it might travel to Germany to perform in Berlin, Dresden and Leipzig. In 2016, 1B1 will return to New York for a two-week residency at National Sawdust in May, and to perform at the Celebrate Brooklyn Festival, premiering Paola Prestini’s Hubble Cantata and a specially commissioned work by Terry Riley.

1B1 now records for the microphones of Simax and BIS. In addition to Holberg Variations, a CD of Bach and Telemann Concertos for Viola and Bassoon has also been released on Simax Classics. A CD featuring works by Chiel Meijering performed by Dan Laurin and 1B1 has been released on BIS.

Recently, the ensemble was chosen as the first recipient of a major grant from Talent Norway AS, in co-operation with the Kavli Trust, Sparebankstiftelsen SR-Bank and Cultiva.