

Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival

Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival 2024 came to a successful end: Composer focus “Brahms!” was enthusiastically received

Around 100 events at 24 venues | 76 works and groups of works by Johannes Brahms performed | 5 world premieres

Last Saturday evening, the **28th Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival** came to an end with the festival finale featuring violinist Veronika Eberle and Die Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen under the direction of Paavo Järvi in the Aula of Neue Universität Heidelberg. From 15 March to 13 April, almost 100 events were on the programme at 24 venues in Heidelberg under the motto “Brahms!”.

With the composer focus on Johannes Brahms, the festival gave the audience the opportunity to (re)discover the majority of Brahms' works, with a focus on the performance of his complete chamber music and solo piano works. The programme was complemented by organ and choral works, lieder and, in the festival finale, the violin concerto. A total of **76 works and groups of works by Johannes Brahms** were on the programme.

Director Thorsten Schmidt summarises:

“Johannes Brahms has turned out to be a real crowd-puller. The Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival has offered time and space for something that is rare in our business: engaging with a composer's work, experiencing a wide range of Brahms interpretations from all over the world in a concentrated form and discussing them directly in personal encounters after the concerts. That is the spirit of the Heidelberger Frühling. We look back on a fantastic festival edition with an enthusiastic audience response, which has brought us back to the pre-corona years.”

The next **Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival** will take place from **22 March to 13 April 2025**. The festival year is planned without the Stadthalle Heidelberg as a venue, as a concrete completion date after the renovation has not yet been set. The 2025 programme will be published on 26 September 2024.

Pictures of the concerts of the Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival 2024 are [available for download here](#).

From **8 to 16 June 2024**, the third edition of the **Heidelberger Frühling Liedfestival** will present the Lied in all its diversity. The programme is available at www.heidelberger-fruehling.de/en/liedfestival/.

Further details on the 2024 Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival

The 2024 Musikfestival was the second of a total of five years with **Igor Levit as co-artistic director** alongside director Thorsten Schmidt. The pianist dedicated himself to Brahms with the “**Fellows**” – ten young aspiring musicians – in four concerts and two public rehearsals, as well as in a recital, a concert with violinist Renaud Capuçon and a school concert.

The festival celebrated **five world premieres** by the composers Elisabeth Fußeder (*2000), Alexey Retinsky (*1986), Vladimir Kobekin (*1947), PatKop (*1977), Olli Mustonen (*1967) and Goran Stevanovich (*1986).

The festival's own **Festivalcampus-Ensemble** of thirteen young artists worked on the “Brahms.LAB” project, curating six Brahms.LAB concerts and nine re:start concerts with free admission in Heidelberg's neighbourhoods. The programme covered a musical spectrum ranging from Brahms and

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contemporary music to pop, jazz and world music. The re:start programme reached around 2,000 people in Heidelberg's districts at venues.

Four festival concerts were recorded by media partner **SWR Kultur** and one concert by media partner **Deutschlandfunk Kultur**.

As a prelude to the 2024 Musikfestival, the “**Ouvertüre**” took place for the first time from 16 to 18 February with four events at the Hotel Der Europäische Hof, featuring violinist Veronika Eberle and her musical guests.

The 28th edition of the Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival has hosted major artistic personalities such as **Renaud Capuçon**, **Tabea Zimmermann**, **Jean-Guihen Queyras**, **Patricia Kopatchinskaja**, **Iveta Apkalna**, **Paavo Järvi**, **Anna Lucia Richter**, **Sharon Kam**, **Thomas Hampson** and **Christian Gerhaher** as well as internationally renowned ensembles and orchestras such as the **Quatuor Modigliani**, **Pavel Haas Quartet**, **Die Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen**, **Finnish Baroque Orchestra**, **Camerata RCO** and the **Orchestra of the 18th Century**.

Press contacts

Heidelberger Frühling
Sophia Pick

Head of Communications

+49 (0)6221 – 584 00 10

+49 (0)1520 – 93 35 874

s.pick@heidelberger-fruehling.de

Jane Roth

Press/ Communications

+49 (0)6221 – 584 00 46

j.roth@heidelberger-fruehling.de

for artists

Maren Borchers-Fromageot

+49 (0)30 – 414 78 17 40

+49 –(0)173 – 29 49 111

maren.borchers@forartists.de

Ulrike Arens

+ 49 (0)30 – 644 752 - 42

++49 (0)174 – 3086118

ulrike.arenis@forartists.de