



BEETHOVENFEST BONN

## Orchestra Campus organized by Deutsche Welle and Beethovenfest Bonn with an Orchestra from Hanoi

**The orchestra of the National Academy of Music Hanoi is coming to Bonn for a week  
for the Beethovenfest**

In this, the ninth year of the "orchestra campus" organized by Deutsche Welle and the Beethovenfest Bonn, the guest orchestra is from the Vietnam National Academy of Music in Hanoi. With its invitation to this Vietnamese college orchestra, the Beethovenfest is also showing that it has its finger on the political pulse. **2010 will see the 35th anniversary of relations between (West) Germany and Vietnam**, an event the Beethovenfest is honouring in advance this September. **Hoàng Tuấn Anh, the Vietnamese Minister of Culture, Sport and Tourism**, has agreed to become **patron** of the Orchestra Campus 2009.

The **Vietnam National Academy of Music in Hanoi** was founded in 1956, and is Vietnam's most important institution for training young musicians. Much energy was devoted to the promotion of the arts under the communist regime of North Vietnam, and the country's political closeness to the former Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China also allowed many young Vietnamese musical talents to study in Beijing and Moscow. The quality and intensity of musical life in Vietnam is higher, therefore, than in other states of south-east Asia. The two state conservatoires offer training in both traditional and Western music on the appropriate instruments.

The Vietnam National Academy of Music co-operates with musical training institutions throughout the world. Its orchestra goes on regular tours worldwide, and these are matched by visits of internationally famous orchestras and soloists to the Academy, where they give concerts and courses. The teaching body of the Academy also includes professors of international renown from Russia, Western Europe, North America and Japan. There are currently some 1,500 students; they come not just from Vietnam, but also from Russia, France, Japan, Germany, China, America, Cambodia and Laos.

Its high artistic standards mean that the National Academy of Music in Hanoi is seen as one of the best training grounds for new musical blood in Asia. Many of its

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graduates play in well-known orchestras, such as the Vietnam National Symphony Orchestra, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra.

Every year, the current year's "campus orchestra" at the Beethovenfest Bonn plays a symphony by Beethoven and works from the respective homeland. Every year too, Deutsche Welle **commissions an orchestral work** from a composer based in that country, to be performed for the first time at the campus concert. This year, Deutsche Welle has commissioned the young composer **Tran Manh Hung**, and Lê Chi Viên for violin and orchestra, the Poem Symphony will be premiered at the campus concert in the Beethovenhalle on 27 September 2009. The soloist will be 28-year-old Bùi Công Duy, who started his studies at the conservatoire in Ho Chi Minh City and, after pursuing them further in Novosibirsk and Moscow, returned to Vietnam, where he teaches at the National Academy of Music. Before playing this work the academy orchestra will be playing „Rhapsody of Viet Nam“ by Vietnamese composer Do Hong Quan. The academy orchestra, under the baton of the French conductor Claire Levacher, will be framing the Vietnamese works by Beethoven's "Coriolan"-overture and his Symphony no. 7 in A major op. 92.

Since 2002 the **workshop concert at the orchestra campus** has been run by the German conductor and music teacher **Peter Gülke**. In this context, he will prepare and rehearse a number of works with the young Vietnamese musicians, who are aged between 16 and 24, both in advance in Hanoi and, during the orchestra campus, in Bonn: Beethoven's Overture to Salvatore Viganò's ballet "The Creatures of Prometheus" op. 43 along with works of the Romantic period, namely Robert Schumann's Symphony no. 4 and Max Bruch's Violin Concerto no. 1, again with the soloist Bùi Công Duy. Peter Gülke will be conducting and presenting the campus workshop in the Beethovenhalle on 30 September.

The orchestra campus was first held at the Beethovenfest Bonn 2001 on the initiative of and in co-operation with Deutsche Welle. Following college orchestras from Kiev, Istanbul, Tiflis, Beijing and Kraków in 2001 to 2005, the guest in 2006 was the South African National Youth Orchestra, in 2007 the Cairo Conservatory of Music Orchestra and in 2008 the Anton Rubinstein Orchestra of the St. Petersburg Conservatoire.

The musicians attending the orchestra campus will stay with families in Bonn. The particular hospitality shown by the people of Bonn has promoted cultural exchanges at a very personal level in recent years, and often led to long-term contacts and relationships.

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