

MOZARTFEST
WÜRZBURG





»Mozart is not a fair-weather composer, one who composes just for the good times. When the founders of the Mozartfest Würzburg inaugurated the festival one hundred years ago, that thought must have been in their minds.

Culture is hardly ever one-dimensional. Culture is diversity and encounters! Culture explores, disturbs, is recalcitrant and transcends boundaries.

In culture, we need society to talk about itself. We need that at all times.«

German Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Excerpt from the speech he gave at the opening ceremony of the Mozartfest 2021

FOR
100
YEARS



»A beautiful, magnificent city,« is how Mozart expressed his enthusiasm during his visit to Würzburg in 1790. Who would contradict him? The baroque Residenz – a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site since 1981 – is the hallmark of Würzburg and the cradle of the Mozartfest. For 100 years, art and culture lovers from all over the world have been mesmerised by the symbiosis of music, space and aesthetic experience.



FOR 100 YEARS

The Kaisersaal – the resplendent face of the Mozartfest. Since 1921, star conductors like Karl Böhm, Rafael Kubelík, Sir Colin Davis, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Hartmut Haenchen (photo) and many more have turned Würzburg into a podium of contemporary Mozart interpretation.

International stars of classical music in a princely ambience

100 years of Mozart in Würzburg – 100 years of continuity. Today more than ever, the Mozartfest takes place in the Residenz and the pedestrian zone, in informal lounge formats and in intellectual discourse. What began as the Mozart Week in the 1920s has in the 21st century evolved into a prestigious music festival, long since feted as a premium brand in the cultural sector.



First steps towards a great career: Ever since it began, the Mozartfest has offered a stage to up-and-coming soloists. Martha Argerich (photo) was eighteen years old when she made her debut at the Mozartfest.





»It is not so much the architectural megalomania, the sheer size and intricate details which make the Residenz Würzburg stand out from all other baroque palaces in Germany. Rather it is the consistent layout, the harmonious expression of one central idea by the architect Balthasar Neumann which renders this monumental building so unique. The missing link to turn it into an integral piece of art is music. And for a century now this has been provided by the Mozartfest Würzburg.«

Stephan Schwarz-Peters

Oper!

FOR 100 YEARS



Since it re-opened in 1967 to the sounds of Bruckner's 7th symphony, the Kiliansdom has been the place to explore Bruckner. With »Bruckner im Dom«, the Mozartfest continues the highly regarded Würzburg concerts of the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, conducted by such maestri as Joseph Keilberth, Günter Wand, Giuseppe Sinopoli and Herbert Blomstedt.

Family get-together for chamber music: Jörg Widmann and the Schumann Quartet, both former artistes étoiles at the Mozartfest, seen making music together on the stage of the Kaisersaal to mark the centenary in 2021.

»Renewal« – In 2020, Year One of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Mozartfest spotlighted the relevance of music in times of crisis. BR live stream from the Kaisersaal with artiste étoile Reinhard Goebel.





NEW WAYS OF ENJOYING MÓZART

At different venues, in unfamiliar formats but under one condition: The music has to enchant the audience. Since 2014, the »Jupiternacht« has brought the Mozartfest to a brilliant conclusion, opening horizons within and for new musical worlds.



Beyond classical listening habits

What do you mean, classical? Mozart in Würzburg is more than just concerts performed in the Residenz. His music also finds its place in the present-day lives of the curious, those who like to experiment and those discovering classical music for the first time. It's the inspirational interaction that's exciting. So it's not infrequently the dialogue between the old and the new that makes classical music a contemporary art-form. The Mozartfest embraces every opportunity to explore new approaches to Mozart.



Different ways of listening create fresh approaches to music. Concert formats beyond the bounds of accepted convention enable people to access familiar music in new ways.





Mozart in tune with the times:
»Zauberflöte reloaded« put
Mozart to the test: How does
his music relate to our present?
At the world premiere in 2018,
the event brought together
the musical worlds of classical
music, street art, rap and hip-hop.

»For 100 years now, the Mozartfest Würzburg has been shining an ever-fresh, illuminating light on this all-too-well-known classical composer.«

Peter Krause
Concerti



Mozart in a different light and a new environment.

Monasteries, palaces, well-groomed parks and even Lower Franconia's picturesque hilly countryside all play their part in the Mozartfest. Uniting cultural heritage and natural beauty, the entire region represents a unique factor in the event.





Joseph Lange
Wolfgang Amadé Mozart
am Klavier
Wolfgang Amadé Mozart
Playing the Piano
Öl auf Leinwand / Oil on canvas, 1789

Söllberg, Internationales Stiftung Mozarteum,
Inv.-Nr. 000.281



HEAR, SEE, UNDERSTAND

IMAGINE MOZART | MOZART BILDER was the title of an exhibition held as part of the 100th Mozartfest last year that brought renowned works of art from different centuries to Würzburg and illustrated the transformation that images of Mozart have undergone from the 18th century right up to the present time.

HEAR, SEE, UNDERSTAND

Scrutinise, discover, explore the depth of profundity

Anyone wishing to discover new lands has to venture into uncharted territory. Music speaks for itself, but help may be necessary to ensure that its messages are heard, and to give it a suitable platform. The Mozartfest provides opportunities for finding out more, for questioning, for exploring the depth of profundity. With events which enable music lovers to mingle with professionals, the Mozartfest enters into contemporary discussions on the value we ascribe to art and culture and their vital role in our world.



New experiential realms are opened up in Würzburg. The Mozartfest helps people to engage intensively and individually with musical and artistic backgrounds on different levels in the form of exhibitions, PopUp events, discussions, seminars, experimentation, and much, much more.



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Papageno kommt aus Friesland
herunter, hat auf dem
Rücken eine große Vogelfeder,
die hoch über den Kopf
steht, wenn es verschlafen schläft
und auch fällt er mit
beiden Händen ein Faanen-
Füßchen, pflöht und singt.

Papageno



a b c d e
f g h i j k
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A B C D E
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PAPAGENO

von Claus-Martin Schaller

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Papageno

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The heart of the Mozartfest:
In the midst of the ongoing
festival, the MozartLab offers an
open sanctuary for exploration,
discussion, experimentation and
for simply trying things out.
It invites not only art scholarship
winners but also audiences to
indulge in passionate research
on and with Mozart.



Mozartfest debriefing: Results from Würzburg's intensive engagement with Mozart are featured in highly regarded publications.

»The philosophical work, which has taken on a major role in Würzburg's recent Mozart summers, is intended to provide inspiration – not least for the joy people find in music.«

Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht

in the lecture he gave as part of the »How much Mozart do people need?« series

NEARNESS THROUGH MUSIC





Whether young or old, from near or far, whether professionals or laypersons: In Würzburg, Mozart speaks to everybody, opening up an experiential realm that creates nearness. At regular intervals, for example, the »Der blaue Eumel« (»The Blue Thingie«) culture truck goes out into the city, the countryside, to the people.

Mozart? In Würzburg a festival for everyone

The Mozartfest, this is not an elitist occasion, but a platform for encounters. Here, bridges are built – into the midst of society. Music can reach everyone, is the firm conviction. Coming together through Mozart, that is the proposition. Participation is the keyword. Cooperative alliances with regional institutions from the fields of culture and education take up the wish for togetherness and carry it further.



Getting to know international stars up close? That is one of the Mozartfest's aims! And since Würzburg's audiences give the performers such a warm welcome, the artists are always pleased to return. Diana Damrau here seen talking to concert-goers.







On the traditional Mozarttag, squares, lanes and businesses are turned into stages for Mozart and much more. Ensembles from the entire region transform Würzburg's city centre into a vibrant open-air concert hall, carrying the music right into the heart of Würzburg.

»The Mozartfest blends with Würzburg's cityscape to create a background of sound which is not fully appreciated until it suddenly stops ... It is all about demonstrating authentic vitality and sending out signals ...«

Gerald Felber
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

A music festival across all sectors of society. All of Würzburg shows a wholehearted commitment to the Mozartfest – a response which was deemed worthy of a prize in itself. In 2021, the Mozartfest won the coveted Opus Klassik Award in the category »Special Prize for Audience & Participation Projects« with its »100 für 100« ideas competition: one hundred ideas, one hundred times inspired by Mozart for one hundred years of Mozartfest!







»Without Mozart and his music, something indispensable and irreplaceable would be lacking in our view of ourselves and the world we live in, in the options we have for expressing it.«

German Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier

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www.mozartfest.de

