



DRESDNER
MUSIKFESTSPIELE

Press Release, March 23, 2023

The Dresden Music Festival launches an artistic and academic Wagner Project with the Dresden Festival Orchestra and Concerto Köln

As part of a comprehensive artistic and academic project, the **Dresden Music Festival** will explore the original sound of Richard Wagner, starting in 2023. The project's mission is to present an annual concert performance of one part of **Richard Wagner's** opera tetralogy »Der Ring des Nibelungen« by the **Dresden Festival Orchestra** and **Concerto Köln** under the baton of **Kent Nagano**, using historical instruments and the linguistic style of the time of its creation. The performance of Richard Wagner's »Das Rheingold« at Dresden's Kulturpalast on June 14, 2023 marks the project's official launch.

The project under the artistic leadership of Festival Intendant **Jan Vogler** and conductor **Kent Nagano** will bring together Wagner experts and performers from all over the world in Dresden.

»The Dresden Music Festival is proud to deliver new impulses from Dresden to the world with this visionary project. I am sure that this new ›Ring‹ from Dresden and the musicological research involved will have a lasting influence on the reception and interpretation of Wagner's music,« says Jan Vogler, Intendant of the Dresden Music Festival.

»From the instruments to vocal style and the general treatment of words – much of what we experience today during typical Wagner performances differs from the customs at Wagner's time. We look forward to delving into the fascinating musical world of the 19th century together with our audience, which also includes asking critical questions that are necessary when it comes to a person such as Wagner,« says Kent Nagano, Artistic Director of the Wagner Project and Conductor Laureate of Concerto Köln.

The »Rheingold« premiere on June 14 will be accompanied by a comprehensive **Wagner program**. Under the leadership of the project's academic curator **PD Dr. Kai Müller**, musicians from both orchestras will offer a **workshop concert** on the evening before the premiere, illustrating academic aspects of historical performance practice with musical examples. On the day of the premiere, the Kulturpalast will host an exhibition with several stations on Wagner's oeuvre, short lectures in the foyer and a Wagner Café, from 12 noon onwards.

You are cordially invited to the **Wagner Press Lounge on June 13, 2023 at 6 pm** at the Albertinum (Hermann-Glöckner-Saal).

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**.

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Cast of »Das Rheingold« on June 14, 2023 in Dresden:

Derek Welton (Wotan)
Dominik Köninger (Donner)
Mauro Peter (Loge)
Tansel Akzeybek (Froh)
Katrín Wundsam (Fricka)
Nadja Mchantaf (Freia)
Gerhild Romberger (Erda)
Daniel Schmutzhard (Alberich)
Thomas Ebenstein (Mime)
Tijl Faveyts (Fasolt)
Tilman Rönnebeck (Fafner)
Ania Vegry (Woglinde)
Ida Aldrian (Wellgunde)
Eva Vogel (Floßhilde)

For further information, please contact:

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