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KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen
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Hannover, 26.05.2023 – Press release

The 14th edition of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen will end on Sunday, 28 May 2023, with a record number of visitors. Never before in the history of the festival of the state capital Hannover have more tickets been sold. On the closing weekend, visitors can expect performances of the theatre and music production *All right. Good night.* by Rimini Protokoll (Fri/Sat), the circus theatre production *Afternoon of a Hairdryer* for children and families (Sat/Sun), a concert by Bia Ferreira (Sat) and the inclusive dance performance *The Goldberg Variations* (Sun). Until Sunday evening, the installations in the Great Garden, in the Arne Jacobsen Foyer and in the Ihmepark can still be heard and seen. On Sunday evening, the KunstFestSpiele 2023 will end with a closing party after the last performance in the Festival Centre.

In total, around 20,000 visitors experienced the productions of the KunstFestSpiele in 2023 (extrapolation on 26 May, two days before the end of the festival). The capacity utilisation of all venues is around 86%. The best-attended production was Gustav Mahler's **8th Symphony** in the Kuppelsaal of the HCC with around 3,000 spectators. The installation **Happiness** by Dries Verhoeven in the Ihmepark attracted around 1,700 visitors. On KunstFestSpiele Day on 21 May, around 2,600 visitors came to the Herrenhausen Gardens, 1,615 of whom bought tickets for the KunstFestSpiele. Numerous events were sold out.

Ingo Metzmacher, Artistic Director of KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen: "With this year's edition, we are back on track for success as it was before the pandemic. It is now paying off that we offered a complete festival programme every year, even in the three difficult Corona years. As a result, we have been able to retain our audience and expand it further this year, which makes me very happy. It's incredible what the artists have brought to the stage this year and with how much enthusiasm they have been received by the audience in Hanover."

From 11-28 May, a total of 26 top-class productions from music, dance, film, theatre, contemporary circus and installation art were on the programme, including 10 German premieres. The venues of the KunstFestSpiele are located in the magnificent setting of the Herrenhäuser Gardens, which also became a stage themselves in 2023, and at various locations in the city centre.

Outlook for 2024 - Leonard Bernstein's "MASS" in the Kuppelsaal of the HCC

The 15th KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen will take place from 16 May to 2 June 2024.

The highlight will be Leonard Bernstein's **MASS: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players, and Dancers**, conducted by Ingo Metzmacher in the Kuppelsaal of the HCC on Sun 26 May. Leonard Bernstein composed the work for the opening of Washington's Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in 1971. It is designed as a spectacular Broadway service in Latin and English. The highly complex composition mixes elements of

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jazz and classical music with prayers and pop songs. The performance, conducted by Ingo Metzmacher in the Kuppelsaal, will feature soloists, the NDR Radiophilharmonie and nine choirs from Hanover.

Advance booking will start at the beginning of October 2023. The complete programme of the KunstFestSpiele 2024 is expected to be published in February 2024.

Tickets for 2023 can still be purchased online and by telephone, on site at the Künstlerhaus Hannover and at all known advance booking offices, as well as at the box office. Tickets entitle the holder to enter the Great Garden 2 hours before the start of the event. A 50% discount applies for young people.

Press photo material and the **accreditation form** for journalists can be found at www.kunstfestspiele.de/presse.

Further informationen unter www.kunstfestspiele.de

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Presented by the city of Hanover, capital of Lower Saxony



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