



# HAUSER

ANNOUNCES NEW SOLO ALBUM

## CLASSIC

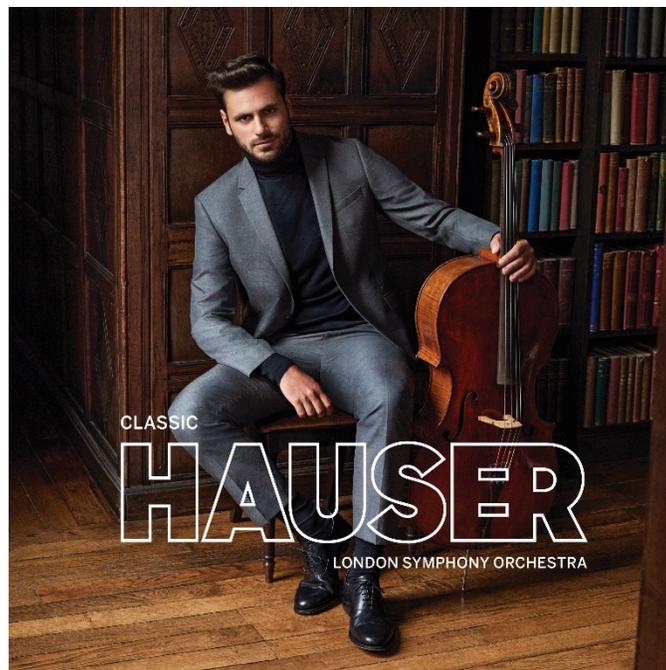
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**NEW YORK, NY (January 10, 2020)** – From performing in sold-out arenas across the globe as one-half of renowned duo 2CELLOS to striking out on his own and making his Sony Classical solo debut, **HAUSER** continues the momentum of 2019 into the New Year, today announcing the **February 7** release of his new album **CLASSIC**. Available for [preorder now](#), *Classic* includes some of the most beloved classical melodies ever written, each a personal, longtime favorite of HAUSER he’s carefully curated and rearranged for the cello. Making its debut today is one of these iconic melodies, Puccini’s incredibly emotional aria “**Nessun Dorma**,” which has been taken to new heights by HAUSER’s cello – [listen here](#).

“It’s simple,” says HAUSER when asked to describe *Classic*. “It’s the most beautiful, the most romantic melodies ever written in classical music – by the greatest composers – played on the cello, the most beautiful and romantic instrument of all.” HAUSER could hardly be blamed for calling each of the compositions on *Classic* “the most iconic” or “the most beautiful” or “the most romantic” melody in classical music. Because they are. Working alongside arranger Robin Smith and producer Nick Patrick, HAUSER has adopted these immortal compositions for the cello, letting them sing as never before with help from the London Symphony Orchestra.

The resulting timelessness of *Classic* is further exemplified by the album’s lead offering, an interpretation of Tchaikovsky’s masterpiece “**Swan Lake**,” which HAUSER introduced alongside a stunning video showcasing his imitable performance style – [watch here](#). “Simple choice,” he says of the excerpt from Tchaikovsky’s ballet *Swan Lake* that opens *Classic*. “I don’t think there’s a person who hasn’t heard it and doesn’t recognize it. You play it, and it’s like, ‘Ah, yes – ballet, Tchaikovsky.’ The melody is iconic. And I love the way it showcases the cello with orchestra, when they play the melody together. The same thing is true of the excerpt from Tchaikovsky’s *The Nutcracker*.”

Another ravishing Russian melody – the **Nocturne** from **Borodin’s String Quartet** – is also known to the public as the song “And This Is My Beloved” from the Broadway musical *Kismet*. “It has real Russian soul, and it’s so dramatic,” HAUSER says, adding, “It really doesn’t get better than this.” The moonlit reverie of the melody from the slow movement of **Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2** has already yielded a classic pop ballad – Eric Carmen’s “All by Myself” – but the soulful sound of the cello adds another dimension to its appeal. “People will know this melody,” HAUSER says, “even if they don’t know where it comes from.”

The composer most represented on *Classic*, not surprisingly, is Mozart. “He wrote so many unbelievably beautiful second movements that I had a hard time choosing,” HAUSER says, “but we selected the slow movements from his **Concerto for Clarinet** and **Piano Concerto No. 21** – both so simple and touching. Also, the ‘**Lacrimosa**’ from the Mozart *Requiem* – one of the saddest melodies ever written, and one of the last he wrote. You don’t need a whole choir to sing it. The cello sound is so moving here.”

Opera is represented on *Classic* by the most robust and popular of all tenor arias, Puccini’s “**Nessun Dorma**,” as well as Handel’s heartbreaking “**Lascia Ch’io Pianga**” from his opera *Rinaldo* and the surging, passionate instrumental “**Intermezzo**” from Mascagni’s opera *Cavalleria Rusticana*. If the song “**Caruso**” is not technically a classical tune, it evokes the memory of the great Italian tenor Enrico Caruso, and it has become a favorite of contemporary operatic tenors. “It’s one of the best-known songs from Italy,” HAUSER notes, “and singers love to perform it. No one had done it yet on the cello, though, and it’s perfect instrument for this beautiful melody.”

*Classic* also features crossover compositions – James Last’s enduring instrumental standard “**The Lonely Shepherd**” (heard on the soundtrack of Quentin Tarantino’s *Kill Bill: Volume 1*) and a more recent favorite, “**River Flows in You**” by the South Korean pianist/composer Yiruma. The second lead offering from *Classic*, “River Flows in You” was debuted alongside yet another stunning visual, which features HAUSER drifting along the Adriatic Sea – [watch here](#).

HAUSER’s story begins as a very young child in the town of Pula, Croatia, where he found himself so transfixed by the sound of a cello that he was moved to gather whatever he could around him to try to *make* the instrument himself, in the hopes that he could learn its mechanisms and recreate that very same magical sound. His impatience to master the cello survived his childlike attempt to build one, as the dynamic young cellist has since rocketed to fame as half of the global, genre-busting musical sensation 2CELLOS. With the release of *Classic*, his first solo album for Sony Classical, HAUSER has realized maybe the best of all possible musical dreams that dazzled that little Croatian boy.

“This is what the world needs now – these melodies, this music, with soul and heart, performed on the cello,” HAUSER ultimately concludes about *Classic*. “I feel like I’m on a mission, because this world has gone crazy in so many ways. I hope I can touch and move as many people as possible. With the passion we put into it and the presentation, I think *Classic* can do that.”

## HAUSER – CLASSIC

### TRACKLISTING

1. Swan Lake
2. Rachmaninov 2nd Piano Concerto
3. Caruso
4. Air on a G String
5. The Nutcracker Suite
6. Concerto for Clarinet
7. Nocturne in C Sharp
8. Intermezzo (Cavalleria Rusticana)
9. River Flows in You
10. Lascia Ch'io Pianga
11. The Lonely Shepherd
12. Piano Concerto No. 21
13. Nocturne
14. Nessun Dorma
15. Lacrimosa
16. Adagio for Strings

### ABOUT HAUSER

The dynamic young cellist who rocketed to fame as half of the genre-busting worldwide musical sensation 2CELLOS, HAUSER now gears up to release his new solo album entitled *Classic*, set for release February 7 from Sony Classical.

Drawn to the cello as a little boy when he first heard it played on the radio in his native Croatia, HAUSER began to learn the instrument at the age of 8. His remarkable potential was recognized not long after, when he began an intense study of music, the cello and classical repertoire that eventually took him to London, Manchester and Boston for conservatory training. Upon graduation in 2011, HAUSER joined fellow cellist Luka Šulić to become 2CELLOS, creating a viral cello version of Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal," which catapulted the duo's global success.

In the classical world, HAUSER collected some 21 first prizes in prestigious national and international cello competitions, performing twice in London for Prince Charles at Buckingham and St. James's Palaces. He was also the last student to play for and perform with the iconic Russian cellist/conductor/humanitarian Mstislav Rostropovich. As a soloist, HAUSER has performed in many of Europe's greatest classical venues, including London's Wigmore Hall and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw.

The meteoric rise of 2CELLOS led HAUSER and Šulić to join Sir Elton John on tour globally, sign with Sony Music Masterworks and release five successful albums, as well as sell out arena dates around the world. As 2CELLOS, they have performed in iconic venues such as Rome's Colosseum, New York City's Radio City Music Hall, London's Royal Albert Hall, Italy's Arena di Verona, the Olympia in Paris, Tokyo's Budokan and the Sydney Opera House.

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HAUSER APPROVED PRESS IMAGE (CREDIT ROGER RICH): [DOWNLOAD](#)

**HAUSER – TOUR DATES – TICKETING INFO [HERE](#)**

**APRIL 2020**

Thurs, April 2	Paris, France	Salle Pleyel
Sat, April 11	Berlin, Germany	Tempodrom
Tue, April 14	London, UK	Barbican Centre
Thurs, April 16	Bucharest, Romania	Sala Palatului
Sat, April 18	Hurghada, Egypt	Soma Bay
Wed, April 22	Talinn, Estonia	Saku Arena
Tue, April 28	Budapest, Hungary	Budapest Arena
Thurs, April 30	Brussels, Belgium	Palais 12

**MAY 2020**

Wed, May 13	Amsterdam, Netherlands	AFAS Hall
Fri, May 15	Milan, Italy	Teatro degli Arcimboldi
Sun, May 24	Prague, Czech Republic	Tipsport Arena
Wed, May 27	Kiev, Ukraine	Ukrainia Palace Concert Hall
Fri, May 29	Moscow, Russia	Crocus City Hall
Sun, May 31	Warsaw, Poland	Torwar

**JULY 2020**

Sat, July 18	Sant Feliu De Guixols, Spain	Festival de la Porta Ferrada
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