



PRESS RELEASE

25th Moritzburg Festival ended successfully

Dresden, 24 August 2017 – On Sunday, the 25th Moritzburg Festival ended with chamber music works of Mahler and Mozart as well as with Mendelssohn's string octet op. 20. The final concert in the Lutheran Church in Moritzburg was so popular, tickets sold out in May.

14 concerts, two portrait concerts, two composer's talks, three public rehearsals, an extraordinary concert on a floating stage on the Moritzburg Castle's pond and the tour concert in Bad Elster enthralled over 6,500 guests. With 97% of tickets sold on average, the anniversary year lived up to the great success of earlier years.

Jan Vogler, Artistic Director, summarizes: "25 festivals in Moritzburg – and still we have surprising and fresh interpretations of chamber music every year. The idea of the festival is vigorous and lively and radiates its dynamic spirit to the world of classical music."

Under the patronage of the German Federal Minister of the Interior Thomas de Maizière 32 soloists including Alexander Sitkovetsky, Baiba Skride, Lawrence Power, Gloria Chien, Louis Lortie, Tobias Feldmann, Lise de la Salle, Jan Vogler, Felix Klieser, Mira Wang and Alessio Bax interpreted classic chamber music literature in unique casts. Contemporary works of this year's Composer-in-Residence Sven Helbig were an interesting contrast to Brahms or Beethoven: His "Pocket Symphonies" – arranged for quartet casts – combine classical music, pop and film music. The piece "Tres Momentos", a commissioned composition of the Moritzburg Festival, had its world premiere during the anniversary concert on August 11.

For the 25th anniversary, the castle concerts were played again in the Historic Dining Hall of Moritzburg Castle. After a complete restoration of the original floor from the 18th century, the dining hall was restricted from public events for many years. Other venues included the Lutheran churches in Moritzburg and Steinbach as well as Proschwitz Castle near Meißen. In Dresden, concerts took place in Volkswagen's Gläserne Manufaktur and in a spectacular hangar of the Elbeflugzeugwerke.

2017, over 500 musicians applied for the Moritzburg Festival Academy. This ambitious support program acquired an excellent reputation as a creative musical workshop and welcomed 50 young talents from 19 nations in Moritzburg. Under the direction of the Spanish conductor Josep Caballé Domenech they formed the Moritzburg Festival Orchestra and presented the Opening Concert in Volkswagen's Gläserne Manufaktur. The festival team is thrilled that this year, 21 private sponsors "adopted" one of the young musicians in order to support the intercultural exchange and financially contribute to the financing of all the scholarships.

The 26th festival will take place from August 11 – 26, 2018.

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