



LUCERNE FESTIVAL

SPRING FESTIVAL

22. – 24.03.2024

**Lucerne Festival Orchestra | Riccardo Chailly |
Pablo Heras-Casado | Daniel Lozakovich**

Program

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DO YOU KNOW BEETHOVEN

We think we know him: Ludwig van Beethoven, the youngest of the three great Viennese Classical composers. The finale of his Ninth Symphony has had its own career as Anthem of Europe and as a “Song of Joy” even in the arenas of politics and pop music. The opening motif from the Fifth, the famous da-da-da-daaa, with which “Fate knocks at the door,” has even become a kind of emblem for classical music in general. There is no question about it: no other figure from the Classical period has had a greater impact and found a wider audience than Beethoven.

But do we really know Beethoven? It may seem paradoxical that even if we have heard his works umpteen times, we discover them anew with every fresh encounter. To be sure, a quality seal of great art is that it is inexhaustible and offers multiple facets which only gradually are revealed in all their fullness. What’s more, not all Beethoven performances are the same. Music is written down as notes on paper — but in order for music to come to life, it needs to be performed. And if you compare performances, you will find that Beethoven can always sound different. Especially when it comes to this com-

poser, there have been endless developments with regard to interpreting his music in recent decades. The Romantic fog in which he was shrouded until well after the middle of the 20th century has lifted, pathos giving way to revolutionary élan. Back to the origins has become the motto.

Riccardo Chailly takes this idea quite literally in the Spring Festival’s opening concert by guiding us back to Beethoven’s beginnings as a symphonist with his First and Second Symphonies. Pablo Heras-Casado, on the other hand, will present the Violin Concerto and the Seventh Symphony, two of the composer’s masterpieces — and two of his wildest scores on top of that. We can also look forward to the debut of the violinist Daniel Lozakovich, who is currently embarking on a spectacular career. And there will be a chamber concert featuring the phenomenal soloists of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, which, with a leap across the “big pond” and a trip to Italy, will arouse anticipation for the summer holiday season.

Riccardo Chailly | Lucerne Festival Orchestra



Pablo Heras-Casado



Daniel Lozakovich



BEETHOVEN STARTS OUT

Through his nine symphonies, Ludwig van Beethoven shaped an entire genre, setting the bar extremely high for subsequent generations. Yet if we want to understand what Beethoven achieved, we should not start with the end of his symphonic career, i.e., with the legendary Ninth. Much more revealing are the beginnings, which already contain everything that sets him apart. Riccardo Chailly and the Lucerne Festival Orchestra will therefore open the Spring Festival with the first two Beethoven symphonies. And there is much to make us marvel: for example, Beethoven's whimsical humor when he comically builds up the finale of the First using a simple C major scale, note by note, to ignite a whirling dance. Or when he unleashes the "élan terrible" of French revolutionary music in the Second, pressing dynamic contrasts to the extreme and setting rhythmic counter-accents so off-kilter that the ground is virtually pulled out from under our feet. The unmistakably Beethovenian tone, the cyclical unity of the works, the Romantic fantasia of sound: nothing is missing from the first two symphonies. They are the calling card of a titan.

Fri 22.03.

Beethoven & Chailly

19.30

KKL Luzern, Concert Hall

Lucerne Festival Orchestra

Riccardo Chailly conductor

Ludwig van Beethoven

Overture to Coriolan, Op. 62

7 min

Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21

24 min

Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 36

30 min

Introduction to the Concert

18.30 | KKL Luzern, Auditorium

with **Susanne Stähr** (in German)

CHF 240/200/150/100/60/30

BEAUTIFUL HOLIDAY!

The best ideas came to Antonín Dvořák while on holiday. To recover from his strenuous post as director of the newly founded Conservatory of Music in New York, the Czech composer spent the summer of 1893 in Spillville, Iowa. He enjoyed nature, whether in cornfields, orchards, or forests, but also got to know the culture of the native, indigenous people through their dances and songs. All of these impressions are reflected in his serene, pastoral F major Quartet, the famous *American*, which Dvořák composed in Spillville. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, on the other hand, was drawn to Florence in the spring of 1890. He associated highly pleasant memories with this “charming and congenial city.” “How much I am able to love life again,” confessed Tchaikovsky, who tended to melancholy. His *Souvenir de Florence* is a string sextet that, from the first to the last bar, sparkles with vitality and joie de vivre. And we can enjoy the delights of the delicate art of the flute right at the beginning with Mozart’s D major Quartet. Ludwig van Beethoven, the protagonist of the Spring Festival, is allowed to have a day off.

Sat 23.03.

Chamber Music

19.30

KKL Luzern, Concert Hall

Soloists of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra

Wolfgang Amadé Mozart

Flute Quartet in D major, K. 285

15 min

Antonín Dvořák

String Quartet in F major, Op. 96

American

27 min

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

String Sextet in D minor, Op. 70

Souvenir de Florence

35 min

CHF 90/60/30

BEETHOVEN TAKES OFF

For us today, Beethoven is a classical composer who transcends all doubts. In his time, however, many of his works had a shocking effect on the public. Take the Violin Concerto, which, with its epic length of more than 40 minutes, surpassed everything known up till then. Its solo part, which soars to the very highest heights, is heavenly and breathtaking. Beethoven took an even more extreme approach in his Seventh Symphony, relying entirely on the elemental force of rhythm and dance-like energy. We are drawn into a maelstrom as we experience the sheer frenzy of this music, which gives the impression by the end that the entire concert hall is about to take off into orbit. The Spaniard Pablo Heras-Casado will preside over this magic from the podium: he was trained by Pierre Boulez while still at the Lucerne Festival Academy and thrilled the audience on the occasion of the Festival's 75th anniversary in 2013 with an enthrallingly powerful interpretation of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. He has long since become an international star and recently enjoyed sensational success at the Bayreuth Festival with his *Parsifal*. The 22-year-old Swedish violinist Daniel Lozakovich, who has already been proclaimed "prince of the violin," makes his debut as the soloist.

Sun 24.03.

Beethoven & Heras-Casado

17.00

KKL Luzern, Concert Hall

Lucerne Festival Orchestra

Pablo Heras-Casado conductor

Daniel Lozakovich violin

Ludwig van Beethoven

Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61

42 min

Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92

38 min

Introduction to the Concert

16.00 | KKL Luzern, Auditorium

with **Susanne Stähr** (in German)

CHF 240/200/150/100/60/30

THANK YOU!

Great musical experiences need strong partners! We are deeply grateful for their indispensable commitment to all those who support and promote the Spring Festival.

Main Sponsor

BUCHERER ¹⁸⁸⁸

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Artist Talk: Anne-Sophie Mutter and Susanne Stähr

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Hirschmattstrasse 13 | P.O. Box | CH-6002 Luzern

t +41 (0)41 226 44 00 | info@lucernefestival.ch | lucernefestival.ch/en

Editing and Content Malte Lohmann, Susanne Stähr

English-Language Editor and Translator Thomas May

Proofreading Antje Reineke

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Printed prices are subject to correction.



TICKETING INFORMATION

Online ticket sales begin on 14 November 2023, 12.00 noon (Swiss time)

Mail sales begin on 15 November 2023

Telephone sales begin on 15 November 2023

Mo – Fr from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon (Swiss time)

also from 2.00 to 4.00 pm between 15 and 19 November 2023

during our festivals always from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon (Swiss time) und
from 2.00 to 4.00 pm

Ticket sales at the Lucerne Festival ticket window Tickets will be available for purchase at the Lucerne Festival ticket window near the main entrance of the KKL Luzern (on the lakeside) between 22 – 24 March 2024, daily from 2.00 pm until the evening's concert begins.

The Festival Package for Classical Music Fans If you purchase all three Spring Festival events together by 29 February 2024, you will receive a 5% discount compared to the prices for a single ticket in the categories 1–3.

Please see the General Terms and Conditions of Lucerne Festival at lucernefestival.ch/en/agb.

Sales & Visitor Services

Lucerne Festival | P.O. Box | CH-6002 Luzern

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Sat 23.03.

Looking Ahead to the Summer Festival

17.00 – 18.00

KKL Luzern, Auditorium

with **Susanne Stähr**
in German

Are you already curious about the next Summer Festival but not sure exactly which concerts to choose? Our dramaturg Susanne Stähr will take you on a tour of the program, presenting the highlights and revealing her personal favorites. In addition, she will share insights from behind the scenes and amusing stories about the classical music business.

Tickets free of charge at
lucernefestival.ch/overview

LUCERNE FESTIVAL

TICKET ORDER FORM

Spring Festival | 22 – 24 March 2024

Online ticket sales begin on 14 November 2023, 12.00 noon (Swiss time)

Mail and telephone sales begin on 15 November 2023

	Time/Venue	Concert	No. of tickets	Ticket price	Total
Fri 22.03.	19.30 KS	Beethoven & Chailly			
Sat 23.03.	19.30 KS	Chamber Music			
Sun 24.03.	17.00 KS	Beethoven & Heras-Casado			
Processing fee					CHF 10
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Lucerne Festival

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