



Festival Theme of "Joy" | Beethoven Projects 2020 Summer Festival

"Joy": A Theme Inspired by Beethoven

The Summer Festival's theme of "Joy" is very closely associated with the great figure whose anniversary is being celebrated in 2020: Ludwig van Beethoven, whose 250th birthday the Festival is marking. Joy served as a leitmotif in Beethoven's life as a composer, one that he even linked with a political mission. In the finale of the Ninth Symphony, he pays homage to the idea of joy by setting the verses of Friedrich Schiller: "Your magic binds together what custom so sternly set apart. All humans become brothers where your gentle wing abides." Sharing the experience of joy together, as through the act of listening to his music, was for Beethoven a means to overcome society's divisions and to bridge the rifts between people of different origins, classes, and political convictions.

On the Visual Design for "Joy": What better way to translate the experience of this moment into visual terms than with the metaphor of irrepressible color? The visual motif for the 2020 Summer Festival shows colors exploding not only with force but in all their facets. After this single, fleeting moment, colored dust remains as a vague reminder of the unique event, and of the feeling of joy.

The Nine Symphonies

During the summer of the 2020 Beethoven Year, Lucerne Festival will present all nine symphonies. Yet the cycle has not been entrusted to just one conductor but to eight different ones. The aim is to show the range of Beethoven interpretations today, from historically informed practice to romantically inspired accounts.

Lucerne Festival Orchestra Riccardo Chailly	Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21 14.8.
Wiener Philharmoniker Gustavo Dudamel	Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 36 6.9.
Royal Concertgebouworkest François-Xavier Roth	Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major, Op. 55 <i>Eroica</i> 30.8.
Il Giardino Armonico Giovanni Antonini	Symphony No. 4 in B-flat major, Op. 60 3.9.
Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden Christian Thielemann	Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67 9.9.

Lucerne Festival Orchestra |

Yannick Nézet-Séguin

Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68 *Pastoral* | 22.8.

Lucerne Symphony Orchestra | James Gaffigan

Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92 | 27.8.

Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique |

Monteverdi Choir | Sir John Eliot Gardiner | soloists

Symphony No. 8 in F major, Op. 93

Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125 | 13.9.

Instrumental Concertos with International Stars

In addition to the complete symphony cycle, three of Beethoven's instrumental concertos will be heard, with three international stars as the soloists:

Martha Argerich | Lucerne Festival Orchestra |

Riccardo Chailly

Piano Concerto No. 1 in C major Op. 15 | 15.8.

Daniil Trifonov | Berlin Philharmonic |

Kirill Petrenko

Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37 | 2.9.

Anne-Sophie Mutter | Pittsburgh Symphony

Orchestra | Manfred Honeck

Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61 | 4.9.

Beethoven Cycle with Igor Levit: Concerts 5 and 6

Igor Levit continues his cycle of all 32 of the Beethoven piano sonatas, which he launched at the 2019 Summer Festival, with the fifth and sixth programs. His recitals in the summer of 2020 will include three of the most popular sonatas: the *Pathétique*, the *Tempest*, and the *Moonlight* sonatas. Some of the programs in this cycle present the works in chronological order, while in others Levit has arranged them according to other thematic criteria. The extent to which philosophical and political thinking is intertwined with his activity as a pianist is evident on Levit's social media channels as well as in his numerous interviews.

18 August | 19.30 | **Recital 1 – Piano** | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall

Igor Levit

Ludwig van Beethoven

Piano Sonata in D minor, Op. 31, no. 2 *The Tempest* | Piano Sonata in B-flat major, Op. 22

Piano Sonata in C major, Op. 2, no. 3 | Piano Sonata in C minor, Op. 13 *Grande Sonate Pathétique*

23 August | 11.00 | **Recital 3 – Piano** | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall

Igor Levit

Ludwig van Beethoven

Piano Sonata in D major, Op. 28 *Pastoral* | Piano Sonata in G major, Op. 31, no. 1

Piano Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 27, no. 1 *Sonata quasi una fantasia* | Piano Sonata in C-sharp minor, Op. 27, no. 2 *Sonata quasi una fantasia*

Beethoven Day on 30 August

Lucerne Festival is devoting the third Sunday of the Festival exclusively to the music of Ludwig van Beethoven with a special day-long marathon. The day begins at 11 am with two late string quartets (C-sharp minor, Op. 131 and B-flat major, Op. 130), performed by the Hagen Quartet. Afterwards there will be a musical-literary program in which Beethoven will be juxtaposed with two late works and poems by his contemporary Friedrich Hölderlin, whose 250th birthday is also being celebrated. There will be a Beethoven panel discussion in which experts will explore the theme titled "Historical?"



Experimental!" The Taschenoper Lübeck will present Beethoven's only opera, *Fidelio*, in a version for children, and the Royal Concertgebouworkest will perform the *Sinfonia eroica* and the *Leonore* Overture No. 3 under the direction of François-Xavier Roth.

For all event times, see pp. 54-61 of the Festival program

Hölderlin and Beethoven

In five events conceived exclusively for Lucerne Festival, the Summer Festival program will explore correspondences and connections between the late works of Friedrich Hölderlin and those of Ludwig von Beethoven. Both artists were born in 1770 yet never met each other in person. Text and music will be arranged into "composed" constellations in which word and sound cross-pollinate and thus open up new interpretations. The actor Michael Engelhardt will play a central role in all events. As a special project, he will work with 50 schoolchildren from the Canton School Alpenquai on Hölderlin's poems in choral speech form. These are poems that involve both Hölderlin's sense of rebellion and his love of nature.

29 August | 11.00 | Chamber Music 2 | Lukaskirche

Quatuor Diotima | Michael Engelhardt reciter

works by **Alex Nante**, **Rebecca Saunders** and **Ludwig van Beethoven** String Quartet in A Minor, Op. 132 and **Friedrich Hölderlin** *In lieblicher Bläue blühet*

30 August | 13.30 | Chamber Music 4 | Kunstmuseum Luzern

Pre-art soloists | Michael Engelhardt reciter

"Nachtgesänge verfugt" ("Songs at Night Plus Fugue")

Ludwig van Beethoven *Grosse Fuge* in B-flat major, Op. 133, arranged for ensemble by Matthias Arter (world premiere) | **Friedrich Hölderlin** *Nachtgesänge*

30 August | 15.30 | **Chamber Music 5** | Kunstmuseum Luzern

Stefan Wirth piano | **Michael Engelhardt** reciter

"Bagatelles"

Ludwig van Beethoven Six Bagatelles for piano, Op. 126 |

Friedrich Hölderlin *In lieblicher Bläue blühet* | late poems

30 August | **Performance** | Interventions all day long in and around the KKL Luzern

Schoolchildren from the Canton School Alpenquai | Michael Engelhardt conductor and reciter

"Freude for Future"

Lieder, Hymns, and Songs of Friedrich Hölderlin involving his sense of rebellion, critical attitude, and love of nature, chorally recited by youngsters

1 September | 18.20 | **40min** | KKL Luzern, Lucerne Hall

Young Students from the Canton School Alpenquai | Michael Engelhardt director and reciter

"Powerful Eloquence: Hölderlin's Choral Poetry" (in German)

2 September | 18.30 | Poetic Performance (in German) | stattkino Luzern

4 September | 20.30 | Poetic Performance (in German) | stattkino Luzern

"Sprache! Grosses Kino" ("Language! Great Cinema")

Michael Engelhardt recites Hölderlin

"Beethoven NINE!"



LUCERNE FESTIVAL

Lucerne Festival will execute this extraordinary Beethoven project in the summer of 2020 together with the Luzerner Theater. The concept is the brainchild of electronic artist Matthew Herbert and conductor André de Ridder, who will also take over the musical direction of the stargaze ensemble. The artists will bring Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, his "signature piece," into the streets of the City of Lucerne. A violinist alone will intone the first movement of the symphony in the KKL Lucerne, the Adagio will resound in an eight-channel sound installation as a cloud of sound on the Europaplatz, and the musicians will form an ensemble that moves through the city, joining with various Lucerne choirs to sing the famous choral finale of the symphony (the "Ode to Joy") in the Luzerner Theater.

28 August | 17.30 | **Performance** | Europaplatz, KKL Luzern, and Luzerner Theater

30 August | 15.00 | **Performance** | Europaplatz, KKL Luzern, and Luzerner Theater

Matthew Herbert concept and electronics | **André de Ridder** concept and Musical direction |
Esmeralda Conde Ruiz concept and chorus master | **stargaze** | **Choirs from Lucerne**
"Beethoven NINE!"

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