

FREE EVENTS

**“Lakeside Symphony” in Inseli Park, “In the Streets,” 40min series, Panel Discussion, Pre-Concerts, Post-Concert Talks, Introductions
2024 Summer Festival**

As has become tradition, this year’s Lucerne Festival will once again present a large number of free concerts and events covering a variety of musical offerings.

On Friday, 16 August classical music fans will have a chance to enjoy Mahler’s Seventh Symphony under the direction of Riccardo Chailly as part of the **“Lakeside Symphony”** event, which presents the Opening Concert of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra as a live broadcast on a big screen in Lucerne’s Inseli Park, right next to the KKL Luzern.

“In the Streets” will present a varied program in Lucerne’s Old Town starting on 27 August – the 19th edition of this popular world music festival within the Festival. Eight groups from all around the world representing a diversity of musical styles will perform in several Lucerne plazas over the course of six days. The opening and closing concerts will feature all of these groups and will take place on the Europaplatz in front of the KKL Luzern. The world music formations Trú (Northern Ireland), Mauro Palmas/Giacomo Vardeu (Italy), Tante Friedl (USA/Germany), the Wild Strings Trio (Slovakia/Slovenia/France), Schäbyschigg (Switzerland), and other groups are expected to perform.

Under the series name **40min**, Lucerne Festival has been offering free events at Lucerne Hall in the KKL Luzern since 2013. These are intended for anyone interested in getting a taste of the Festival. Scheduled on eight weekdays, always starting right at 6.20 pm, the series presents artists who give brief, 40-minute introductions to their music, insights into their rehearsal work, or guidelines to enjoy selected pieces that can later be heard on the Festival concerts. The format mixes musical examples with discussion. Last year, **40min Open Air** was launched as an additional free event format. The 2024 edition of 40min Open Air event will present three free afternoon concerts performed in rapid succession outdoors on the Europaplatz.

For example, this summer’s early-evening 40min series will feature Yannick Nézet-Séguin with the Lucerne Festival Orchestra. The Lucerne Festival Contemporary Orchestra (LFCO) will introduce Lisa Streich’s trumpet concerto, with Beat Furrer conducting, and will allow the audience to take part in a public Academy rehearsal together with the participants in the Contemporary-Conducting Program under the direction of Sir George Benjamin. As an ensemble, the LFCO will also design a program on the theme of “Curiosity.” Other events include the International Ensemble Modern Academy (IEMA Ensemble 2023-24) performing works from the second Composer Seminar and a presentation of the winners of the Fritz Gerber Award.

Whether by yourself, with friends, or with the whole family, the 40min series offers an ideal introduction to the world of classical music and gives access to classical and contemporary music to a wide audience. Though free, a valid ticket is required for admission (with the exception of the 40min Open Air event, which requires no ticket). Five days before each event, free tickets with open seating can be obtained via the website lucernefestival.ch. The number of tickets is limited to two per order. Any remaining tickets can be purchased on site on the day of the event.

Other free events on offer at the Festival include the **panel discussion** “20 Years of the Lucerne Festival Academy”; **introductory talks** by Festival dramaturge Susanne Stähr, her colleague Mark Sattler, who specializes in modern music, and editor Malte Lohmann; ten-minute **pre-concert events** with the LFCO; and **post-concert talks** on a small stage in the foyer of the KKL Luzern.

All dates and programs relating to the 40min series can be found online and in the Festival program on page 22.

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

UBS - Main Sponsor and Presenting Partner Lakeside Symphony
Zurich Insurance - Main Sponsor and Partner 40min

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