



BEETHOVENFEST BONN

Bonn, 2. September 2011

Performances, Exhibitions, Workshops and Concerts Enrich the Beethovenfest Bonn 2011

Significantly extended accompanying programme with 100 events

The Beethovenfest Bonn 2011 will host a total of 164 events, from 9 September to 9 October, under the motto "Music of the Future. Beethoven, Liszt and Innovation in Music". The accompanying programme was compiled by the Beethovenfest Bonn in co-operation with partners and institutions in the city, many of them long-standing, and international partners, significantly expanding it to 100 events. The accompanying programme includes concerts, readings, exhibitions, discussion rounds, film presentations, workshops and education projects. Many of the events are free of charge.

The **Post Tower Lounge concerts** have been a firm and popular part of the Beethovenfest Bonn's free accompanying programme since 2004. Many of the artists perform every year in the venues of the Deutsche Post DHL, one of the Beethovenfest's main sponsors. These include the three **Electronic Video Lounges** with live music, which were conceived by the video artist Michael Carstens together with the Beethovenfest. Herr Rössler & sein Tiffany-Ensemble will return, as will Marcus Schinkel Trio, to one of five **jazz matinees**. This year, the series "**Junge Bühne**" will give up-and-coming artists from Bonn the chance to gather stage experience in front of a loyal and open audience. National and international groups will perform during the **chamber music** evenings. It will be the fourth time the winners from the National Beethoven Competition for Young String Players 2010 from Bangkok have attended the festival. The performances of the artists from the Pop-Akademie Baden-Württemberg and the award winners of the Xpress Yourself! songwriter competition, hosted by Deutsche Post DHL, are also established acts at "**Post Tower Lounge goes Pop**". New among the 26 concerts that the Beethovenfest Bonn has come up with for the Post Tower Lounge are the formats "**Franz Liszt and his Russian Connexion**" as well as three other **performances**. The Russian musicologist and pianist Tatiana Rexroth has compiled literary-musical encounters by Franz Liszt and his Russian colleagues, under the headings "Eindrücke und Einflüsse" ("Impressions and Influences"), "Virtuosität und Spiritualität" ("Virtuosity and Spirituality") as well as "Geistlichkeit und Religiosität" ("Spirituality and Religiosity").

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Religiousness"). The Beethovenfest Bonn will pay special homage to Franz Liszt, the founder of the festival, on the 200th anniversary of his birth. For the "Performance" series, the Beethovenfest has compiled two evenings under the motto "Elektronik und Visuals" ("Electronics and Visuals") in co-operation with Institute for New Music at Cologne's Music and Dance Academy: the first audio-visual concert performance is based on sound material normally avoided in concert contexts, such as feedback loops, apparatus-specific sounds and manipulated signal paths. The second experimental evening will focus on 'old school' 9-bit games for the Atari games console and try to create connexions and associations with games. The **"Ad-hoc" prizewinners of the Bonn Silent Film Festival and the Beethovenfest Bonn** will celebrate their premiere in the Post Tower Lounge. This is the first time an "Ad-hoc prize" awarded for the best live performance by a musician or ensembles has been presented given at the International Silent Film Festival in its 27 years; in doing so the festival seeks to reward the ability to improvise. From the 13 artists and ensembles a jury has chosen the percussion duo Anja Wegmann and Christian Roderburg from Düsseldorf, who were best at capturing, through music, the action and mood of the silent film they were accompanying. The two "Ad-hoc" prize winners are given 1500 euros and will perform on 22 September in the Post Tower Lounge, where they will play live music to a silent film they will choose themselves.

In the sixth year, the Beethovenfest calls on young media producers participating in the short-film competition **"Look at Beethoven"** to visualize their approach to Beethoven in short films, installations and video clips. The contents chosen by the participants should focus on the festival motto; the Beethovenfest particularly wishes to support artistic documentaries and experimental film. Five projects were given prizes in the short-film competition; they were given 2000 euros to help with their production costs. Enrique Sánchez Lansch and the competition winners will present the award-winning films as well as films selected from all the other submissions at the "Look at Beethoven" premiere in the auditorium of the Kunstmuseum Bonn on 13 September.

The accompanying **film series** with musical documentaries will focus on the anniversary composers Liszt and Mahler, as well as on Murray Perahia and the "artist soul" in general in six performances. Ute Gebhardt's "Franz Liszt. Der Unvollendete" (10 Sept), Frank Scheffler's "Conducting Mahler" (17 Sept) and "Nicht von dieser Welt. Der Pianist Murray Perahia" by Holger Preusse and Claus Wischmann (6 Oct) can be seen in the studio of the Beethovenhalle. The Brotfabrik will show "Mahler auf der Couch" directed by Percy and Felix Adlon (13 Sept), Luchino Visconti's "Death in Venice" and "The Man from London" by the Hungarian director Béla Tarr (17 Sept).

After the great reception at the Beethovenfest 2010, the festival will once again hold **artist tours** in co-operation with the Kunstmuseum Bonn. The photographic collection of the Swiss Zellweger Luwa AG, which has never been shown publicly before, will also be on display until 25 September. Their approach to the conceptual photographs, which are primarily arranged in series, will be explained by director Enrique Sánchez Lansch and the violinist Julian Rachlin, who will be performing a Beethoven violin sonata cycle at the Beethovenfest Bonn.

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Erwin Stache, the Bonn **city-sound artist**, will also present some of his works as part of the Beethovenfest Bonn 2011. On 1 September the exhibition “sonotopia” opened in bars, kiosks and shops in Maxstrasse. In addition Erwin Stache invites us to make music together on the forecourt of the Frankenbad swimming baths in the north of the city with his ‘sound islands’ “53.1 kilohm”. A further sound island, a walk-on musical stage that features stainless steel pipes as sensors, can be found in front of the Beethovenhalle throughout the festival from 9 September to 9 October. In the Beethovenhalle, in the foyer of the chamber-music hall, Erwin Stache will set up the sound installation “Kuckucksuhrenorchester” (“Cuckoo-clock Orchestra”).

The musical community is celebrating the 200th anniversary of Franz Liszt’s birth, but the Beethovenfest has another reason to honour the great virtuoso and composer: in 1845 Franz Liszt organized a three-day music festival on the occasion of the inauguration of the Beethoven monument on Münsterplatz to mark the 75th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth. That was the first Beethovenfest. This first festival will be the subject of the exhibition “**Liszt – Bonn – Beethoven. Beginn einer Tradition**” (“Liszt – Bonn – Beethoven. Beginning of a tradition”), which will be on display in the chamber-music hall of Beethoven’s birthplace (Beethoven-Haus) in Bonn until 9 October.

The annual special exhibition in the Beethoven-Haus for this year’s Beethovenfest deals with the people Beethoven honoured by dedicating his works to them; Beethoven chose important people of public European life for patronage and financial independence. The **special exhibition “Freundschaftsgabe oder Kalkül? Beethovens Widmungen”** (“Friendship or calculation? Beethoven’s dedications”) is on display from 28 September 2011 until 26 February 2012. The exhibits can be seen during the opening hours of the Beethoven-Haus museum. A scholarly congress in the chamber-music hall will look at “Dedications in Haydn and Beethoven. People – Strategies – Practices” from 29 September to 1 October. The previous exhibition, on display until 25 September, will present “Beethoven’s string quartets” in his original manuscripts from the collection of the Beethoven-Haus.

There will be a further debate in the chamber-music hall of the Beethoven-Haus. On 27 September an acclaimed “**Quartett der Kritiker**” (“critics’ quartet”) will get together; the event is held in co-operation with the Beethoven-Haus Bonn and the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik (German Record Critics’ Prize). Peter Cossé from the Salzburger Nachrichten newspaper, Attila Csampai from Bayerischer Rundfunk, Sabine Fallenstein from Südwest Rundfunk and the freelance journalist Thomas Rübenacker will address CD recordings of Franz Liszt’s sonata in B minor, basing their concept on the “Literarisches Quartett” of the ZDF national TV network. This sonata, which Liszt dedicated to Robert Schumann, is considered to be one of the most demanding piano works by the virtuoso. Marc André Hamelin will perform it work after the debate. He will be awarded the Critics’ Prize during the event; in addition Simon Perry from the Hyperion label will award the Prize of Honour.

The magazine accompanying the Beethovenfest Bonn lists all of the 164 events of the main and accompanying programmes in chronological order.

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