

MUSIC FOR FUTURE

2024 Summer Festival

“Music for Future” is the name of the division through which Lucerne Festival promotes the sustainable development of classical music and supports young musicians who will shape the future, whether as soloists or in the orchestra. In addition, concert programs specially designed for children and young people ages 6 and up awaken their curiosity to try out the world of classical music; some of these projects are offered exclusively to school classes in the Lucerne area.

Before the official opening on 16 August, **two youth orchestras** will ring in the Summer Festival. The Youth Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine will kick things off on 13 August, returning to the Festival under the direction of Oksana Lyniv two years after the orchestra’s debut here. They will premiere Evgeni Orkin’s *Requiem for a Poet* setting texts by the writer Maxim Krivtsov, who fell in battle against the Russian invaders in early January. The European Union Youth Orchestra led by Gianandrea Noseda will perform the following day (14 August), with cellist Nicolas Altstaedt playing the solo part in Strauss’s *Don Quixote*.

The Stars of Tomorrow in the Debut Series

The Debut concerts, which take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, always at 12.15 pm, present internationally sought-after young soloists and ensembles in Lucerne’s Lukaskirche. This year’s roster of artists who will be introduced to Lucerne audiences includes Swiss harpist Tjasha Gafner (22 August), a prizewinner in the renowned ARD Music Competition; British pianist Martin James Bartlett (27 August), a laureate of the 2020 Cleveland International Piano Competition and the 2022 Prix Serdang; German horn player Annemarie Federle (29 August); German bassoonist Theo Plath (3 September); British pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason (5 September); the Adelphi Quartet (10 September); and Swiss pianist Mélodie Zhao (12 September). This summer will also see two world premieres by young composers who have been commissioned by the I&I Foundation: the Adelphi Quartet will perform a new work by Madli Marje Gildemann Sink, while Tjasha Gafner will give the world premiere of a composition by Kristín Póra Haraldsdóttir.

Classical Music for Very Young Children and Their Families

The goal of numerous outreach programs and special event formats for young Festival visitors is to awaken the joy of attending concerts and to create points of contact with classical and modern music. The Berlin duo Schlagwerk Voermans will present their thrilling percussion show “Drumming out of the Box” on 1 and 2 September, while Jörg Schade and Franz-Georg Stähling’s music theater project “Krach mit Bach” will be performed in Lucerne Hall on 8 September. On the morning of 14 September, the conductor Iván Fischer will present his family concert featuring chamber music groups from the Budapest Festival Orchestra. His concert, titled “Open Your Ears: Classical Music!”, entices curious young ears with a colorful surprise program that surveys the history of music — with the audience seated very close to the action and encircling the musicians!

Exclusive School Concerts

In addition to the public family concerts, the Festival offers exclusive concerts for school classes in the Lucerne area. In the summer of 2023, these events alone reached more than 6,300 schoolchildren from the Lucerne region. A total of more than 20 events will be held in 2024. An exclusive concert by the Berliner Philharmoniker in the KKL Luzern Concert Hall is additionally on the program this year, led by the ensemble’s horn player Sarah Willis as moderator. There will also be two dates each of “Drumming out of the Box” and “Krach mit Bach.” Debut musicians Theo Plath, Isata Kanneh-Mason, the Adelphi Quartet, and Mélodie Zhao will introduce their instruments and answer questions from

students as part of the “Debut in the School House” series. The world music groups from the “In the Streets” festival will also visit schools.

Discounts for Youth and Students

“Look | Listen | Enjoy – Together at the Concert” is the name of our promotion through which adults who purchase a ticket receive two free tickets of equal value to take their children, grandchildren, or godchildren to the concert. Information at: lucernefestival.ch/en/luege-lose-erlaebe. Students can receive discounts for concerts that are not sold out, and school classes are always welcome at special rates. Detailed information will be available at lucernefestival.ch/students as soon as the Festival starts.

Three Sponsorship Awards at Lucerne Festival

The winner of this year’s “Credit Suisse Young Artist Award” is the cellist Julia Hagen, who triumphed during the final round in December 2023. She will perform with the Vienna Philharmonic on 7 September. The prize includes a cash award of CHF 75,000 and is conferred every two years. It alternates with the “Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes,” which supports highly talented young musicians in Switzerland and offers a cash award of CHF 25,000 and also ensures an appearance in the Debut series. Lucerne Festival will announce who will receive the next “Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes” award during the winter of 2024-25: the winner will perform at the 2025 Summer Festival.

The Fritz Gerber Award each year enables three young musicians to attend the Lucerne Festival Academy. The winners will be announced in May 2024.

All dates of the “Music for Future” concerts can be found online and in the Festival program on page 20.

Photos may be downloaded at lucernefestival.ch/en/press/photos

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