

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

PRESSE KIT

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05. März 2024

**KUNSTFESTSPIELE
HERRENHAUSEN**

www.kunstfestspiele.de

Die KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen
sind eine Veranstaltung der
Landeshauptstadt Hannover

Hanover, 05.03.2024 – Press Release

The 15th KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen open in May 2024 with a gigantic, accurate copy of the globe by the British artist Luke Jerram on the Maschteich in front of the Neues Rathaus. On 18 days from 16.05 to 02.06 Hanover's biggest international festival presents 28 productions with around 600 invited artists and choral singers. The multi-disciplinary programme of concerts, dance, theatre, circus, performances and installations takes place in the Herrenhausen Gardens, HCC Kuppelsaal, Neues Rathaus and Schauspielhaus Hannover. Advance booking for all events in 2024 opens today.

Festival director Ingo Metzmacher and chief dramaturge Rainer Hofmann, together with Eva Bender, the new head of Hanover's cultural department, introduced the programme of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen 2024 in the Neues Rathaus today. The festival productions, which include five German premieres among around 100 individual events, are characterised by new sounds, variety, surprises and artistic curiosity. From indigenous traditions to post-colonial debates, from large orchestral works to spectacular acrobatics, from children's theatre to retro-futurist opera, the KunstFestSpiele are the meeting-point of diverse cultural currents.

At the start of the festival, on the Whit weekend, two piano virtuosos meet in the Schauspielhaus for a historically charged ping-pong battle by the director Ming Wong. The Nigerian installation artist Emeka Ogbah transforms the Arne Jacobsen Foyer into a sonorous meeting place. Lia Rodrigues's dance company takes a stand against the destruction of indigenous habits with magical energy and joie de vivre in the DHC-Halle. And in the Galerie the celebrated cellist Abel Selaocoe combines Baroque music with his own compositions, which are rooted in his home country of South Africa. Whit Monday, 20.05, is KunstFestSpiele Day, and invitation to families to come and enjoy a concentrated and entertaining programme in Herrenhausen. From 16.05 onward (public opening at 9 p.m.) the art installation **Floating Earth**, by the British artist Luke Jerram, offers an outside view of the earth on the Maschteich, and stimulates reflection on the fragility and beauty of our planet.

The remaining programme also features outstanding international artists. They include the legendary Kronos Quartet, on a world tour to celebrate their 50th anniversary; the director Marta Górnicka, with a politically vibrant women's choir from Ukraine, Poland and Belarus; the New York choreographer Trajal Harrell, with his version of Keith Jarrett's legendary *Köln Concert*; the singer Mariana Sadovska, with traditional Ukrainian songs; Elle Sofe Sara, who explores the culture of the Sámi; the theatre practitioners Tim Etchells and Benjamin Abel Meirhaeghe; and Ingo Metzmacher and the GrauSchumacher Piano Duo pay musical homage to the composer Anton Plate, who died in 2023.

The concert highlight in 2024 is Leonard Bernstein's **MASS: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players, and Dancers**, conducted by festival director Ingo Metzmacher, with the Grammy

Award-winner Lucas Meachem, soloists from the jazz choir Vivid Voices, the NDR Radiophilharmonie and nine other Hanover choruses, in the HCC Kuppelsaal on 26.05. This spectacular Broadway religious service, with over 400 performers, is being performed in Hanover for the first time and combines jazz, classical music, gospel and pop into a moving plea for freedom and equality.

Eva Bender, new head of Hanover's cultural department since early March: 'The KunstFestSpiele programme once again shows how the festival brings outstanding and inspiring events to Hanover every year. This year's KunstFestSpiele are a reflection of our lively and open-minded city. Hanover is proud to offer such a platform for creativity and cultural interchange – for the entire urban community.'

Ingo Metzmacher, director of the KunstFestSpiele: 'The programme has never been so varied. We're showing productions full of the love of life, abounding in emotion and sensuousness, but also with social urgency. We're interested in direct experience, in the richness and power of art, in participation and empathy, in co-existence.'

The programme includes five performances with fantastical beings, acrobats and hip-hop dancers for families with children over 6 – every weekend features humorous and spectacular circus, dance and theatre. The club Feinkost Lampe is represented with three solo musicians and a band, all united in their political commitment. Events in connection with the installation **Floating Earth** on the Maschteich, in cooperation with the HAZ newspaper, the MusikZentrum, the Center of World Music and the Literaturhaus in Hanover extend the spectrum of the KunstFestSpiele.

Artists, audiences, the KunstFestSpiele team and garden visitors all meet in the festival centre at the entrance to the Herrenhausen Gardens. Thomas Friemel's freitagsküche takes care of refreshments, and in the series **Art & Cuisine** creates a supportive atmosphere for stimulating conversation, lively discussions and relaxation. The NDR presenter Friederike Westerhaus invites artists and audiences to join her for informal talks in the festival centre and at selected venues.

The tried-and-tested Festival Campus – sponsored by the Stiftung Niedersachsen – brings 40 students from five of Lower Saxony's Universities to Hanover and later to the Theaterformen in Braunschweig.

As a lead-in to the festival the live podcast **Des Pudels Kern** brings director Julian Hetzel and post-colonial theorist Nikita Dhawan together on 13.04. And the Ada- und Theodor Lessing VHS (adult education centre) offers a course with the makers of the KunstFestSpiele over several days starting on 16.04.

The central venues of the KunstFestSpiele – the Galerie, Orangerie and Arne Jacobsen Foyer – are situated in the magnificent Herrenhausen Gardens. The DHC-Halle, in close proximity to the gardens, joined them as a festival venue in 2019. KunstFestSpiele tickets entitle holders to admission to the Great Garden two hours before the start of the event

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HERRENHAUSEN**

www.kunstfestspiele.de

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(except Sat. 25.05).

Advance booking for all events starts today online and by telephone, at the Künstlerhaus Hannover and all the usual ticket agencies. Students receive a 20% reduction (all reductions at kunstfestspiele.de/tickets).

Photographic material and a press accreditation form are available at www.kunstfestspiele.de/presse.

Up-to-date information about the KunstFestSpiele can be found on the website www.kunstfestspiele.de and through the newsletter.

Press contact: Hendrik v. Boxberg, presse@kunstfestspiele.de

Presented by the city of Hanover, capital of Lower Saxony



Sponsors & Partners



Project partners for Floating Earth



Cooperating partners



Partners in the festival centre



Cultural partner



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KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

FACT SHEET

Duration and opening programme

16.05. – 02.06.2024

15th edition of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen, 8th edition under the directorship of Ingo Metzmacher

Opening programme on Thursday, 16.05.2024

9.00 p.m.	Opening Floating Earth by Luke Jerram Installation at the Maschteich at Neues Rathaus (New Town Hall)
afterwards	Festival opening with Mayor Belit Onay, Ingo Metzmacher, Luke Jerram and Emeka Ogboh (DJ Performance) Terrace Gartensaal / Neues Rathaus

Opening programme on Friday, 17.05.2024

at all hours	Floating Earth by Luke Jerram Installation at the Maschteich at Neuen Rathaus (New Town Hall)
6.45 p.m.	Introduction for Rhapsody in Yellow: A Ping Pong Piano Battle with Ming Wong, Henry Hao-An Cheng and Ingo Metzmacher Schauspielhaus foyer
7.30 p.m.	Rhapsody in Yellow: A Ping Pong Piano Battle by Ming Wong Concert performance at Schauspielhaus

Programme

23 productions, 4 concerts curated by Feinkost Lampe, freitagsküche with **Art & Cuisine**, Festivalcampus Niedersachsen and talks in the festival centre
approx. 100 events on 18 days, including

- 5 German premieres
- 1 co-production

Venues – addresses and directions

Großer Garten, Galerie, Orangerie, Ehrenhof, Arne Jacobsen Foyer and Festivalzentrum

Herrenhäuser Straße 3, 30419 Hannover

U4 or U5 to Herrenhäuser Gärten

DHC-Halle

An der Graft 3, 30167 Hannover

U4 or U5 until Herrenhäuser Gärten

Kuppelsaal des HCC

Theodor-Heuss-Platz 1-3, 30175 Hannover

U11 to Hannover Congress Centrum

Bus lines 128, 134 to Hannover Congress Centrum

Schauspielhaus

Prinzenstraße 9, 30159 Hannover

All tram lines (except U10 and U17) to Kröpcke / U10 and U17 to Hauptbahnhof / Rosenstraße

Bus 100, 121, 128, 134, 200 to Thielenplatz / Schauspielhaus

Maschteich / Neues Rathaus

Trammplatz 2, 30159 Hannover

U1, U2, U4, U5, U6, U8, U11 to Aegidientorplatz

Bus line 120 to Rathaus/Friedrichswall; Bus lines 100, 200, 800 to Rathaus/Bleichenstraße

Leibniztempel

at Georgengarten

Tram lines U4, U5 to Herrenhäuser Gärten

For more information on how to get to the event by car and on parking, please visit

www.kunstfestspiele.de.

Tickets

Box office at the Künstlerhaus

Sophienstraße 2, 30159 Hannover

Phone +49 (0) 511 / 168-49994

Mon – Fri / 12 to 6 p.m.

Tickets Online

www.eventim.de and CTS/Eventim-Vorverkaufsstellen

Hotline 01806 / 570070

Box office

Open one hour before the performance in each venue. In Herrenhausen the box office is located at the festival centre. Reserved tickets will be held until 30 minutes before the start of the performance.

Tickets entitle you to admission to the Großer Garten two hours before the start of the performance except on Sat 25.05 because of the Fireworks Competition.

Concessions

50 % in advance booking and at the box office

School students, students at universities and colleges, apprentices as well as visitors with a document attesting a disability of at least 50 GdB (degree of disability), recipients of ALG I (German unemployment benefits), participants of voluntary service programmes (BDF, FSJ, FÖJ, FWD) and visitors with Hannover-Aktiv-Pass are entitled to concessions. Please show your certificate at the door.

Accompanying Carer

Severely handicapped visitors who rely on an accompanying carer are entitled to bring their carer free of charge.

Children

Outside of the family program, children up to and including the age of 12 pay 8 euros (plus fees) on all seats.

Group discount

Groups of 10 or more receive a 20% discount. This offer is only valid at the advance booking office in the Künstlerhaus.

Frequent visitor discount

If you buy at least 4 tickets in one purchase, you will receive a 20% discount. This offer is only valid at the advance booking office in the Künstlerhaus or at the box office.

HAZ/NP-Abo-Vorteil

10 % discount at all HAZ/NP ticket offices, at the Künstlerhaus and at the box office.

Valid for max. two tickets per event.

ADAC-Karte

10% discount at the Künstlerhaus and at the box office. Valid for max. one ticket per event.

Multiple concessions are excluded.

Tourist Information Hannover

The Tourist Information team at the main station and at the information counter in the New Town Hall are available to visitors of the KunstFestSpiele for inquiries about the state capital and the Hanover region.

Tourist Information Hannover (Ernst-August-Platz)

Mon until Fri – 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Sat – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sun and holidays – closed

from April

Info-Counter at Neues Rathaus (Trammplatz 2)

Mo until Fr / 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Sat, Sun and holidays / 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Contact and information / Social media

KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen
Alte Herrenhäuser Straße 6b
D-30419 Hannover

E-Mail info@kunstfestspiele.de

Web www.kunstfestspiele.de

Social Media

www.facebook.com/kunstfestspiele

www.instagram.com/kunstfestspiele

Newsletter

The first place to get news and background information is the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen newsletter. Sign up at: www.kunstfestspiele.de/newsletter

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

LUKE JERRAM: FLOATING EARTH

Installation

Opening Thu 16.05 – 9 p.m.
Fri 17.05 – Sun 02.06 / at all hours
Maschteich at Neuen Rathaus (New Town Hall)

Free admission

It must be a magical moment, when astronauts see the earth as a whole from space. It is something that impresses everyone who has been able to experience it. **Floating Earth** gives visitors the unique opportunity to observe our world in this way.

The art installation shows a huge three-dimensional depiction of the globe, ten metres in diameter. It floats on the water of the Maschteich, as if it had fallen from the sky. With the onset of darkness the installation begins to glow, and shows us in detail our continents, oceans and cloud formations. The imagery was supplied by NASA.

This sensational work by the British artist Luke Jerram has been enchanting people around the world. It is an invitation to gain a new and perhaps different view of our planet, and encourages us to question our relationship to it.

Floating Earth shows the fragility and vulnerability of the planet. Jerram uses the so-called overview effect to achieve this. For unlike the moon, which we have always seen in the sky, the NASA Apollo 8 mission was the first moment when the earth became visible to its people as a precious blue sphere floating in space. This moment changed our relationship to the earth forever.

Programme at Maschteich

Thu 16.05 / 9 p.m.

Festival opening with Mayor Belit Onay, Ingo Metzmacher, Luke Jerram and Emeka Ogbah (DJ Performance)

Terrace Gartensaal / Neues Rathaus

Thu 23.05 / 6 p.m.

Von außen gesehen (Seen from outside)

Panel discussion in cooperation with Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung

Fri 24.05 / 8 p.m.

Around the world

concerts by the pond in cooperation with MusikZentrum and Center for World Music

Fri 31.05 / 8 p.m.

Marion Poschmann & Ulrike Almut Sandig: Poesie & Sounds

reading (in German) in cooperation with the Literaturhaus, moderation: Martina Kothe

Thu 16.05 – Sun 02.06

Overview (2012)

Short film by Planetary Collective

Kuppelhalle at Neues Rathaus

Floating Earth by Luke Jerram, co-commissioned by Light Night Wigan and Quays Culture.
Supported by the Hannover Tourismus & Marketing GmbH, hanova, ROSSMANN, VHV Stiftung, Hannover Rück Stiftung, Talanx, Niedersächsische Bingo-Umweltstiftung, Concordia, Mecklenburgische.

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

KUNSTFESTSPIELE TAG

diverse, cheerful, lively

Mon 20.05 / 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Orangerie, Galerie, Großer Garten, Arne Jacobsen Foyer, Festivalzentrum, Maschteich

Tickets 5 euros per event*

Families and others are invited to a varied and entertaining Whit Monday with theatre, music, dance, installation and delicious food.

On Monday 20 May from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. KunstFestSpiele present a wide spectrum for young and old – a compact one-day version of the festival.

Everybody is welcome at the festival centre at the entrance to the Herrenhausen Gardens with coffee, cakes and savouries from Frankfurt's freitagsküche.

The programme

The day begins humorously with **The Great I Am Not in the Mood for This Show**, a performance for children and adults about seeing and being seen. What happens when you're suddenly the centre of attention?

In **STRANGE GARDEN** Colette Sadler takes old and young on a journey into a fantastical world.

In the Großer Garten two hip-hop dancers encounter the Romantic music of Franz Schubert in **Fantasie minor**, by Marco da Silva Ferreira, and show that you can also dance on tiptoe in boots.

In **Ukrainian Callings** the singer Mariana Sadovska transforms traditional songs and stories from Ukraine into her own specific sound.

Feinkost Lampe present the Kurdish musician **Ali Doğan Gönültaş**, who gives a lively and personal insight into the musical landscape of East Anatolia.

Emeka Ogbob's installation **Nzuko** transforms the Arne Jacobsen Foyer into a meeting place, and invites visitors to sit down on cushions and stools and listen to traditional Nigerian choral folksongs. It's also recommend to make a detour to the gigantic global installation **Floating Earth** on the Maschteich!

The performances last between 30 and 60 minutes, and are easy to combine with one another and the installations.

* The installations **Nzuko – The Gathering** and **Floating Earth**, as well as the talk, can be experienced free of charge. Tickets for the KunstFestspiele Tag include admission to the Great Garden 2 hours before the start of the respective event.

Programme KunstFestSpiele Tag Mon 20.05

11 a.m. – 9 p.m.	freitagküche	Festival centre
11 a.m. – 9 p.m.	Nzuko – The Gathering Emeka Ogbob	Arne Jacobsen Foyer
11 a.m. – 11.55 a.m.	Die große Ich habe keine Lust drauf Show Artemis / Jetse Batelaan	Orangerie (from age 6)
1 p.m. – 1.40 p.m.	STRANGE GARDEN Colette Sadler	Orangerie Hinterbühne (from age 6)
2 p.m.– 2.40 p.m.	Ukrainian Callings Mariana Sadovska	Galerie
2 p.m.– 2.30 p.m.	Fantasie minor Marco da Silva Ferreira	Großer Garten / lawn next to the viewing terrace (from age 8)
3.15 p.m. – 4.10 p.m.	Die große Ich habe keine Lust drauf Show Artemis / Jetse Batelaan	Orangerie (from age 6)
3.30 p.m.– 4.10 p.m.	Ali Doğan Gönültaş Feinkost Lampe Concert	Großer Garten / Probebühne
4.15 p.m.– 4.45 p.m.	Friederike Westerhaus in conversation with Ingo Metzmacher	Festival centre
5 p.m.– 5.40 p.m.	STRANGE GARDEN Colette Sadler	Orangerie Hinterbühne (from age 6)
5 p.m.– 5.40 p.m.	Ukrainian Callings Mariana Sadovska	Galerie
5 p.m.– 5.30 p.m.	Fantasie minor Marco da Silva Ferreira	Großer Garten / lawn next to the viewing terrace (from age 8)
6.15 p.m.– 6.55 p.m.	Ali Doğan Gönültaş Feinkost Lampe Concert	Großer Garten / Probebühne
at all hours	Floating Earth Luke Jerram	Maschteich at Neues Rathaus

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

FESTIVALCAMPUS NIEDERSACHSEN

The campus programme of KunstFestSpiele and Theaterformen

Fri 17.05 to Sun 19.05

For the seventh consecutive year the KunstFestSpiele are hosting the Festivalcompus Niedersachsen (Lower Saxony Festival Campus): about forty students of cultural and theatre studies, performing arts, scenography as well as theatre pedagogy from five universities in Lower Saxony are coming to Hanover. They are invited to participate in the KunstFestSpiele, discuss their experiences with the artists and reflect on the performances within seminars and workshops.

Thanks to the support of Stiftung Niedersachsen, in 2024 the project can again take place in close cooperation with the Festival Theaterformen, which will continue to host the Festivalcampus in June in Braunschweig. The students from Hanover, Hildesheim, Braunschweig, Osnabrück und Lüneburg closely participate in two festivals experiencing a variety of aesthetics that allow for an artistic and interdisciplinary exchange that might not be possible within a seminar room.

Lecturers from various disciplines enable the students to take their perspectives beyond their particular disciplinary horizon. Within the frame of the Festivalcampus, KunstFestSpiele and Festival Theaterformen offer artists and academics of tomorrow a space for critical reflection and engaged dialogue: the basis of vivid and socially relevant cultural and artistic work.

With University Hildesheim: Institute for Media, Theatre and Popular Culture / Braunschweig University of Art: Professorship “Art in Action” / Leuphana University of Lüneburg: Faculty Cultural Studies / University of Applied Sciences and Arts Hannover: Degree programme “Scenography – Costume – Experimental Design” / University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück: Institute for Theatre Pedagogy

Concept and realisation Antonia Rohwetter, Philipp Schulte

Funded by



An initiative of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen in cooperation with the Festival Theaterformen.

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

FESTIVAL CENTRE

Festival centre

Fri 17.05 – Sun 02.06. / daily 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.*

Welcome to our **festival centre**, right at the entrance to the Herrenhausen Gardens. If the festival has a hub, then it's here. Artists, audiences, visitors to the gardens, the KunstFestSpiele team, young and old meet in the open tent or on the meadow under the lime tree – which is wonderfully shady during the day and from where the moon illuminates the feestival centre at night.

Food and drink from Frankfurt's legendary freitagsküche – also vegan and vegetarian –, create the right atmosphere for a short chat and a snack, an intensive discussion over a full meal – or just to relax and chill. Located between the Orangerie, the Galerie and the Arne Jacobsen Foyer, the festival centre is in close proximity to the festival venues.

The festival centre is open during the daytime and before and after the performances. A long table will be set up here for the culinary event series **Art & Cuisine** and the festival campus' participants as well as the technical and artistic teams will eat and rest here. Last-minute visitors will also find our box office opening 1 hour before the start of the performances. If you have questions or feedback about the festival, performances and installations, this is where you'll always find a friendly ear.

freitagsküche

freitagsküche is a meeting place and venue that combines cuisine, eating in company and good conversation. Just what a festival needs.

This year freitagsküche are our hosts once again in the KunstFestSpiele festival centre. Here you can get in the mood for the performances and installations in a pleasant atmosphere with freshly prepared food and hot or cold drinks, or round off an evening with a discussion about art and life. The menu is inspiring, individual and short, with ingredients of the highest quality.

Apart from their daily fare, freitagsküche extend an invitation to five unusual culinary evenings in the series **Art & Cuisine***, inspired by KunstFestSpiele performances. The menus** were prompted by the themes of the pieces or the artists themselves. At these events you can share your experiences and associations after the show. The artists will join the company in the course of the evening.

* Mon 20.05 to 10 p.m., Wed 22.05 to 10.30 p.m., Sat 25.05 to 5 p.m., Mon 27.05 to 8 p.m

** Every meal also has a vegan variation.

Dates Art & Cuisine

Sun 19.05 / after **Where is home**
Festival centre
Open Fire Cooking im Firedome

Sun 26.05 / after **A Homage to Anton Plate**
Festival centre
A three-course menu in three duets. Every course two of the same

Di 28.05. / after **SPAfrica**
Festival centre
A subsistence-economy menu with an extractivist dessert

Sa 01.06. / after **A Revue**
Festival centre
A menu of radical relics

Tickets 16 Euros per event (plus charges, no discount available)

Special

Sat 18.05 / 5.30 p.m. opening & talk to **Nzuko – The Gathering**
Open Fire Cooking Flying Buffett
Festival centre

Free of charge

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

TALKS & SPECIALS

Talks

Let's talk about art. We want to facilitate communication between the audience and artists, and the audience and the festival team.

Have you seen a performance or a concert and would like to learn more about it or get to know the performers differently? NDR presenter Friederike Westerhaus invites artists to talk to her about their work in **Friederike Westerhaus in Conversation with...**

In the introductions, the artists accompany their works with an introductory comment.

Dates Friederike Westerhaus in conversation with ...

Sat 18.05 / after Encantado
... **two dancers of the Companhia de Danças**
DHC-Halle (in English)

Mon 20.05 / 4.15 p.m. on MASS
... **Ingo Metzmacher**
Festival centre (in German)

Thu 23.05 / after The Making of Berlin
... **Yves Degryse**
Orangerie (in English)

Sat 25.05 / after MOTHERS A SONG FOR WARTIME
... **Marta Górnicka**
DHC-Halle (in English)

Wed 29.05 / after The answer is land
... **members of the Elle Sofo Company**
DHC-Halle (in English)

Fri 31.05 / after The Köln Concert
... **Trajal Harrell**
DHC-Halle (in English)

Free admission

Specials

Introduction to Rhapsody in Yellow: A Ping Pong Piano Battle

with Ming Wong, Henry Hao-An Cheng and Ingo Metzmacher

Fri 17.05 / 6.45 p.m.

Foyer Schauspielhaus (admission with ticket, in English)

Opening & talk to Nzuko – The Gathering

with Emeka Ogboh and Beate Schüler

Sat 18.05 / 5.30 p.m.

Arne Jacobsen Foyer (free admission, in English)

Introduction to MASS: A Thetare Piece for Singers, Players, and Dancers

with Ingo Metzmacher

Sun 26.05 / 10.15 a.m.

HCC Kuppelsaal (admission with ticket, in German)

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

HERRENHAUSEN GARDENS

Großer Garten, Berggarten and Georgengarten

The Herrenhausen Gardens, centre of the KunstFestSpiele, are among Europe's finest parks, and received the European Garden Award in 2015. The central festival venues – the Galerie and Orangerie, the Großer Garten and the Arne Jacobsen Foyer – are located in this magnificent setting.

For over 300 years they have stood for consummate horticultural art, and attract more than 500,000 visitors from around the world every year. Originating in a court pleasure garden laid out by Princess-Elector Sophie from 1676 to 1714, today they unite three horticultural styles over 135 hectares.

The Großer Garten is impressive as an almost unaltered example of a formally planned Baroque garden with a superb parterre, cascades and fountains. The palace, once the summer residence of the House of Welf, was destroyed during the Second World War and reconstructed as a conference centre and museum in 2013.

Garden- and plant-lovers particularly appreciate the Berggarten. Countless indigenous and exotic plants flourish in this botanical garden, which among other things contains one of the world's largest collections of orchids.

The Georgengarten, which was laid out in the 19th century, is a park in the style of the English landscape gardens. The wide lawns, still ponds and decorative bridges were designed in a deliberate contrast to the ideas of the Baroque.

For more information on the Herrenhausen Gardens please visit: www.hannover.de/herrenhausen

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

INGO METZMACHER

Biography

Whether as an opera conductor, orchestra leader, festival director or book author: Conductor Ingo Metzmacher has distinguished himself through his innovative programming and profound dedication to twentieth and twenty-first century music; to make the new sound familiar and the familiar sound new has been Metzmacher's focus since the beginning of his career.

From 1997 until 2005 Ingo Metzmacher was General Music Director of the Hamburg State Opera. After that he was Chief Conductor of the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam and from 2007 to 2010, he was Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin. Since 2016, he has been artistic director of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen. In May 2024, he presents the ninth edition of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen under his artistic direction.

Highlights of the projects he has conducted at the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen include among others Mahlers 'Symphony No. 8', Schönberg's 'Gurre-Lieder', Goebbels' 'Surrogate Cities', Berlioz' 'Requiem' and the world premiere of Andre's 'rwł 1–4'.

Ingo Metzmacher is a frequent guest with major orchestras such as the Vienna Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Gewandhaus Orchestra, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and the Ensemble Modern, as well as at opera houses and festivals such as the Vienna State Opera, the Opéra national de Paris, Milan's Teatro alla Scala, the Salzburg Festival and the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence.

In the current season, he is conducting the Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala, the Radio Filharmonisch Orkest, the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hamburg Philharmonic State Orchestra, the SWR Symphony Orchestra, the WDR Symphony Orchestra, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and Klangforum Wien, among others. He will also conduct a new production of Iberic Magnard's 'Guercoeur' at the Opéra national du Rhin, Leonard Bernstein's 'Mass: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players, and Dancers' with the NDR Radiophilharmonie and nine Hanoverian choirs as part of the KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen and the closing concert of the Donaueschinger Musiktage.

Metzmacher's wide-ranging discography includes live recordings of his New Year's Eve concerts in Hamburg from 1999 to 2004 entitled 'Who's Afraid of 20th Century Music?', a complete recording of Karl Amadeus Hartmann's symphonies with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, the world premiere of Hans Werner Henze's Ninth Symphony with the Berlin Philharmonic, Olivier Messiaen's 'Eclairs sur l'Au-delà...' with the Vienna Philharmonic. Most recently, he released two recordings with Ensemble Modern: Andre's cycle 'riss' and 'Beschenkt' – 40 miniatures celebrating the ensembles 40th anniversary.

He is the author of two books: 'Keine Angst vor neuen Tönen' [Don't Be Afraid of New Sounds] and 'Vorhang auf! Oper entdecken und erleben' [Curtain Up! Discovering and Experiencing Opera]. In the NDR Kultur podcast series "Metzmacher hört", launched in November 2019 and hosted by Friederike Westerhaus, Ingo Metzmacher embarks on a journey of discovery into the world of 20th and 21st century music.

KUNSTFESTSPIELE HERRENHAUSEN 2024

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