



B E E T H O V E N F E S T B O N N

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Young Beethovenfest and Beethovenfest for young listeners

Projects at the Young Beethovenfest, concerts with young artists and for young listeners

“Classical music is worthwhile for everyone.” That’s Daniel Hope’s conviction. Since he, as a touring musician, constantly experiences how young people in particular can be put off by the classical music ritual and rarely overcome this hurdle in order to witness a live performance, he has made it his job to break down barriers and prejudices. “We musicians have to make sure that a new audience develops so that we don’t have to start performing in empty concert halls,” says Hope, considering the increasing average age of concert visitors in “Wann darf ich klatschen?” (“When should I clap?”), his guide for concertgoers published in 2009. “We need many more new ideas of how to make musical performances more interesting and attractive for young people.”

The **student management project** of the Young Beethovenfest, which took place for the first time in 2009, is attractive. **Daniel Hope** immediately agreed to develop this project as it goes into its second year. His concert at the Beethovenfest Bonn 2010 will be organized by twelve students from seven of Bonn’s high schools. At the time when the teams were being selected by the Beethovenfest in January of this year, the only known variables were Daniel Hope as the artist, the date of the concert and the venue, the tram depot in Dransdorf. The student managers have eight months to find and commission a musician from the rock/pop field to perform with Daniel Hope under the motto “*BA Rock*”. In addition the young managers will negotiate budgets, acquire sponsors, commission agencies and technical companies, they will design flyers and their own website and they will be in immediate contact with the musicians to make sure the concert on the 18 September goes smoothly.

The **Young Beethovenfest** offers students from Bonn’s schools many further opportunities to experience a festival close up. For five years now it has been possible to experience a day “**backstage**” at the Beethovenfest in order to find out what it means to organize and hold a festival. A direct encounter with stars is made possible by the programme “**Wie kommt’s?**” (“How’s it done?”), during which, this

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year, Lisa Batiashvili and Mojca Erdmann will visit a school class and answer the interested questions the students will have about life as a musician. In “**Nachgefragt**” (“Interviewed”) the young people will conduct interviews with artists performing at the Beethovenfest such as Paavo Järvi, Marlis Petersen and Carolin Widmann. The conversations will usually be very different compared with those that take place between artists and professional journalists, some of them are printed in the local newspaper, the General Anzeiger Bonn, which the Beethovenfest has a media partnerships with.

For the first time apprentices under the aegis of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce for Bonn/Rhein-Sieg are offered being “**Jung und neugierig – Beethoven für Azubis**” (“Young and curious – Trainees for Beethoven”). Executives and board members of different companies from the region will attend a concert of the Beethovenfest together with their apprentices. In advance the apprentices will seek out their personal approach to the music in workshops. In addition they will receive a concert introduction specifically tailored to them. After the concert they will have a chance to meet the musicians.

Some of the artists making their first appearance at the Beethovenfest Bonn 2010 are only a little bit older than the participants of the Young Beethovenfest. **Kit Armstrong** called by his teacher Alfred Brendel an “exceptionally talented” pianist. Now 18, he gave his first concert aged eight and has since had an impressive career as a pianist and composer. At the Beethovenfest Bonn he will debut at Burg Wissem with works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Mozart, Schubert and one of his own works (30 Sept.).

Competition successes are for many young musicians the guarantee of international attention and publicity, and they often come at the beginning of a successful career. The Beethovenfest Bonn has been offering a stage for winners of international competitions with its **Prize-winner Concerts**. The first performance in this context will be by the winner of the Rostropovich Competition Paris 2009, the cellist **Dai Miyata**, with his piano accompanist Takuhiro Murayama. Dai Miyata is a graduate of the Toho Gakuen School of Music and has already won many awards in Japan. Since 2008 he has been participating in the project, unique in Europe, the “Chamber Music Connects the World” by the Kronberg Academy. At the Beethovenfest Bonn the 24-year-old will debut with works by Beethoven and Toshiro Mayuzumi (26 Sept.). Well-known in Bonn is **Hinrich Alpers**, winner of the first prize at the International Telekom Beethoven Competition Bonn 2009. The 29-year-old pianist did not just win the piano competition, he also won the competition’s special prizes for chamber music and the interpretation of a contemporary composition as well as the Favourites’ Prize of the Beethoven-Haus Bonn. In Bonn he will perform works by Schumann and Beethoven (27 Sept.). Schumann is also on the programme of the **Tecchler Trio**, founded in 2003, which won 1st prize at the ARD Musikwettbewerb 2007. At the Beethovenfest Bonn 2010 they will complete the cycle of the Schumann piano trios and they will also interpret works by Liszt and Saint-Saëns (3 Oct.).

The **Shchedryk Children’s Choir** from Kiev has also won international awards. This year it is appearing for the first time at the Beethovenfest Bonn. This children’s choir,

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famous for its crystal-clear sound, has won several prizes over its 38-year existence. Thanks to their professional vocal training the forty girls of the choir do not just have Ukrainian songs, but also classical choral music from all around the world in its original language in their repertoire (26 Sept.).

The **Taschen Oper Companie TOC** has once again developed a programme **for young visitors** at the Beethovenfest Bonn. Since 2008 the Companie has been introducing young audience members playfully to the world of classical music. This year Christoph Ulrich, as Beethoven, will accompany children aged between six and ten on a journey into space, demonstrating to his young audience in a playful manner Beethoven's love of astronomy (3 Oct.). For the same age group the **Mask and Music Theatre of Vienna**, together with musicians of the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, will give a different insight into the musician's life. Under the heading "Zu langsam, zu laut, zu glatt – die Solisten und der Beherrscher des Tempos" ("Too slow, too loud, too smooth – the soloists and the master of the tempo") the "jobs" of orchestral manager and soloist or conductor will be introduced (12 Sept.).

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