

LEIPZIG
REGION



CITY OF MUSIC :LEIPZIG

MAHLER FESTIVAL 2021
LEIPZIG BACHFEST 2021
MENDELSSOHN FESTIVAL 2021
WAGNER 2022



LEIPZIG. WHERE MUSIC CALLS THE TUNE.

Leipzig has been bringing music to life for over 800 years – and holds festivals to celebrate its musicians every year.

Music is always a blend of tradition and Zeitgeist. Especially in Leipzig. The St. Thomas Boys Choir, founded in 1212, was markedly influenced in the Baroque era by its most renowned Cantor, Johann Sebastian Bach. Back then, no-one had any idea that the boys' choir would still be performing his motets and cantatas in St. Thomas Church today. And Leipzig has even more superlatives to offer. The history of the now world-famous Gewandhausorchester began with the "Grand Concerts" founded by citizens of Leipzig in 1743. Leipzig Opera – the third oldest music stage in Europe – came into being as far back as 1693. Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Musical Director of the Gewandhausorchester founded the first German conservatoire in 1843. Clara and Robert Schumann, Johannes Brahms and Gustav Mahler also worked here, creating works that are out-standing in the history of music.

And visitors can stroll around the unique "Leipzig Music Trail", which connects 23 of the locations where famous composers lived and worked. These musical greats, unique musical ensembles and events such as the music festivals described, all make Leipzig into what it is – an absolute must for music-lovers!

GEWANDHAUS FESTIVAL

Mahler Festival 2021

10 world-class orchestras in 12 days

13 to 24 May 2021 at the Leipzig Gewandhaus concert hall



In May 2021, it will be all about Gustav Mahler at the Leipzig Gewandhaus concert hall. They are offering a unique programme: all his symphonies and other orchestral works interpreted by ten world-class orchestras over just twelve days in the city where Mahler became a symphonic composer. From 1886 to 1888, Mahler spent two formative years of his life in Leipzig, which set the course for his later career. Leipzig and the Gewandhausorchester promise to provide an authentic experience. Ten years after the first Mahler Festival in 2011, Europe's top orchestras will once again present their individual interpretations of Mahler's symphonic vision. In addition to concerts by the Gewandhausorchester under Director Andris Nelsons, audiences will be able to enjoy 14 concerts by other orchestras and their principal conductors, including the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam. The concerts will be complemented by film and recitals, city walking tours themed around Gustav Mahler in Leipzig, and much more.

LEIPZIG BACHFEST

2021: „Redemption“

featuring the series „Bach’s Messiah“ (12 to 15 June 2021)

11 to 20 June 2021, numerous locations in and around Leipzig



Every year in June, the City of Leipzig’s Bachfest honours Johann Sebastian Bach, who was Cantor of St. Thomas’ Church in Leipzig from 1727 until his death in 1750. The 2021 Bachfest will be held under the motto “Redemption”. It will begin with “Bach’s Messiah”, a four-day series of eleven concerts in which the life and work of Jesus of Nazareth is recounted with the performance of 33 selected cantatas, the three oratorios and the St. Matthew Passion by J. S. Bach. World-famous Bach conductors such as Ton Koopman, Masaaki Suzuki and Hans-Christoph Rademann are involved in the series, and of course the Thomas Cantor, Gotthold Schwarz, along with the St. Thomas Choir will also be present. To mark the 300th anniversary of the “Brandenburg Concertos”, some of the world’s best baroque orchestras will highlight the musical context of this legendary concert series. Essentially, it will be a Bachfest full of highlights in which every single concert will make you feel exactly the same as what the Pope emeritus Benedict XVI attested to in his Bachfest opening remarks about the music of the famous Thomas Cantor: that it “touches and will touch humanity as a whole and throughout all time”. Performed at Bach’s original Leipzig venues, it will certainly leave Bach pilgrims from all over the world with unforgettable experiences.

www.bachfestleipzig.de/en

MENDELSSOHN FESTIVAL

2021: Mendelssohn's masterpieces, music of the Romantic
1 to 7 November 2021

Leipzig Gewandhaus concert hall and Mendelssohn House



The memory of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy is kept very much alive in Leipzig. Traditionally, the composer and musician is commemorated by the many concerts held on Mendelssohn Day on 4 November every year, the anniversary of his death. Since 1997, he has also been commemorated by the Mendelssohn Festival, which from 2021 will be given a makeover in a collaboration between the Leipzig Gewandhaus concert hall and the Mendelssohn House, presenting a diverse and challenging programme. During the festival in autumn 2021, visitors will be able to enjoy concerts by the Gewandhausorchester under the direction of Andris Nelsons, as well as choral and chamber music of the Romantic era performed by top-class artistes and ensembles. In 2022, Leipzig will celebrate the 175th anniversary of the composer's death with a wide range of events. One highlight will be the Mendelssohn Festival.

www.gewandhausorchester.de/en

www.mendelssohn-haus.de/en

LEIPZIG OPERA FESTIVAL

Wagner 2022

13 Wagner operas in three weeks

20 June to 14 July 2022 at the Leipzig Opera House



In summer 2022, the world of music will turn its gaze to Leipzig. The opera house in Richard Wagner's city of birth will be performing all thirteen of the composer's works in chronological order. Nowhere in the world has this been done before. Leipzig Opera has a tradition stretching back more than 325 years, and is one of the jewels in the City of Music's crown. Leipzig composers such as Bach, Schumann, Mendelssohn and Wagner made musical history. Wagner's hometown remains a popular destination for lovers of his works from all around the world. One reason for this is the outstanding quality of the musicians of the Gewandhausorchester, one of the best orchestras in the world that accompanies each opera performance. It should come as no surprise, then, that many international Wagner stars are particularly eager to perform Wagner's pieces with the Gewandhausorchester and Artistic and General Music Director Ulf Schirmer.

THE FESTIVAL RHYTHM

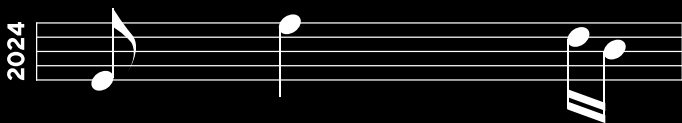
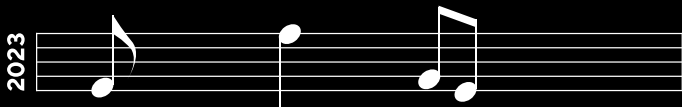
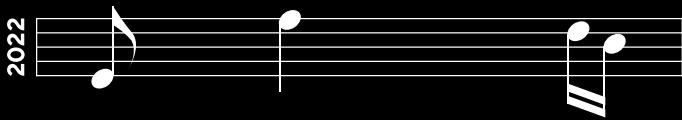
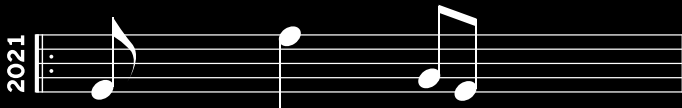
CITY OF MUSIC
:LEIPZIG

LEIPZIG BACHFEST
yearly

MENDELSSOHN FESTIVAL
yearly, starting 2021

GEWANDHAUS FESTIVAL
every two years

LEIPZIG OPERA FESTIVAL
every two years



For further information about the music festivals
and travel packages, see:

WWW.LEIPZIG.TRAVEL/CITYOFMUSIC

PUBLISHED BY

Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing GmbH
Augustusplatz 9, 04109 Leipzig

IMAGE CREDITS

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Bach Festival © Gert Mothes
Mendelssohn House © Andreas Schmidt
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PUBLICATION DATE

02.11.2020



City of Leipzig