

**Riccardo Chailly and the Lucerne Festival Orchestra  
2020 Summer Festival****Concert programs to feature works by Beethoven, Mahler, and Rachmaninoff – with Martha Argerich and Denis Matsuev as this summer's soloists****Yannick Nézet-Séguin returns to guest conduct one concert this summer**

Following tradition, the Lucerne Festival Orchestra again opens this year's Summer Festival with Music Director Riccardo Chailly. On the program are Beethoven's Overture to *The Creatures of Prometheus* — a display of musical fireworks that will give the Festival a dazzling start, in keeping with the summer theme of "Joy" — followed by Beethoven's First Symphony and Gustav Mahler's First Symphony. Martha Argerich will join them on the following evening to perform Ludwig van Beethoven's First Piano Concerto. In the fall of 2015, she toured with the Lucerne Festival Orchestra to Ferrara and Paris; this will mark her first time collaborating with the ensemble in Lucerne. The Rachmaninoff cycle, which was launched last year, will be continued on the third evening of the Festival. In addition to the composer's Second Symphony, his Second Piano Concerto is on the program, with Denis Matsuev again this year at the keyboard.

This summer the Lucerne Festival Orchestra will revive its tradition of brass and chamber concerts. The Brass Ensemble will present a Late Night program in the KKL Lucerne Concert Hall. Yannick Nézet-Séguin returns to the podium as a guest conductor to lead a program of Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, the *Pastoral*, as well as Dmitri Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony, Op. 47.

In October 2020, the Orchestra will also go on its traditional fall tour — this time under the direction of Franz Welser-Möst. The tour will again take them to China. So far in its history, the Orchestra has toured under Claudio Abbado to many cities in Europe, as well as to New York, Moscow, Tokyo, and Beijing. The Lucerne Festival Orchestra went on a European tour with Andris Nelsons in the fall of 2015, and in October 2017 it traveled to Asia together with its new Music Director Riccardo Chailly for the first time, making stops in Japan, South Korea, and China. Through the Shanghai residency and additional concerts in China, the Orchestra continued to make itself known in East Asia in October 2018 and 2019, and in Europe it gave guest performances at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan.

**History of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra**

With the founding of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, which was introduced to the public for the first time in August 2003, the conductor Claudio Abbado and Festival Executive and Artistic Director Michael Haefliger instituted a link with the birth of the Festival in Lucerne in 1938, when Arturo Toscanini's legendary "Concert de Gala" brought acclaimed virtuosos of the era together to form a unique elite orchestra. Following this example, internationally renowned principals, chamber musicians, and music professors join with the core of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra every summer in Lucerne to form a top-grade ensemble. Until his death in January 2014, Claudio Abbado was the Artistic Director of this "orchestra of friends," as he himself termed it. In August of 2014 and 2015, the orchestra gave concerts under the direction of Bernard Haitink and Andris Nelsons that featured works by Johannes Brahms, Frédéric Chopin, Joseph Haydn, and Gustav Mahler. Riccardo Chailly has headed the Lucerne Festival Orchestra scene 2016.

Many of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra's performances over the past decade have been televised and later released on DVD or CD, winning such prizes as the Diapason d'Or, the BBC Music Magazine Award, and the International Classical Music Award. In 2019, the Opening Concert of the

2017 Summer Festival, featuring works by Richard Strauss, was released on Decca and a DVD of the all-Ravel program that was recorded live in Lucerne in the summer of 2018 came out on Accentus Music. Later this year, Accentus Music will release the Opening Concert of the 2019 Summer Festival on DVD.

**14 August | 18.30 | Opening Concert | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall**

**Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Riccardo Chailly** conductor

**Ludwig van Beethoven** Overture to *The Creatures of Prometheus*, Op. 43 | Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21

**Gustav Mahler** Symphony No. 1 in D major

**15 August | 18.30 | Symphony Concert 1 | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall**

**Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Riccardo Chailly** conductor | **Martha Argerich** piano

**Ludwig van Beethoven** Piano Concerto No. 1, Op. 15

**Gustav Mahler** Symphony No. 1 in D major

**15 August | 22.00 | Late Night 1 | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall**

**Brass Ensemble of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Steven Verhaert** conductor | **String soloists of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra**

**Johann Sebastian Bach** Shout for Joy from Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248, arranged for Brass Ensemble by Steven Verhaert

**Felix Mendelssohn** String Octet in E-flat major, Op. 20

**Richard Strauss** "Allegro con brio" from the Sonatine No. 2 in E-flat major for 16 winds *Cheerful Workshop*, Arranged for Brass Ensemble by Steven Verhaert

**18 August | 18.20 | 40min | KKL Luzern, Lucerne Hall**

**Principals of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra**

"Inside the Lucerne Festival Orchestra"

**20 August | 19.30 | Symphony Concert 4 | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall**

**Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Riccardo Chailly** conductor | **Denis Matsuev** piano

**Sergej Rachmaninoff** Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18 | Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Op. 44

**21. August | 18.20 | 40min | KKL Luzern, Lucerne Hall**

**Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Yannick Nézet-Séguin** conductor |

"Shostakovich's Secret: The Fifth Symphony"

**22. August | 18.30 | Symphony Concert 6 | KKL Luzern, Concert Hall**

**Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Yannick Nézet-Séguin** conductor

**Ludwig van Beethoven** Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68 *Sinfonia pastorale*

**Dmitri Shostakovich** Symphony No. 5 in D minor, Op. 47

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## **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