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KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen
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Hannover, 01.06.2024 – Press release

The KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen 2024 are glowing.

In 2024, the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen reached more people than ever before. This year, the programme of the international festival focused on non-European artists and events from diverse cultural traditions - and a large open-air work of art.

In total, around 20,000 visitors, many of them for the first time, experienced the productions of the 2024 festival of contemporary arts (projection one day before the end of the festival).

According to estimates, well over 75,000 people attended the open-air art installation Floating Earth by Luke Jerram on the Maschteich pond at Hanover's New Town Hall. Around 3,500 visitors used the KunstFestSpiele day on Whit Monday for a trip to the Herrenhausen Gardens. Overall, the capacity utilisation of the venues was around 86% and numerous events were sold out.

On the closing weekend, visitors can look forward to Katja Heitmann's participatory performance **Motus Mori RELIQUIEM** (few tickets still available), the queer, exuberant happening **A Revue** by Belgian director Benjamin Abel Meirhaeghe in the baroque Galerie Herrenhausen, the family-friendly circus production **Materia** by Andrea Salustri and the installation **Nzuko** by Emeka Ogboh in the Arne Jacobsen Foyer.

The **Floating Earth** by British artist Luke Jerram on the Maschteich was probably the most photographed work of art in Lower Saxony in recent weeks. However, it wasn't just the glowing globe itself that attracted the crowds, but also the supporting programme of concerts, readings and talks with numerous cooperation partners in the state capital.

„The outstanding visitor numbers speak for themselves and are a great success. This year's KunstFestSpiele has once again succeeded in reaching the hearts of Hanoverians. I thoroughly enjoyed the events I was able to attend and will never forget the magical image of Luke Jerram's Floating Earth on the Maschteich. My thanks for two and a half inspiring weeks go to Ingo Metzmacher and his whole team as well as the festival's sponsors.“

Eva Bender, Head of the Department of Education and Culture of the City of Hanover

One of the highlights of the KunstFestSpiele was the major musical work **MASS: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players, and Dancers** by Leonard Bernstein, which celebrated its Hanover premiere. Standing ovations lasting several minutes from the almost 2,500 visitors for the more than 400 participants, including nine choirs from Hanover and the NDR Radiophilharmonie, the American baritone Lucas Meachem and conductor Ingo Metzmacher, spoke for the enthusiasm of the audience throughout the festival.

Over 18 festival days from Thu 16 May to Sun 2 June, the 15th

1 June 2024

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edition of the KunstFestSpiele featured a total of 28 artistic productions, including five German premieres, with around 600 invited artists and choral singers. The cross-genre programme with concerts, dance and theatre, circus, performances and installations takes place around the magnificent Herrenhausen Gardens, in the domed hall of the HCC, at the New Town Hall and in the Schauspielhaus Hannover.

Outlook 2025

The 16th KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen will take place from 22 May to 8 June 2025 in Hanover. The grand final concert to mark the end of Ingo Metzmacher's 10-year directorship will take place on Sun 8 June 2025 at 11:00 in the Kuppelsaal of the HCC. Under the title **The Unanswered Question**, the NDR Radiophilharmonie, the HMTMH University Orchestra and Hanoverian choirs will sing and play works by the American composer Charles Ives under the musical direction of Ingo Metzmacher. Special guest soloist is the world-famous baritone Thomas Hampson. Advance tickets for **The Unanswered Question** go on sale in autumn 2024.

The complete programme of the KunstFestSpiele 2025 will be published in March 2025.

Tickets are available in advance online and by telephone, at the Künstlerhaus Hannover and at the box office. Students receive a 50% discount on all tickets (all discounts at kunstfestspiele.de/tickets).

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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