

PRESS RELEASE

Dresden, 5 April 2019

2019/2020 – The Dresden Philharmonic Introduces their new Concert Season

As of the 2019/2020 concert season the logo of the Dresden Philharmonic will undergo a change. The new logo conveys the symbiotic relationship between the orchestra and its concert hall, incorporating the shape of the concert venue into the logo itself. The idea was initiated by Chief Conductor designate **Marek Janowski** in an attempt to draw public attention to the link between the orchestra and its new hall. As a result the new logo highlights both the traditional importance of the resonating hall in conjunction with a future perspective.

Chief Conductor Marek Janowski

In his first season 2019/2020 as Chief Conductor and Musical Director of the Dresden Philharmonic Janowski will conduct a broad and diverse range of repertoire. The performance of Anton Bruckner's *Symphony No. 8* not only marks the inauguration of Janowski's new season as Chief Conductor but will furthermore showcase the maestro's deep and intricate knowledge of the piece. The following program, which features various choral symphonic works composed by Giuseppe Verdi and Luigi Dallapiccola, provides a stark contrast to its prior counterpart. Lovers of concertante opera will have the chance to hear the first act of Richard Wagner's *The Valkyrie* at the beginning of the season. The performance of *Fidelio* in the spring of the Beethoven Year marks yet another highlight of the season. Both *Fidelio* and the concertante version of the first act of *The Valkyrie* will feature excellent soloists and the MDR Rundfunkchor. In celebration of the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, Janowski, a known admirer of the composer, has dedicated a part of the year's program to his works. The maestro will combine performances of various Beethoven symphonies with performances of string quartets from the same creative period which will be performed by Quatuor Ébène. A further program is dedicated entirely to the „Father of the Symphony“, Joseph Haydn. In addition Janowski's interpretations of pieces by Anton Webern and Alban Berg will showcase the works of the Second Viennese School.

Focal Point

Beethoven - 250th Birthday

The celebration of the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth will manifest itself throughout the entirety of 2020 with a multiplicity of special events. Performances of his only opera *Fidelio* and the *Missa Solemnis*, which the composer proclaimed to be his best work, mark unique highlights of the year's program. In addition, the public will get the opportunity to see performances of all five of Beethoven's piano concertos in a single weekend. The ample links between his symphonies and string quartets will be showcased in shared concerts with Quatuor Ébène. Furthermore, the extraordinarily talented young soloist Maria Dueñas will perform Beethoven's *Violin Concerto in D Major* with the Dresdner Philharmonie. The anniversary year will come to a grand close with a performance of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*.

150th Jubilee of the Dresdner Philharmonie

2020 marks a very special year for the Dresdner Philharmonie. The program of the 2019/2020 season will be complemented by a symposium on the future of listening as well as keynote presentations on aspects from the history of the Dresdner Philharmonie. The highlight of the

season, however, is a week of festivities in November of 2020. In addition to a range of special events, concertante opera performances and the premiere of a work by Salvatore Sciarrino, conducted by Marek Janowski, headline the week's program.

30th Anniversary of the Fall of the Wall

On the 9th of November, the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Wall, the Dresden Philharmonie will present and provide a platform for discussion on works that were created in communist East Germany and deserve a revival and reevaluation. The highlight of this day will be the performance of Friedrich Schenker's *Sinfonie in memoriam Martin Luther King*. The premiere of the symphony in 1972 by the Dresden Philharmonic under the baton of Kurt Masur was considered scandalous and almost triggered an intense backlash. Guest acts include the Collegium Novum Zürich, outspoken supporters of the idea of an East modernity, and AuditivVokal Dresden who have scheduled their own programs for this day. In addition to the aforementioned events a variety of discussions, readings and visual art presentations await the attendees.

50th Anniversary of the Kulturpalast

On the 5th of October both the Kulturpalast and the Altmarkt will be transformed into venues for a variety of festive events. The MDR will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Dresden's cultural center with a jubilee gala that will be projected onto a large screen in the Altmarkt and broadcasted live on television. The concert hall will host performances by the Dresdner Philharmonie, the Dresden Philharmonic Choir, the Dresdner Kreuzchor, the Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Dresden and a range of guests. In addition, Dresdners will be able to watch a multiplicity of other acts perform on a large open-air stage. As of midday the Kulturpalast will open its doors to the public, presenting a variety of smaller-scale events in its foyers.

Guest Appearances of the Dresdner Philharmonie

Marek Janowski will conduct the guest performances of the Dresden Philharmonie in the Basilica in Ottobeuren, at the Kissinger Sommer festival and in the Cologne Philharmonie. The Dresden Philharmonie has been invited back to the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg now for the second time, where they will perform under the direction of Dennis Russel Davies. Krzysztof Urbanski will conduct the orchestra's three guest performances in Salzburg while Cristian Măcelaru will conduct the orchestra's guest performance in the Gasteig in Munich.

Artist in Residence: Anna Vinnitskaya

Since having won the renowned Queen-Elisabeth-Competition in Brussels in 2007 Anna Vinnitskaya has entered the league of the most sought-after concert pianists in the world. She will debut and conclude her residency with performances of Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No. 2* and Rachmaninov's *Piano Concerto No. 3*. Other performances of the Artist in Residence include a recital featuring Romantic works by Schumann, Chopin and Brahms that she will juxtapose with the harsh soundscape of Bartók's *Piano Sonata*. Alongside the Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Dresden and two pianist colleagues she will play concerts featuring two and three pianos in what will be a true „Bach marathon“.

Composer in Residence: Brett Dean

During the 2019/2020 season Brett Dean will showcase the diversity of his musical ability, appearing as a violist, composer and conductor alongside the Dresdner Philharmonie. The performance of his work *Amphitheatre - Scene for orchestra* will provide an upbeat to further performances of his compositions that are planned for the season. These include the German premiere of his piano concerto titled *Gneixendorfer Musik - eine Winterreise* as well as *The Art of Letter Writing*, a concerto for violin. *Intimate Decisions*, a composition for viola, will be performed by Dean himself.

Palast Organist: Iveta Apkalna

Upon invitation by the Dresden Philharmonic Iveta Apkalna, one of the world's leading organ soloists, has accepted the position of Palast Organist in the Kulturpalast during the 2019/2020 season. Under the baton of Marek Janowski she will play the rarely performed *Organ Concerto* by Paul Hindemith. She has also announced a solo program dedicated entirely to French organ music. Alongside Lithuanian accordionist Martynas Levickis, Apkalna will perform a program featuring works by Bach and a variety of baltic composers such as Pēteris Vasks. She will also play the organ part in the German premiere of Philipp Glass' *Symphony No. 12 „Logder“* as well as a concerto for organ by Lebanese-American composer Naji Hakim.

Guest Conductors and Soloists

A wide array of world renowned soloists and guest conductors will perform in the concert hall of the Dresden Philharmonie during the upcoming season. The Philharmonie is especially honoured to welcome David Zinman to the conductor's stand for the first time. Other debutants include Krzysztof Urbanski, Lorenzo Viotti, Rafael Payare, Louis Langrée, Jonathan Nott, David Afkham, Constantin Trinks, Jonathan Stockhammer, Stanislaw Kochanovsky, Joseph Bastian, Nuno Coelho, Roderick Cox and Nabil Shehata. The Dresden Philharmonic is happy to welcome back Markus Poschner, Andrey Boreyko, Dmitrij Kitajenko, Nicholas Collon, Cristian Măcelaru, Aziz Shokakimov, Tung-Chieh Chuang, Dennis Russell Davies and Krzysztof Penderecki, all long-standing partners of the orchestra, to Dresden.

The list of renowned soloists is a clear indicator of the excellence of the Dresdner concert hall with Frank Peter Zimmermann, Truls Mørk, Elisabeth Kulman, Bertrand Chamayou, Sabine Meyer, Gautier Capon and many others performing in Dresden during the upcoming 2019/2020 season.

German and World Premieres

Once again the upcoming season of the Dresden Philharmonic features a wide range of contemporary music. Brett Deans unique style of composition will be showcased in performances of a variety of his works including the German premiere of his piano concerto. Philipp Glass will presumably attend the German premiere of *Logder*, his 12th symphony, into which the composer incorporated excerpts of David Bowie song texts.

Education Projects

Musical education is a main driver of character growth. It is precisely this belief that has caused the Dresden Philharmonic to expand their offers to resonate with a larger group of people, especially with schools and young people. The Dresden Philharmonic will offer schools additional time slots for school performances and is intensifying its partnership with the 139. Grundschule in Dresden-Gorbitz. The institution will grant more opportunities to school classes to listen in on rehearsals and have members of the Dresden Philharmonic visit classes at local schools. Another facet of the education program encompasses organ concerts for young people and the planning of joint concerts with the Symphonic Youth Orchestra of Dresden at the Heinrich-Schütz Conservatory.

There are currently six family concerts featuring Sarah Willis and Malte Arkona planned for the upcoming season in which families can enjoy music together. Further family concerts are currently in planning.

Philharmonic Choirs

Next year the Philharmonic Children's Choir Dresden under the direction of Prof. Gunter Berger will host the International Children's Choir Festival which is currently under the auspices of Marek Janowski (28th of April until the 3rd of May 2020). In October 2019 the choir will embark on a tour of the United States and Canada. Alongside their performances the choir will engage in local get-togethers and workshops.

During Advent the Philharmonic Children's Choir will perform Günter Neubert's popular musical fairy tale *Die Weihnachtsgans Auguste*. The traditional concerts on Christmas Eve will feature festive Christmas songs from around the globe and readings of atmospheric texts by Frauke Roth, General Manager of the Dresdner Philharmonie.

In addition to the aforementioned performances the Philharmonic Children's Choir will partake in the jubilee gala of the 50th anniversary of the Kulturpalast as well as the performance of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* - a project in the Kulturpalast that was initiated by the Music Council of Saxony. The Philharmonic Choir Dresden will also be involved in the performance of *Carmina Burana*. In addition, the Philharmonic Choir can be experienced in an open-air performance of Beethoven's *9th Symphony* during the „Filmnächte am Elbufer“ event and performing a composition by Lithuanian composer Pēteris Vasks alongside Palast Organist Iveta Apkalna. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Fördervereins-Orchester of the Dresdner Philharmonie, the choir is putting together a program for the „National Brotherhood Week“ in March 2020. The highlight of this event will be the presentation of the Buber-Rosenzweig-Medal.

In the course of a concert that will take place during the third edition of the Dresdner Choir Day the winners of the Advancement Award of the State Capital for Dresdner Amateur Choirs will be honoured in the concert hall of the Dresdner Philharmonie.

Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra. The anniversary program includes classic works from the repertoire for chamber orchestra as well as two contemporary compositions. Iveta Apkalna will be performing the solo organ part. The ensemble will also accompany Artist in Residence Anna Vinnitskaya in a program solely featuring works by Bach.

Jazz, World Music, Music and Literature

The program of the Dresden Philharmonic is by far not restricted to traditional philharmonic repertoire. Special program points include combinations of film and live music, literature and music as well as jazz and music from all over the world.

The tradition of enriching a silent movie with live music will not be missing from the program this year, with the Dresden Philharmonic accompanying a screening of Charlie Chaplin's movie *Goldrush* in the Kulturpalast. Harry Potter fans young and old rejoice, for the Dresden Philharmonic will be performing the original John Williams film score from the movie *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Upon an invitation that was extended to the Jerusalem Quartett by the Dresden Philharmonic the ensemble, along with Hila Biaggio, will perform songs from the Yiddish cabaret scene in Warsaw that existed in the 1920s. The Trio Helix from Prague will fuse music and text in a German-Czech dialogue, while actress Suzanne von Borsody will bring the mysterious persona Frida Kahlo to life in a multimedial reading.

Michael Wollny, Philharmonix - The Vienna Berlin Music Club and the Taksim-Trio from Istanbul are only a few of the many more highly anticipated international artists who diversify the program of the 2019/2020 season of the Dresdner Philharmonie. Another guest performance features Martin Grubinger and his Percussive Planet Ensemble. After their previous successful performances in the Kulturpalast both the Israeli mandolinist Avi Avitai and his trio Between Worlds and Anoushka Shankar and her ensemble have announced that they will return for the 2019/2020 season. The German premiere of Philip Glass' new symphony including excerpts from David Bowie's song texts will feature the African singer Angélique Kidjo.

Organ Concerts in the Kulturpalast

The inauguration of the „Eule-Organ“ in the new concert hall of the Kulturpalast has sparked the public interest with regard to further concerts. After two seasons of working with Parisian organist Olivier Latry, who will return as a guest for the 2019/2020 season, Lithuanian organist Iveta Apkalna has been selected to be the Palast Organist for the upcoming season. Apart from that listeners will get the chance to hear Holger Gehring, organist of the Dresden Church of the Holy Cross, who will perform repertoire from the 19th century. Finally, renowned French organist Thierry Escaich will wring in the New Year with his performance on the last day of 2019.

Kurt Masur Academy

The Kurt Masur Academy of the Dresden Philharmonic will begin its third season in 2019. The Academists will perform two concerts which will feature their own selection of repertoire.

Cooperation with the Central Library and Cabaret Theatre in the Kulturpalast

The cooperation with the municipal libraries will continue throughout the 2019/2020 season with various program points focusing on the relationship between literature and music. Andreas Steinhöfel, a well-known author of children's stories, will read one of his texts in an event that simultaneously features orchestral works. *Wortbilder und Klangfarben* is a program series for children and families alike that will take place in the event room of the central library, where the Dresden Philharmonic regularly introduces the audience to the respective concert programs. The venue will also host a symposium for the jubilee year.

The cabaret theatre Die Herkuleskeule in the souterrain of the Kulturpalast will, for the first time, open the doors to its venues for chamber music concerts of the Dresdner Philharmonie. The concerts will be accessible to subscribers of the traditional chamber music concert series. The *After Concert Lounges* series with select conductors and soloists will also be continued.

Open Air

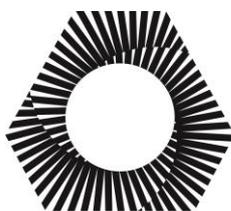
The Dresden Philharmonic will open and close their upcoming season with open-air concerts. The orchestra will perform on the Theaterplatz as the final act of the „Canaletto“ town festival in Dresden. In true philharmonic fashion, the orchestra will also perform at the Klassiknacht in restaurant SchillerGarten am Blauen Wunder at the end of August 2019. During the „Filmnächte am Elbufer“ event in July 2020, the anniversary year of the orchestras founding and 250th anniversary of Beethovens birth, the Dresden Philharmonic will perform Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* under the baton of Markus Poschner.

Additional information about starting times and copyright free photo material for ongoing media coverage can be found in the „press downloads“ section of our homepage:

www.dresdnerphilharmonie.de/presse/downloads

For any international press enquiries, please contact:

Schimmer PR, Bettina Schimmer
Auf Rheinberg 2, 50676 Cologne, Germany
landline: +49-(0)221-16879623 // mobile: +49-(0)172-2148185
bettina.schimmer@schimmer-pr.de
www.schimmer-pr.de



**Dresdner
Philharmonie**