



1 Auftritt der Berner Oberländer Musikgruppe «Tächa»
Performance by the group “Tächa” from the Bernese Oberland

Music from the stillness of the mountains

! The World Heritage Region has an unusual repertoire of modern musical forms of expression. One important example is the “Klanglandschaften” – “sound landscapes” – festival that takes place every summer in Blatten near Naters. The style of the groups performing there ranges from traditional and contemporary folk music to yodelling to jazz-rock.

Distinctive sounds can also be heard in the Bernese Oberland. The musician Ueli von Allmen, founder of the group “Tächa” (the dialect name of the bird known in English as the Alpine chough) and member of the children's music duo “Leierchischte”, has this to say about himself and his work:

“I grew up in the Lauterbrunnen valley. My music is closely connected to this landscape. It has a strong effect on people, because this is somewhere where you can still experience stillness. The source of my music is actually nothing other than the stillness of the mountains. The ‘Tächa’ use acoustic instruments, and I sing in dialect. The Tächa accordion certainly plays in a free and surprising way, just as the choughs fly. One distinctive thing about the ‘Leierchischte’ is the variety of our instruments, for example the alphorn combined with wooden spoons.

But however deep my roots, I am always open to other cultures. I keep up regular exchanges with music groups in distant countries. I understand tradition as something that changes over time. That's why I like to try out new, different styles of music from elsewhere.”