



DRESDNER
MUSIKFESTSPIELE

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In 2021, Dresden Music Festival focuses on profound »Dialogues« and musical diversity

The **Dresden Music Festival** begins its new season optimistically. Director **Jan Vogler** designated the 44th edition of the festival from **May 14 to June 12, 2021**, to the motto »DIALOGUES«. After the coronavirus-induced cultural hiatus, he intends to reopen the dialogue with the audience in a total of **64 concerts at 25 venues**.

In 2021, the festival program's focus lies more than ever on genre diversity and internationality. With the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra** under **Jaap van Zweden**, an Asian orchestra will, for the very first time, open the festival. Rock icon **Sting** sets the final chord. This time, the commission of the Dresden Music Festival comes from the pen of Swiss composer **William Blank** – the triple concerto »**Alisma**« was written on the occasion of Beethoven's 250th anniversary and originally intended to premiere during the 2020 Dresden Music Festival. Now, it will have its belated world premiere in 2021 with the **Hamburg Philharmonic State Orchestra** under the baton **Kent Nagano** and with soloists **Mira Wang** (violin), **Jan Vogler** (cello), and **Daniel Ottensamer** (clarinet).

»Planning in times of Covid-19 is a matter of attitude. As a significant classical music festival, the Dresden Music Festival holds great cultural and touristic responsibility. Together with our partners, we have put together an excellent program for 2021 – while taking the current hygiene regulations into account. Our festival team is highly flexible, and we will do everything we can to stimulate the cultural world and inspire personal dialogues through music,« Jan Vogler, Director of the Dresden Music Festival, said today in Dresden.

At the 44th Dresden Music Festival, world-renowned orchestras like the **Vienna Philharmonic** under **Daniel Harding**, the **Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra** under **Fabio Luisi**, or the **London Symphony Orchestra** under **Sir Simon Rattle** meet the protagonists of the singer/songwriter, jazz, rock, and world music scenes. Senegalese world musician **Pape Diouf** celebrates his German debut at the Junge Garde, and American songwriter **Aoife O'Donovan** inaugurates the new festival format Music Lounge at the Löwensaal. In addition to jazz stars such as **Till Brönner**, **Tom Schilling**, and chanson singer **Ute Lemper**, the audience can look forward to celebrated soloists of the classical music world like pianist **Emanuel Ax**, trumpet player **Sergei Nakariakov**, singer **Regula Mühlemann**, violinist **Gil Shaham**, cellist **Steven Isserlis**, and pianist **Rudolf Buchbinder**. **Daniele Gatti**, who will reside in Dresden as Artist in Residence, will set new accents as conductor of the **Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra** with Shostakovich's 7th Symphony, and in a Schumann Cycle with the **Dresden Festival Orchestra**. For new music, the focus lies on American composers: Scottish percussionist **Colin Currie** and the **Staatskapelle Weimar** under **Frank Strobel** will give the German premiere of **Danny Elfman's** Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra. Furthermore, the **Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra**, under the baton of **Eric Jacobsen**, performs **John Adams** »Harmonielehre«.



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»The Dresden Music Festival is renowned around the world. This was also demonstrated by the great response to the Coronavirus-related replacement program ›Music Never Sleeps DMF‹ with over 220,000 viewers. The Dresden Music Festival contributes considerably to the reputation of Saxony as a ›land of culture‹. Many regional cultural actors are involved in addition to world-famous stars, making the festival a crucial facilitator for easily accessible cultural education,« says Barbara Klepsch, Saxony's State Minister for Culture and Tourism.

»The Dresden Music Festival actively confronts the challenges the Coronavirus pandemic poses for the entire cultural sector. For this, I am immensely grateful to Jan Vogler and his team. Especially now, it is vital to establish cultural means for making high-class art with an enormous allure come alive,« says Dirk Hilbert, Mayor of the State Capital City of Dresden. »The Dresden Music Festival is firmly anchored in the budget planning for the coming years as we have the strong conviction that the festival intensely enriches Dresden and, at the same time, attracts guests from all over the world – even if perhaps more virtually than personally in the coming year.«

»We are particularly pleased to support the Dresden Music Festival as a premium partner. We are confident it will not only prove the need for musical and artistic dialogues but also reveal their power to give strength and confidence. They gift both the world-famous artists as well as the passionate and music-loving audience something that gives life the optimism it deserves,« said Andreas Rieger, spokesperson of the Ostsächsische Sparkasse Dresden.

»The Glashütte Original Music Festival Award annually honours an artist who not only moves an international audience with his or her music, but who has also invested a considerable amount of time and energy in support of young talent. As a manufactory rich in tradition, we know how important it is to pass on valuable knowledge to the next generation. For this reason we are proud to honour, year after year together with the Dresden Music Festival, musicians who devote themselves with passion and creativity to the success of talented emerging artists,« says Frank Kittel, Chief Financial Officer von Glashütte Original.

The Dresden Music Festival is an institution of the State Capital of Dresden co-financed by tax funding on the basis of the budget passed by the members of the Parliament of Saxony.

Ticket sales begin on November 2, 2020 (with seating limits according to the hygiene concept).

www.musikfestspiele.com

#DMF2021

The 44th Dresden Music Festival takes place from May 14 to June 12, 2020.

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