



LUCERNE FESTIVAL

Media Release

Lucerne Festival at the Piano ends with a very favorable overall result of 89% capacity*

Saturday, 26 November 2016. This year's Piano Festival concludes this coming Saturday with a total overall result of 89% capacity, which is 4 percentage points higher than in the previous year. A total of 17,400 concertgoers visited the nine-day-long Festival, of whom 11,900 attended the 13 concerts that were presented and some 5,500 attended the free events. The artistic program during this week devoted to the keyboard offered two orchestral concerts featuring the piano, seven solo recitals, three debut concerts, and one matinee of chamber music. These events were supplemented with piano lectures as well as a master class that included a finale concert in collaboration with the Hochschule für Musik – Luzern. The Day of the Keyboard on Sunday, 20 November, attracted the public to the KKL Luzern to enjoy a comprehensive overview of the Russian keyboard repertoire that included three recitals and a piano lecture. A total of 1,800 concertgoers attended on this day alone. In addition, some 5,000 jazz fans came to the free events offered by the Piano Off-Stage series in the bars of Lucerne, of whom 1,200 were in attendance at the opening event on 22 November at Lucerne Hall in the KKL.

Today, Saturday afternoon at 4 pm, brings the second part of the piano lectures given by Martin Meyer, which will focus on Alfred Brendel. And then this evening at 6.30 pm, Rudolf Buchbinder will appear on the KKL Luzern stage to perform a program of Schumann and Liszt. Tomorrow, on Sunday, 27 November, at 11 am, a chamber music concert with Lars Vogt, Antje Weithaas, Florian Donderer, and Tanja Tetzlaff and featuring works by Johannes Brahms will serve as the finale for this week of events in Lucerne which have been devoted to the keyboard.

This year the Piano Festival also provided a platform for such rising young international stars as Kit Armstrong, Andrew Tyson, and Louis Schwizgebel. Established young stars like Georgy Tchaïdze, Alexej Gorlatch, Nareh Arghamanyan, and Igor Levit gave performances, and major international stars including Grigory Sokolov and Rudolf Buchbinder were also on the roster in solo recitals, along with Maria João Pires, who partnered with the Basel Chamber Orchestra under Heinz Holliger, and Murray Perahia, who performed with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. The organist Cameron Carpenter made a special mark with his International Touring Organ, and Robert Levin, one of today's most acclaimed keyboard pedagogues and musical researchers, offered lessons during a five-day master class. Following the grand Off-Stage opening night, the jazz pianists Vince Benedetti (USA), Luca Filastro (Italy), Jean-Baptiste Franc (France), Christina Jaccard (Switzerland), Simon Mulligan (UK), Frank Muschalle (Germany), Ricardo Regidor (Switzerland), and Christof Sanger (Germany) made the traditional tour of appearances at Lucerne's finest hotel bars, where they played jazz to entertain night owls until late in the night.

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*Projected figure as of 26.11.2016