

Changes of Program and Musicians | Choral Concert 1 | 6 April 2019

Lucerne, 6 February 2019. Please note the following change for Choral Concert 1 of the 2019 Easter Festival 2019 on Saturday, 6 April:

The choir Les Petits Chanteurs à la Croix de Bois unfortunately had to cancel its participation due to organizational reasons. We are very pleased that we have been able to engage the Vienna Boys' Choir, one of the world's leading and most storied boys' choirs, who will perform on the Easter Festival's opening evening under the direction of Jimmy Chiang, Kapellmeister of the Vienna Boys' Choir.

The tickets retain their validity.

The new program is as follows:

Saturday, 6 April 2019 | 18.30 | Jesuitenkirche, Lucerne

Vienna Boys' Choir | Jimmy Chiang conductor

Michael Praetorius (1571 - 1621)

Jubilate Deo, six-part canon

Jacobus de Kerle (~1531 - 1591)

Sanctus and *Benedictus*, from *Missa Regina coeli* (~1562) for four-part choir a cappella

Hans Leo Hassler (1564 – 1612)

Cantate Domino, motet for four voices

François Couperin (1668 – 1733)

Jubilemus, exultemus from the motet *Veni, sponsa Christi*

Johann Joseph Fux (1660 - 1741)

Salve Regina, K. 257

Antonio Caldara (1671 – 1736)

Ego sum panis vivus, motet

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

Laudate Dominum from the *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, K. 339 (1780)
aria for soprano and choir

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 -1791)

Sub tuum praesidium, K. 198 (158b) for two sopranos

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

Laudate pueri Dominum, Op. 39, no. 2, motet for three-part treble choir

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

Hebe deine Augen auf ("Angel Trio") from *Elijah*, Op. 70 (1846)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

Auf Flügeln des Gesanges ("On Wings of Song") from Six Songs, Op. 34

Robert Schumann (1810 - 1856)

Zigeunerleben ("Gypsy Life"), Op 29/3

Engelbert Humperdinck (1854 – 1921)

Sandmann and *Abendsegen* ("Evening Benediction") from *Hänsel und Gretel*, EHWV 93

George Frideric Handel (1685 – 1759)

Barbara (*O cruel one!*), Oberto's aria from *Alcina*, HWV 34 (1735)

Arirang

love song from Gyeonggi-do Province in Korea (c. 1896)

Raghupati Raghav Raj Ram (*O Lord, Rama*)

Hindu bhajan from India

Richard Rodgers (1902 – 1979)

Edelweiss from *The Sound of Music*

Marc Shaiman (*1959)

Hail, Holy Queen from the film *Sister Act* (1992)

Photo download: <https://www.lucernefestival.ch/en/press/photos>

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The Vienna Boys' Choir

The Vienna Boys' Choir can look back over centuries of history. While the earliest reference to a boys' choir in the Vienna Hofburg Chapel dates from 1296, the official year of founding is 1498, when Emperor Maximilian I moved his court to Vienna. Up until 1918, the Choir, in which such composers as Joseph Haydn and Franz Schubert were trained, sang exclusively for the Imperial Court; the ensemble subsequently started performing for the general public. Since 1926, more than 2,500 Choirboys have undertaken approximately 1,000 tours in 98 countries. Today, the Vienna Boys' Choir is organized as a private association. Comprising about 100 active members, they are divided into four concert choirs that each spends 9 to 11 weeks of the school year on tour. Almost 300 performances take place annually before nearly half a million listeners. The Boys' Choir maintains a close relationship with the Vienna Philharmonic, in whose New Year Concerts they also participate, as they did most recently in 2016 under Mariss Jansons. They have also performed with Christian Arming, Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, and Simone Young. The Choir's repertoire ranges from the Middle Ages to the present and from motet to folk song and world music. 26 films and 17 TV documentaries covering the history and work of the Vienna Boys' Choir have been made. The members of the Choir are recruited from a group of about 300 children and young people who are students at the Vienna Boys' Choir's own school. About one quarter goes on to embark on artistic careers: examples include the opera singers Max Emanuel Cenčić, Herbert Lippert, and Georg Nigl and the conductors Helmuth Froschauer, Erwin Ortner, Peter Schneider, and Gerald Wirth, all of whom were first trained as members of the Boys' Choir.

The Vienna Boys' Choir makes its Lucerne Festival debut with this opening concert of the 2019 Easter Festival.

Jimmy Chiang conductor and pianist

A native of Hong Kong, the conductor and pianist **Jimmy Chiang** started learning piano at the age of four and was already appearing as a concert pianist at the age of 13; he later studied harpsichord, organ, cello, and composition. Seiji Ozawa and Leopold Hager rank among his mentors. After Chiang won first prize at the International Lovro-von-Matačić Competition in Zagreb in 2007, he was initially engaged by the Theater Lübeck. In 2009 he transferred to the Theater Freiburg as Kapellmeister, where he led a production of Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre* together with stage director Calixto Bieito. Chiang has been Kapellmeister of the Vienna Boys' Choir since 2013, where he directs the Haydn Choir, one of the four subgroups into which the Vienna Boys' Choir is divided. He has given concerts with this ensemble throughout Europe and has toured to the United States (including to Carnegie Hall in New York) and Canada several times. Chiang has regularly performs with the Vienna Boys' Choir in Asia, including on tours to Korea, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, and Japan, where he most recently prepared the Choir for a program of works by Salieri and Schubert conducted by Riccardo Muti. Chiang has collaborated as a guest conductor with the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León, and the Zagreb Philharmonic. He has made guest appearances at the Komische Oper Berlin, the Theater Heidelberg, and the Schlosstheater Schönbrunn in Vienna. In 2016 he made his debut as Artistic Director of the new Hong Kong – Vienna Music Festival conducting Gustav Mahler's Eighth Symphony.

Jimmy Chiang makes his Lucerne Festival debut with the concert on 6 April, 2019.