



LUCERNE FESTIVAL

Media Release

The 2019 Easter Festival | 6–14 April 2019

Harpichordist and conductor Emmanuelle Haïm to be artist-in-residence featured in two concerts

Opening with the Petits Chanteurs à la Croix de Bois

Verdi's Requiem with Teodor Currentzis and the musicAeterna Orchestra and the Chorus of Perm Opera

Orchestral residencies: the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra with Iván Fischer and Bernard Haitink, as well as soloists Janine Jansen and Till Fellner; the Filarmonica della Scala under the direction of Riccardo Chailly with the pianist Denis Matsuev

Lucerne, 29 October 2018. Following tradition, the first half of the 2019 Easter Festival will take place in Lucerne's churches, with a focus on sacred music. It will open in the Jesuitenkirche with one of France's most famous boys' choirs, the Petits Chanteurs à la Croix des Bois, who will sing a program ranging from Gregorian chants to Mozart's *Alleluia*. The French harpichordist and conductor Emmanuelle Haïm, who brings her ensemble Le Concert d'Astrée, will appear as artist-in-residence, performing early sacred and secular instrumental music from all over Europe at the Franziskanerkirche; at the KKL Luzern, she will then present arias, duets, and instrumental movements from various operas by George Frideric Handel on a second evening titled "Desperate Lovers" and featuring the soloists Sandrine Piau and Tim Mead. And top-class local ensembles will also be heard, including the Collegium Vocale zu Franziskanern, conducted by Ulrike Grosch, and the Junge Philharmonie Zentralschweiz with the Akademiechor Luzern under Howard Arman.

Major symphonic highlights in the KKL Concert Hall are scheduled for the Easter Festival's second half. Teodor Currentzis returns to Lucerne with Giuseppe Verdi's Requiem, which will be performed by the musicAeterna Orchestra and the Chorus of Perm Opera and the soloists Zarina Abaeva, Hermine May, and Tareq Nazmi. The Filarmonica della Scala will offer a Russian evening under the baton of Chief Conductor Riccardo Chailly: on the program are Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in B flat minor, with keyboard virtuoso Denis Matsuev as the soloist, and Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* in the orchestral version by Maurice Ravel. The Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, which celebrates its 70th birthday this year, will be led by two conductors. On their first evening, Iván Fischer will combine two symphonies by Wolfgang Amadé Mozart with the First Violin Concerto by Béla Bartók, which will be performed by the Dutch violinist Janine Jansen. And for the Easter Festival's final concert, Bernard Haitink, who will have just celebrated his 90th birthday in March, will conduct the BR Symphony in Wolfgang Amadé Mozart's Piano Concerto in C major, K. 503, with the Austrian Till Fellner as the soloist, concluding with Anton Bruckner's Sixth Symphony.

Additional information about ticket sales may be found at www.lucernefestival.ch.

Main Sponsor – Zurich Insurance Company Ltd

Contacts for Press and Public Relations

Nina Steinhart, Head of PR | n.steinhart@lucernefestival.ch | t +41 (0)41 226 44 43

Katharina Schillen | k.schillen@lucernefestival.ch | t +41 (0)41 226 44 59

Hauptsponsor

