



Media Release

A New Top-Class Partner for Lucerne Festival: The Kühne Foundation to Begin Its Role as a Main Sponsor in 2020

Lucerne, 5 September 2019. The non-profit Kühne Foundation, which has been a sponsor of Lucerne Festival since 2008, has decided to intensify its cooperation going forward. Starting in 2020, the Kühne Foundation will be active as a Main Sponsor of Lucerne Festival. This relationship is set to run initially until 2022.

While the Lucerne Festival Orchestra will be the focus of this cooperation, other projects are also envisaged as part of the arrangement for the Kühne Foundation's support. At a media conference held at noon today, the Festival's Executive and Artistic Director Michael Haefliger, Prof. Dr. h.c. Klaus-Michael Kühne, President of the Kühne Foundation, and Riccardo Chailly, Music Director of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, announced the new partnership and discussed current challenges and opportunities in cultural sponsoring.

"It is a great honor to have secured the Kühne Foundation as a Main Sponsor of Lucerne Festival," observed Michael Haefliger. "The Foundation's social and cultural commitment is leading-edge, and with the Kühne Foundation as our partner, I am proud to be able to further develop the Lucerne Festival Orchestra as well as other Festival projects in line with our new strategy for 2020."

Prof. Dr. h.c. Klaus-Michael Kühne, President of the Kühne Foundation, stated: "My Foundation fulfills its sociopolitical responsibility through numerous funding programs, which above all include research and training in logistics and medicine as well as support for cultural institutions and undertakings in Europe. Through our commitment in the area of classical music, we hope to reach out to people who have an interest in art and to offer them cultural experiences at a high level. This is why we will support Lucerne Festival going forward and, in particular, the Lucerne Festival Orchestra under the internationally recognized leadership of Maestro Chailly. We are delighted to be able to expand the cultural commitment of the Kühne Foundation in Switzerland with a long-standing partner."

About the Kühne Foundation

The non-profit Kühne Foundation, which is headquartered in Schindellegi/Schwyz, was founded in 1976 by the Kühne family. It is an operative foundation whose President is Prof. Dr. h.c. Klaus-Michael Kühne. The Foundation's primary purpose is to support training as well as higher education and research in the areas of transport and logistics. It is additionally committed to a great extent to supporting projects related to medicine at its Davos campus.



Extensive research in the study and treatment of allergies is conducted at the clinic on this site perched high in the Alps. The Kühne Foundation also operates the clinic, which focuses on therapy and rehabilitation for those suffering from allergies and heart disease. In the cultural field, the Kühne Foundation provides support to festivals, opera houses, and concert halls in various European countries.

About Lucerne Festival

Founded in 1938, Lucerne Festival is regarded as one of the leading international presenters in the realm of classical music. Michael Haefliger has been Executive and Artistic Director since 1999. The world's most renowned symphony orchestras come to Lake Lucerne every year to perform at the Summer Festival. The Lucerne Festival Orchestra, which was founded in 2003 by Claudio Abbado and Michael Haefliger, attracts internationally acclaimed orchestral musicians to Lucerne every summer for a two-week period. Riccardo Chailly has been the orchestra's Music Director since 2016. An equally important priority is to nurture the next generation through the activities of the Young program and the Lucerne Festival Academy. The Academy, which was founded by Pierre Boulez and Michael Haefliger, has been helmed by Wolfgang Rihm as its Artistic Director since 2016. Former Academy students who have joined together as the Lucerne Festival Alumni network are active both in Lucerne and around the world, where they present high-quality concert projects. The Main Sponsors of Lucerne Festival in Summer are the Clariant Foundation (Theme Sponsor), The Adecco Group Foundation, Credit Suisse, Roche, Zurich Insurance Group, and, starting in 2020, the Kühne Foundation.

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