



**Dresdner
Philharmonie**



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Press release
Dresden / March 18, 2021

One year of Corona – The Dresden Philharmonic looks back on 2020

A loyal audience. New digital offerings, CD recordings and radio concerts. And 90 percent of the available seats has been sold. The Dresden Philharmonic looks back on a year of Corona.

Artistic Director **Frauke Roth:**

"For orchestras and concert halls, the Corona pandemic is a historic turning point. But what has been shown above all, and will certainly be engraved in the collective philharmonic memory, is that only as a team, only when a principal conductor like Marek Janowski, the management and the orchestra all pull together, can such a situation give rise to something of high artistic quality and, in some respects, something new. With that in mind, we look forward to the coming weeks and months with tautness, but also confidence."

The Dresden Philharmonic has used the Corona constraints to establish new formats, to develop new digital and analogue formats with a sustainable hygiene concept to enable events with the public in the concert hall. Where „normal“ concerts were not possible, CD productions (“Fidelio”, Schubert’s “Great” Symphony in C major and its “Unfinished”) were realized. Some of the concerts were broadcast on the radio. Live streams became a reality for some projects (Haydn-Hindemith concerts in June 2020, “150 Years of Dresden Philharmonic” on 29 November 2020). The concerts with an audience sold 90.5 percent of the available tickets, the programmes that had been scheduled until the end of January 2021 and concerts cancelled due to a second lockdown had also been sold out. The newly established projects such as 1:1Concerts and mini concerts in care and social institutions were able to reach new and/or other audiences (phil_zu_zweit; phil_unterwegs). The online formats (#weiterhören) were met by great interest, especially in the first lockdown. However, the time individual visitors spent on the website/social media post indicates that digital formats cannot fully replace the experience of a live concert as can be deduced from click rates and audience reactions.

Verdi’s “La Traviata” is currently being recorded for CD, conducted by Daniel Orén with Lisette Oropesa, Lester Lynch, other renowned soloists and the choir of the Saxon State Opera. A recording of Belcanto arias with Lisette Oropesa and the Dresden Philharmonic is to follow in early April. On 26th March 2021, Deutschlandfunk Kultur broadcasts a concert with works by Martinů, Kabeláč and Dvořák under the baton of Tomáš Netopil. Two concert programmes under the direction of chief conductor Marek Janowski will also be recorded for radio in mid-April.

A resumption of concertswith an audience is not foreseeable at the moment, appropriate conditions (compulsory testing, contact tracking, adjustment of the number of seats, etc.) are currently being examined and a corresponding access concept is being developed.

Overview:

Normal operation: 01st January to 13th March 2020

First lockdown resp. no events with audience: 14th March until 17th June 2020

Limited concert operation with up to 490 visitors and open-air concerts: 18th June until 31st August 2020

Restricted concert operation with up to 800 visitors: 1st September until 1st November 2020
Second lockdown: from 2nd November 2020 until the end of the year (and beyond)

Data on events as of June 2020:

Number of events of the Dresden Philharmonic (excl. phil_unterwegs and 1:1Concerts): 129 visitors (excl. phil_unterwegs and 1:1Concerts): 59,180
Sales: 90.5%

Special projects:

Summer Serenades (Film Nights): 4 concerts with 3,149 guests
Streaming Festive Concert 29. 11. 2020: 14,000 views

Musical education:

Peter und der Wolf: 4 concerts with 3556 guests
Family and Children's Concerts: 7 with 6735 guests
Rehearsal visits: 3 with 105 pupils
Musicians at school: 15 with 724 pupils

Data on new formats and digital formats:

(#weiterhören)

phil_unterwegs: 34 performances, mostly with multiple repetition of the programme

1:1Concerts: 272 concerts and people

phil_zu_zweit (44,000 views), online rehearsal (15,000 views), Christmas clip with Malte Arkona (8,000 views)

Total approx. 400,000 views on the new formats offered, time people spent on the site: mostly between a few seconds and four minutes.

Pictures (free of charge) of "La Traviata" can be download here (Copyright: Mordent Media):

[Photo 1](#): Daniel Orén with Orchestra

[Photo 2](#): Concert hall with orchestra and choir

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