



BEETHOVENFEST BONN

Young Beethovenfest and Beethovenfest for young listeners

Projects at the Young Beethovenfest and concerts for young listeners

In his youth **Goran Bregović** was a rock star; aged 16 he formed his first band, “The White Button”. These days he tours with his **Wedding and Funeral Orchestra** as an ambassador of Balkan music. With this orchestra, he also performs film music that he composed himself. The **student managers of the Young Beethovenfest** are aged between 16 and 18 years, and they are the ones organizing Bregović’s concert at the Beethovenfest Bonn. The ten students from seven local high schools are now the third generation of student managers. The project has won several awards, amongst them the “Kinder zum Olymp!” Prize in 2010 and as one of the “365 Orten im Land der Ideen” in the early part of 2011. One of the student managers from 2010, the second year of the project, has now been appointed to sit on this year’s jury which awards the “Kinder zum Olymp!” Prize.

The student managers of the Young Beethovenfestes 2011 came together as a team in mid February. In the run-up to the concert on 17 September they will hold their own press conference, manage budgets, acquire sponsors, award contracts to agencies and technology companies, design flyers and their own website www.schuelermanager-beethovenfest.de and work closely with Goran Bregović to plan his premiere at the Beethovenfest Bonn in detail. In addition they will use social media platforms for the promotion of their project and the concert. They will load clips of their work onto YouTube, send tweets, and maintain their own facebook page.

The Young Beethovenfest offers students at Bonn schools many additional opportunities to experience the festival at close hand. For six years the offer has been available to experience a day at the Beethovenfest **backstage**, and to find out what is involved in organizing and carrying out a festival. The opportunity to meet the musicians is offered through the programme “**Wie kommt’s?**” (“**Hows does it work?**”), where the musicians visit a school and answer questions about an artist’s life by interested pupils. The youths have the opportunity to conduct interviews with performing soloists, conductors and chamber orchestra musicians at the project “**Questions**”. These interviews tend to run quite differently from the conversations between artists and professional journalists. Some are printed in the newspapers as

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part of the media partnership between the Beethovenfest Bonn and the local newspaper, the Bonner General-Anzeiger.

The project “**Jung und neugierig – Beethoven für Azubis**” (“**Young and curious: Beethoven for trainees**”) is on offer again for apprentices from Bonn and the surroundings. Managers and directors of various regional businesses attend a concert at the Beethovenfest with their apprentices. Beforehand, the apprentices can attend a workshop of their choice to learn a little bit more about an aspect of the music. In addition they receive an individually tailored introduction to the concert. After the concert they have the opportunity to meet the musicians.

For the first time ever school groups can **attend the rehearsals** of international orchestras in the Beethovenhalle. Before the visit the school group gets to learn about the particular piece. Students from Bonn who are learning the flute will be present during the rehearsal of the “14 Berliner Flötisten” and have the opportunity to meet and talk to the professional musicians afterwards.

As in 2010, there will be an **International Get-together**, as there was last year with the musicians of the Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela. The young musicians of the **National Youth Orchestra of Iraq** will meet students of the Tannenbusch-Gymnasium on 26 September and will play music with the school orchestra. On 22 September the young Iraqis will perform an exclusive concert for primary schools in Bonn.

The **Children’s Concerts** of the Beethovenfest Bonn are aimed at the same target audience. Since 2004 the members of the standing “Orchestra in Residence”, the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, have been introducing the young audience to classical music in a playful manner. This year, together with the “**Wiener Masken- und Musiktheater**” they are dramatizing the perils of the music business in the “Chaos Concert”, aimed at children aged between six and ten years of age (18 September). “Bienenkino” is aimed at the same age group. The **Ensemble Tetete** will be improvising the adventures of the animated bee Seppi and her friends (25 September).

The young people of Bonn have the chance to play music themselves during “**Bühne frei für Beethoven**” (“**Clear the stage for Beethoven**”) in the centres of Bonn and Bad Godesberg. This year the musical celebration will take place not during the opening weekend, but on 1 October, with over 1,000 school children and music students from Bonn taking part. The reason for the change of date is that the festivities for the North Rhine Westphalia Day and for the Day of German Unity are taking place in Bonn during the first weekend of October.

For students up to the age of 30 the Beethovenfest Bonn has a special offer with “**For 8 at 8**”. A certain number of tickets will be reserved for students at selected concerts (including all those at the Beethovenhalle). Students can, upon presentation of a valid student card, obtain a ticket to these concerts, which have the strap line “For 8 at 8”, for 8 euros (no advance sales).

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