



69th Concert Season

Season Brochure

2024/2025

Filharmonie
Brno Philharmonic



CARNEGIE HALL, NEW YORK

The American conductor
and his Czech players –
incisive woodwinds, imposing brass,
and versatile strings – brought all
of the imagery vividly to life.

David Wright

New York Classical Review

GROßES FESTSPIELHAUS, SALZBURG

Den „Sound“ haben diese
Musiker so in den Genen
wie die Wiener Philharmoniker
den Donauwalzer.

Reinhard Kriechbaum

DrehPunktKultur

USHER HALL, EDINBURGH

The orchestra showed us that
they can play music from
a completely different heritage
to their own with consummate ease.

Brian Bannatyne-Scott

Edinburgh Music Review

CADOGAN HALL, LONDON

Slavic soulfulness at its best.

Alexander Hall

Bachtrack

Filharmonie Brno

The roots of Filharmonie Brno go back to the 1870s, when the young Leoš Janáček endeavoured to establish a Czech symphony orchestra in Brno. The works of the famous twentieth-century composer constitute the core of the orchestra's repertory, and to this day Filharmonie Brno considers itself to be the authentic performer of his oeuvre.

The present orchestra was created in 1956 by merging the Brno-based Radio and Regional orchestras, and since then has been among the leading Czech orchestras in terms of both size and importance. On its tours abroad, it has performed about a thousand concerts throughout Europe, the United States of America, Latin America and both the Middle and Far East. Filharmonie Brno is a regular guest at festivals in the Czech Republic and abroad, frequently joining forces for these appearances with the Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno. In the 2022/2023 season, the orchestra toured the UK and the US and visited many renowned venues (the Rheingau Festival, the Ars Electronica Festival in Linz, the Grosses Festspielhaus in Salzburg and the Gewandhaus in Leipzig). The 2023/2024 season was full of performances at the greatest Central European venues such as the Narodowe Forum Muzyki (Wrocław), Wiener Konzerthaus (Vienna) and Reduta (Bratislava), as well as the Grafenegg Festival (Austria).

The orchestra regularly records for the Czech Radio, Czech Television and a number of music labels (including Supraphon, Sony Music, Orange Mountain Music, Nonesuch, IMG Records, BMG and Channel 4), and in 2020 founded its own label, Filharmonie Brno. Seven titles have been released on the label so far, and a recording of Philip Glass's 12th Symphony was nominated for an ICMA award in 2022. It is also receiving a growing number of commissions from global clientele through the agency Czech Orchestra Recordings.

Throughout its history, the orchestra has had a number of Czech and international conductors, including Břetislav Bakala, František Jílek, Petr Altrichter, Jiří Bělohlávek, Sir Charles Mackerras, Michael Schönwandt, Alexander Liebreich, Michel Tabachnik, Jakub Hrůša and Tomáš Netopil. Maestro Dennis Russell Davies has been appointed the orchestra's chief conductor and artistic director beginning with the 2018/2019 season.

Since 2000 Filharmonie Brno has been organising the open-air summer festival at the Špilberk castle in Brno, and in 2012 has become the organiser of the renowned and well-established festivals Moravian Autumn, the Easter Festival of Sacred Music and the Exposition of New Music. The orchestra sponsors



the internationally lauded children's choir Kantiléna, has been involved since 2010 in the young musicians' festival Mozart's Children, and in 2014 founded the Filharmonie Brno Orchestra Academy.

Today Filharmonie Brno is not only a strong player in the field of symphonic music at home and abroad, but also the primary organiser of the musical season in the second largest Czech city, an active instigator of festivals, creator of a wide range of educational events and a leader in orchestral programming. Its home is Besední dům (former Czech community hall), the Brno counterpart to Vienna's Musikverein, built in 1873 according to a design by Theophil Hansen. The orchestra is now looking forward to its new modern concert hall, which is being designed by a team of Tomasz Konior, Petr Hrůša and acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota.

Dennis Russell Davies

Artistic Director and Chief Conductor

Dennis Russell Davies' activities as opera and orchestral conductor, and as pianist and chamber musician, are characterized by an extensive repertory stretching from pre-Baroque to the latest music of our time. Widely considered to be one of the most innovative and adventurous conductors/programmers in the classical music world, Davies has successfully challenged and inspired audiences on both sides of the Atlantic as well as in Japan. He is noted for exciting, well-structured concerts and for his close working relationships with such varied composers as Luciano Berio, William Bolcom, John Cage, Philip Glass, Heinz Winbeck, Aaron Copland, Lou Harrison, Laurie Anderson, Arvo Pärt, Hans Werner Henze, Kurt Schwertsik, Thomas Larcher, Balduin Sulzer, and Manfred Trojahn.

After first appointments as Music Director of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Chief Conductor of the American Composers Orchestra, which he led for 25 years, Davies moved to Europe as General Music Director of the Staatsoper Stuttgart, then Opera Bonn and the Beethovenhalle Orchestra. He subsequently led the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, and the Symphony Orchestra Basel. In 2013, during his long and successful tenure in Linz as Chief Conductor of the Linz Opera and Bruckner Orchester, Davies inaugurated the new Linzer Musiktheater. Since 2018 Dennis Russell Davies is Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Filharmonie Brno. In Autumn 2020 he assumed the position Chief Conductor of the MDR Sinfonieorchester Leipzig.

Dennis Russell Davies' rich discography includes complete recordings of the symphonies of Bruckner and Philip Glass, Haydn, and Arthur Honegger. With his wife and duo partner Maki Namekawa he has recorded extensively, including works by Mozart, Beethoven, Shostakovich, Philip Glass, and Stravinsky.

Born in Toledo, Ohio in 1944, Davies studied piano and conducting at the Juilliard School in New York. From 1997 to 2012 he was professor for orchestral conducting at the University Mozarteum Salzburg.

→ For more: www.rbartists.at and www.dennisrusselldavies.com



Orchestra Members

First violins

Pavel Wallinger, concertmaster

Marie Petříková, concertmaster

Leoš Zavadilík

Marie Pšenícová

Martin Pavlík

Irena Hůrková

Jiří Kopecký

Mária Fiľová

Olga Drápelová

Jaromír Graffe

Jan Vašta

Barbora Gajdošová

Pavel Oračko

Renáta Staňková

Hiroaki Matsui

Terezie Saxová

Kristýna Jungová

Barbara Tolarová

Tomáš Vinklát

Second violins

Jan Rybka

Bohumír Strnad

Jiří Víšek

Dorothea Kellerová

Lenka Zichová

Antonín Formáček

Jakub Výborný

Jana Horáková

Filip Kostecký

Ludmila Netolická

Alena Pavlušová

Sakura Ito

Antonina Tyshko

Arisa Harada

unoccupied

Violas

Petr Pšenica

Julián Veverica

Karel Plocek

Emil Machain

Tomáš Kulík

Martin Heller

Otakar Salajka

David Šlechta

Klára Kunc Hegnerová

Aneta Habšudová

Martin Jeriga

Josef Janda

unoccupied

Cellos

Lukáš Polák, concertmaster

Michal Greco

Eva Kovalová

Lukáš Svoboda

Michal Hreňo

Pavla Vydrová

Radan Vach

Rudolf Mrazík

Iveta Vacková

Pavlna Jelínková

Katarína Madariiová

Double basses

Marek Švestka

Ondřej Sejkora

Martin Sedlák

Vojtěch Velíšek

Miloslav Raisigl

Martin Šranko

Jaromír Gardoň

Barbora Opršalová

Jan Hajný

Anežka Moravčíková

Flutes

Martina Venc Matušinská

Petr Pomkla

Karolína Korcová

Aneta Dvořáková

František Kantor

Oboes

Anikó Kovarikné Hegedűs

Barbora Trnčíková

Marcela Tománková

Catherine Zatloukalová

Zdeněk Nádeníček

Clarinets

Lukáš Daňhel

Emil Drápela

Věra Drápelová

Jiří Sedláček

Petr Kavalír

Bassoons

Jozef Makarovič

Dušan Drápela

Petr Hlavatý

Jana Košnářová

Jiří Jakubec

French horns

Karel Hofmann

Nicolas Perez

Milan Mrazík

Igor Michalík

Petr Chomoucký

Miloš Kovařík

David Ryšánek

Trumpets

Ondřej Jurčeka

Dávid Pollák

Jan Broda

Vojtěch Novotný

Petr Hojač

Trombones

Jaroslav Zouhar

Jiří Vydra

Jakub Pavluš

Pavel Šuráň

unoccupied

Tuba

Petr Jirák

Percussion

Lukáš Krejčí

Radek Tomášek

Petr Hladík

Tomoe Sonoda

Maximilian Jopp

Harp

Ivana Švestková

Filharmonie Brno Orchestra Academy Members

For seasons 2023/2024 and 2024/2025

Viola

Ariana Suleiman Shakh

Cellos

Štěpánka Plocková
Markéta Prudilová

Flutes

Elena D'Inca
Marie Janičková

Oboe

Arseny Menkov

Clarinets

Natálie Hrdová
Tomáš Novotný

Bassoon

Teresa Bínová

French horn

Juraj Zahradníček

Trumpets

Barbora Ticháčková
Oldřich Engelhart

Tuba

Martin Weidinger

Percussion

Anežka Nováková
Martin Kučík

Filharmonie Brno Orchestra Academy is a project that allows talented young musicians – students or fresh graduates of music schools, who are selected by audition – to gain orchestral experience in a professional ensemble.

In this way, the Filharmonie nurtures the next generation of players who might in the future become its members. The Academy has been running for nine seasons now and the fruits of its labours are evident: some of the graduates have become members of our orchestra, while others regularly return as guest players.

Participation in the Academy offers students not just the possibility of orchestral practice, but also the chance to present their abilities in chamber performance, in a concert series entitled *Young Blood* or *Music Up Close*.



CALENDAR

AUGUST 2024

18 to 25 ŠPILBERK FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 2024

1 ŠTETL FEST: HAAS 125/80 & SCHOENBERG 150 /
Alexander Liebreich

15 SEASON OPENING: SMETANA 200
& BRUCKNER 200 / Dennis Russell Davies

OCTOBER 2024

10 and 11 "LEAVE ME ALONE..." / Leoš Svárovský

13 to 19 EXPOSITION OF NEW MUSIC

23 THE LANDSCAPES NEARBY OF HARP AND
DOUBLE BASS / Ivana Švestková and Marek Švestka

NOVEMBER 2024

21 and 22 SCHNITTKE 90 & BACH / Robert Kružík

28 and 29 MAHLER'S FOLK LEGEND / Dennis Russell Davies

DECEMBER 2024

12 and 13 MESSIAH / Dennis Russell Davies

19 and 20 FABIO BIONDI & FILHARMONIE BRNO

JANUARY 2025

1 NEW YEAR'S CONCERT / Michel Tabachnik

9 and 10 MOZART AND JANULYTÉ: CONFLUERE /
Tomáš Netopil

15 ALEXANDRE THARAUD PIANO RECITAL

16 and 17 MAURICE RAVEL 150 / Dennis Russell Davies

23 PRIZE-WINNERS' CONCERT / Robert Kružík

30 and 31 METAMORPHOSES / Dennis Russell Davies

FEBRUARY 2025

21 AS TIME GOES BY: IN THE ORCHESTRA /
Patrik Červák

27 and 28 HIDDEN TREASURES OF ROMANTICISM /
Robert Kružík

MARCH 2025

6 THE MOZART EFFECT / Patrik Červák

13 and 14 HAYDN'S CREATION / Petr Altrichter

27 and 28 SCHUMANN & SHOSTAKOVICH /
Dennis Russell Davies

APRIL 2025

2 A STAR VIENNESE QUARTET

13 to 27 EASTER FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC

MAY 2025

22 and 23 BEETHOVEN, "BOHEMIAN BEETHOVEN"
AND MARTINŮ / Alena Hron

29 and 30 WEST SIDE STORY, FRIDA KAHLO AND MISHIMA /
Dennis Russell Davies

29 May to 3 Jun EXPOSITION OF NEW MUSIC

JUNE 2025

8 MOZART'S CHILDREN 2025 – FESTIVE CONCERT

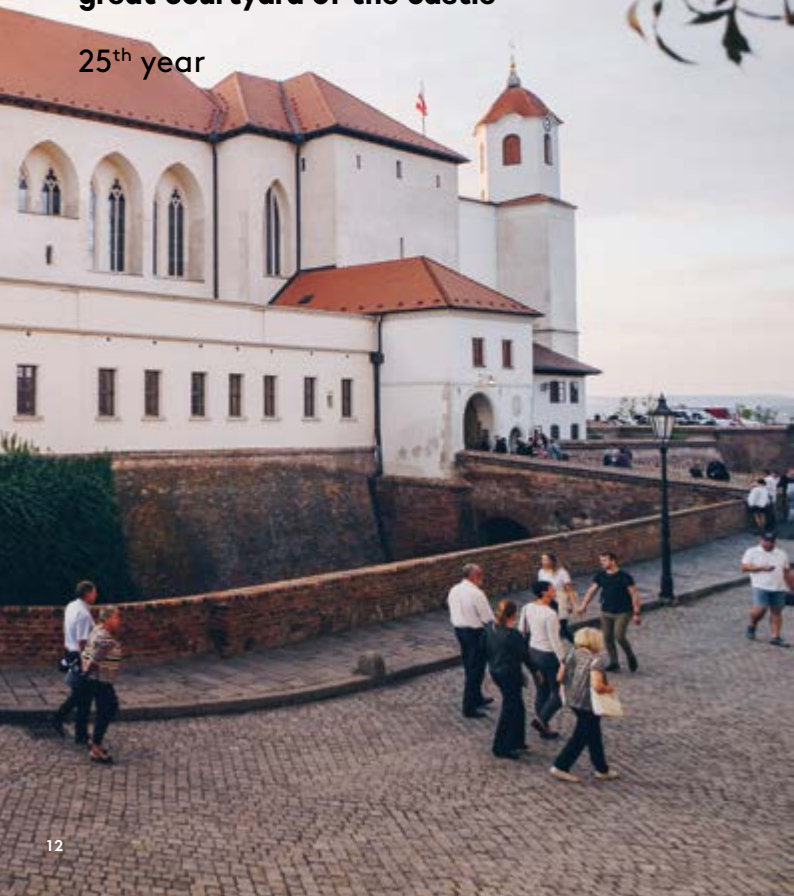
17 ADÉLAÏDE FERRIÈRE PERCUSSION RECITAL

19 and 20 SUMMER REFRESHMENT / Tomáš Hanus

Špilberk Festival

great courtyard of the castle

25th year



SUN 18 Aug 2024, 8:00pm

PAVEL ČERNOCH 50

Arias, duets and orchestral music from operas by Giuseppe Verdi, Umberto Giordano, Ruggero Leoncavallo, Giacomo Puccini, Alfredo Catalani, Amilcare Ponchielli, Bedřich Smetana and Antonín Dvořák

Pavel Černoch tenor, **Jana Šrejma Kačírková** soprano
Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra
conductor **Jaroslav Kyzlink**

WED 21 Aug 2024, 8:00pm

JAMES BOND NIGHT

Sára Milfajtová voice, **David Kraus** voice
Czech National Symphony Orchestra
conductor **Steven Mercurio**

SAT 24 Aug 2024, 8:00pm

KBS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

DVOŘÁK Carnival
BRUCH Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor
SIBELIUS Symphony No. 2 in D major

Bomsori Kim violin
KBS Symphony Orchestra
conductor **Pietari Inkinen**

SUN 25 Aug 2024, 8:00pm

BEETHOVEN'S NINTH 200

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9 in D minor

Tereza Mátllová soprano, **Jana Hrochová**
mezzo-soprano, **Peter Berger** tenor, **Roman Hoza** bass
Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno
choir director **Petr Fiala**, **Filharmonie Brno**
conductor **Leoš Svárovský**

SUN 1 Sep 2024, 8:00pm, Besední dům

ŠTETL FEST: HAAS 125/80 & SCHOENBERG 150

PAVEL HAAS

Study for Strings

Suite for Oboe and Piano

(arr. by Ondřej Kyas for oboe and strings)

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG

Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night)

Vilém Veverka oboe

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Alexander Liebreich**

With the theme this year of “Jewish trauma in art from Kafka to Barbie”, the multi-genre international ŠTETL FEST affords a glimpse into Jewish culture and history. As part of the festival, Filharmonie Brno will commemorate two major composers of Jewish descent.

When Germans occupied the Czech lands, the Brno-based **Pavel Haas** (125 years since his birth and 80 years since his death) expressed his feelings in the **Suite for Oboe and Piano** (1939). In 1941 Haas was interned at the Theresienstadt concentration camp, where he composed the **Study for Strings** (1943) for the local chamber orchestra. Camp officials recorded the première of the piece to provide evidence of the “beautiful life” Jews enjoyed in the camp, thus making Haas part of their farcical Nazi propaganda. A month later, the composer was deported to Auschwitz and murdered.

The Austrian composer **Arnold Schoenberg** (150 years since his birth) also suffered Nazi persecution, but was able to escape to the United States. Celebrated for his atonal and twelve-tone music, in his early works he drew on the late Romantic ambience, as shown by both the music and the programme of his one-movement **Verklärte Nacht** (1899). The music relates and expressively intensifies the story of a woman who, following an affair with a stranger, becomes pregnant, yet is forgiven by her beloved.

• Prices (CZK) 350 / 300 / 250

“YEAR OF”
“CZECH”
“MUSIC”
“2024”



Alexander Liebreich, Besední dům, © Sammy Hart

SEASON OPENING: SMETANA 200 & BRUCKNER 200

“YEAR OF”
“CZECH”
“MUSIC”
“2024”



BEDŘICH SMETANA

Hakon Jarl, symphonic poem

Richard III, symphonic poem

ANTON BRUCKNER

Symphony No. 7 in E major

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Filharmonie Brno enters its 69th season, once more under the baton of its chief conductor, Dennis Russell Davies, for whom this will be the seventh season at the helm of our orchestra. This 2024 concert programme commemorates important anniversaries of two composers, the founder of Czech national music **Bedřich Smetana** and the notable Austrian symphonist **Anton Bruckner** – both of these titans of the Romantic period were born 200 years ago.

Before he became chief conductor in Brno, Dennis Russell Davies led the Bruckner Orchester Linz for 15 years. Through frequent performances of Bruckner's works he has delved deeply not just into the music of this native of Ansfelden (today a suburb of Linz), but also the particularities and pitfalls it presents to interpretation. He is therefore a renowned Brucknerian conductor and each of his performances of the composer's music offers a powerful experience. He has already conducted the *First*, the *Fourth*, the *Fifth* and the *Sixth* symphonies in Brno; now we can look forward to the *Seventh*.

• Prices (CZK) 790 / 690 / 590 / 390 / 290



THU 10 and FRI 11 Oct 2024, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

“LEAVE ME ALONE...”

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

Slavonic Rhapsody No. 1 in D major

Slavonic Rhapsody No. 2 in G minor

Slavonic Rhapsody No. 3 in A-flat major

Cello Concerto in B minor

Laura van der Heijden cello

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Leoš Svárovský**

When **Antonín Dvořák** (1841–1904) was composing one of his greatest and best known works, the **Cello Concerto in B minor**, he heard about the severe illness that afflicted the love of his youth and later his sister-in-law Josefina, the wife of Count Kounic. The composer responded by quoting one of Josefina’s favourite songs of his, “Leave Me Alone” (from *Four Songs*, Op. 82), in the second movement. Following her death Dvořák decided to alter the concerto’s finale, quoting this theme once more and attaching one of his most moving musical farewells.

The **Slavonic Rhapsodies** (1878) are a loose triptych of contrasting pieces (not linked together by overarching ideas): an idyllic mood prevails in the first, the second is dramatic, the third joyfully exuberant. The composer premièred the first two himself with the Provisional Theatre orchestra in Prague in November 1878; the third was taken up a year later by Wilhelm Taubert and the Königliche Kapelle in Berlin. Even today, the *Slavonic Rhapsodies* are rarely presented together in a concert programme; indeed, the performance of any of them is lamentably rare.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250

“YEAR OF”
“CZECH”
“MUSIC”
“2024”



Laura van der Heijden

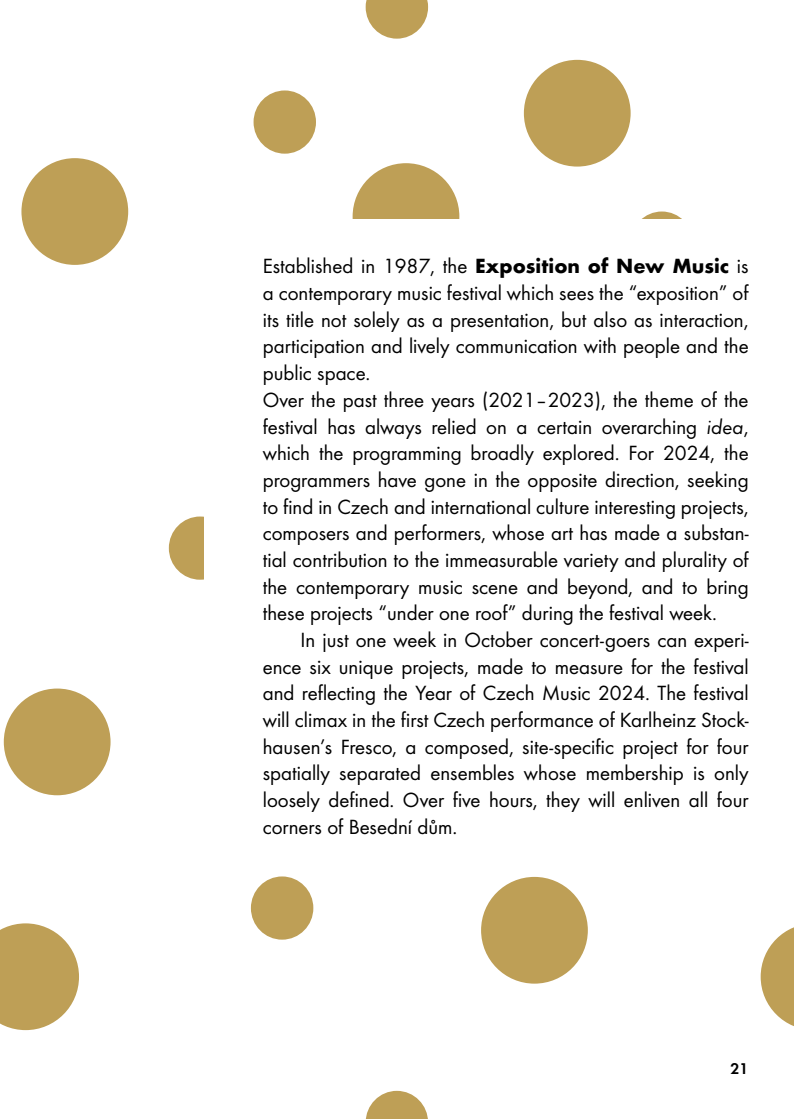


EXPOSITION OF NEW MUSIC

36th year
SUN 13 to SAT 19
October 2024

[NO IDEAS]
BUT IN THINGS

YEAR OF
CZECH
MUSIC
2024



Established in 1987, the **Exposition of New Music** is a contemporary music festival which sees the “exposition” of its title not solely as a presentation, but also as interaction, participation and lively communication with people and the public space.

Over the past three years (2021–2023), the theme of the festival has always relied on a certain overarching *idea*, which the programming broadly explored. For 2024, the programmers have gone in the opposite direction, seeking to find in Czech and international culture interesting projects, composers and performers, whose art has made a substantial contribution to the immeasurable variety and plurality of the contemporary music scene and beyond, and to bring these projects “under one roof” during the festival week.

In just one week in October concert-goers can experience six unique projects, made to measure for the festival and reflecting the Year of Czech Music 2024. The festival will climax in the first Czech performance of Karlheinz Stockhausen’s *Fresco*, a composed, site-specific project for four spatially separated ensembles whose membership is only loosely defined. Over five hours, they will enliven all four corners of Besední dům.

WED 23 Oct 2024, 7:00pm, Besední dům

THE LANDSCAPES NEARBY OF HARP AND DOUBLE BASS

“YEAR OF”
“CZECH”
“MUSIC”
“2024”

PAVEL TROJAN *The Landscape Nearby*

LEOŠ JANÁČEK / arr. **IVANA ŠVESTKOVÁ**

On an Overgrown Path (selections)

JIŘÍ PAUER *Suite for Harp*

JAN FRANK FISCHER *Four Etudes for Harp Solo* (selections)

FRANÇOIS RABBATH *Ode d’Espagne, Poucha Dass*

GIOVANNI BOTTESINI *Elegy No. 1 in D major*

NICCOLÒ PAGANINI

Variations on One String on a Theme by Rossini

ARVO PÄRT *Spiegel im Spiegel*

CARLO FRANCHI *Introduction and Tarantella*

DEBORAH HENSON-CONANT *Baroque Flamenco*

Ivana Švestková harp

Marek Švestka double bass

Presented by wife-and-husband Ivana Švestková and Marek Švestka, this recital offers solos for harp and double bass and pieces for the two instruments in duo. The programme comprises music from the 18th century to the present, paying special attention to the works of Czech composers.

Combining the harp and double bass is unusual, yet Ivana’s and Marek’s recital shows that their “landscapes” can be very close. The title of the concert was inspired by the opening number of the programme: a concert piece for harp solo, *The Landscape Nearby*, written by the contemporary Czech composer Pavel Trojan for the 2016 Prague Harp competition.

• Prices (CZK) 410 / 370 / 320



Ivana Švestková and Marek Švestka, © Julian Veverica

THU 21 and FRI 22 Nov 2024, 7:00pm Besední dům

SCHNITTKE 90 & BACH

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH / arr. **OTTORINO RESPIGHI**

Three Chorales for orchestra

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH / arr. **OTTORINO RESPIGHI**

Violin Sonata in E minor (after BWV 1023)

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH / arr. **IGOR STRAVINSKY**

Chorale Variations "Vom Himmel hoch da komm' ich her"

ALFRED SCHNITTKE

Symphony No. 4

Martin Pavlík violin

Gaudeamus Choir Brno

choir director **Daša Karasová**

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Robert Kružík**

"For me, Bach is the unrivalled ideal who stands in the middle of it all. He is the centre, the sun that shines on all sides, whatever I am working on at the moment." - Alfred Schnittke

Alfred Schnittke (1934–1998), a leading composer of the second half of the 20th century, would be 90 on 24 November 2024. He was the voice of his time, like Dmitri Shostakovich before him, and Schnittke's works are a continuation of sorts of Shostakovich's oeuvre. Recently, Schnittke has been regularly programmed by Filharmonie Brno in its concert seasons and at festivals.

We commemorate Schnittke's 90th birthday by performing his **Fourth Symphony**, composed in 1984. A profound work on a sacred theme, its structure refers to the Rosary and its motivic material is derived from melodic models adopted from Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish music. This connection symbolically underlines the unity of humanity and appeals to mutual tolerance in matters of faith and culture, carrying a universally valid humanistic message that only becomes more urgent in our troubled times.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



THU 28 and FRI 29 Nov 2024, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

MAHLER'S FOLK LEGEND

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD

Der Sturm (The Tempest) for choir and orchestra

Einfache Lieder (Simple Songs) for soprano and orchestra (selections)

JOSEF BOHUSLAV FOERSTER

Festive Overture

GUSTAV MAHLER

Das klagende Lied for soloists, choir and orchestra, original version in three movements

Chen Reiss soprano, **Stefanie Irányi** alto

Attilio Glaser tenor, **Michael Wagner** baritone

Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno, choir director **Petr Fiala**

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

These concerts commemorate the 100th anniversary of Czech Radio's Brno studio. Friday's performance will be broadcast live on Czech Radio's Vltava station.

Exactly 90 years ago, on 28 November 1934, Blahoslavův dům in Brno's Nová Street (now Lidická Street) saw the world première of the original three-movement version of **Gustav Mahler's Das klagende Lied** (in Czech, translated by František Kožík). The performance involved – among others – the orchestra of the Brno radio station (that is, one of the two orchestras from which Filharmonie Brno would eventually be established), and Mahler's nephew Alfred Rosé stood on the conductor's podium. Thanks to a live broadcast, radio audiences could enjoy the concert too.

Tonight's performance of *Das Klagende Lied* commemorates the 90th anniversary of the world première of the original version in Brno and the 100th anniversary of the opening of what was then Czechoslovak Radio's Brno studio. Mahler's music will be heard alongside works by composers on whom the native of Kaliště near Humpolec left an indelible mark.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250

“YEAR OF”
“CZECH”
“MUSIC”
“2024”



Chen Reiss

THU 12 and FRI 13 Dec 2024, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

MESSIAH

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL / arr. **WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART**

Messiah / Der Messias, oratorio for soloists, mixed choir and orchestra

Jana Sibera soprano

Václava Krejčí Housková mezzo-soprano

Christoph Prégardien tenor

Lukáš Bařák bass-baritone

Slovak Philharmonic Choir

choir director **Jan Rozehnal**

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

The total failure of his opera *Deidamia* convinced the 56-year-old **George Frideric Handel** (1685–1759) that his long reign over the London music scene as opera composer and entrepreneur was definitely over. Financial difficulties and social embarrassment made him leave for Dublin, but before he went, over three weeks in August and September 1741 Handel wrote **Messiah**, perhaps his greatest work. The text, prepared by Charles Jennens, is not a standard oratorio libretto, compiled as it was exclusively from brief excerpts from Scripture – from the Psalms to Revelation.

The Dublin première of *Messiah* was a triumph; its acclaim reached London, so when Handel later returned he could again hold his head high. He continued to compose oratorios; after 15 more his position became unshakeable.

At the invitation of his patron, Gottfried van Swieten, **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** (1756–1791) revised Handel's oratorio in 1789, adapting it to the German version of the libretto and adding more wind instruments, so that the original sound of the Baroque orchestra came closer to the Viennese taste; yet Mozart's genius did not allow the work to lose its original spirit. On the contrary, he discovered a new beauty in it. Mozart's version, *Der Messias*, was first heard on 6 March 1789 at the palace of Count Esterházy; the score was first printed only in 1803, a long time after Mozart's death.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250



Christoph Prégardien

THU 19 and FRI 20 Dec 2024, 7:00pm, Besední dům

FABIO BIONDI & FILHARMONIE BRNO

“YEAR OF”
“CZECH”
“MUSIC”
“2024”

ANTONIO VIVALDI

Concerto per l'orchestra di Dresda in Sol minore

JAN DISMAS ZELENKA

Simphonie à 8 concertanti

PIETRO NARDINI

Violin Concerto in A, Op. 1 No. 1

LUIGI BOCCHERINI

Symphony in D minor (Sinfonia la casa del diavolo)

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Fabio Biondi** violin

The Italian violinist and conductor **Fabio Biondi** is celebrated for his historically informed performance of early music and as the artistic director of the world famous ensemble Europa Galante, which he founded in 1989.

With Filharmonie Brno, he will present an attractive programme, offering works by three Italian composers of various generations, from Baroque to early Classical: **Antonio Vivaldi** (1678–1741), **Pietro Nardini** (1722–1793) and **Luigi Boccherini** (1743–1805). These Italian masters will be complemented by the Czech Baroque composer, **Jan Dismas Zelenka** (1679–1745), whose music has enjoyed an unprecedented renaissance over recent decades. Zelenka is rightly seen globally as a major composer of the late Baroque era. He is known in particular for his vocal-orchestral works, but also wrote purely instrumental pieces. In 1717 he celebrated success in Vienna with his *Capriccios*. Working in Prague in 1722–1723, he composed several pieces that he probably never heard performed. Their titles include the word “concertanti” and a numeral indicating the number of instrumental voices. Conceived after the model of Vivaldi’s concerto grosso, but leaving the solo instruments as part of the orchestra, they include ***Simphonie à 8 concertanti***, which we will hear at the concert in Besední dům.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



Fabio Biondi, © Emile Ashley

WED 1 Jan 2025, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

NEW YEAR'S CONCERT – JOHANN STRAUSS II 200

JOHANN STRAUSS II:

Die Fledermaus, overture

Brünner Nationalgarde Marsch

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD / arr. **FRANZ KOPRIVA**

Tales of Strauss

RICHARD STRAUSS

Waltz from Der Rosenkavalier

JOHANN STRAUSS II

Studenten-Polka, An der Elbe, Indigo-Marsch, Kaiser-Walzer,

Vergnugungszug

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH

Waltz No. 2 from Suite for Jazz Orchestra No. 2

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD

Straussiana

JOHANN STRAUSS II

Elektro-magnetische Polka, The Blue Danube,

Tritsch-Tratsch-Polka

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Michel Tabachnik**

Filharmonie Brno was established on 1 January 1956 and performed its first concert that very day. Since then it has held regular New Year concerts (except in 2021, when the event was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic), thus symbolically welcoming not just the start of a new year but also celebrating its birthday – in 2025 it will be the orchestra's 69th. That year, among other things, we will commemorate the 200th birthday of Johann Strauss II, "the Waltz King".

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



MOZART AND JANULYTĚ: CONFLUERE

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Sinfonia concertante in E-flat major for violin, viola and orchestra

JUSTĚ JANULYTĚ

Confluere for chamber orchestra, joint commission from Radio France, L'Orchestre national des Pays de la Loire and Filharmonie Brno; first Czech performance

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Symphony No. 40 in G minor

Fedor Rudin violin

Pavel Nikl viola

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Tomáš Netopil**

The word “confluere” comes from Latin and means “to flow together”. Written by the internationally successful Lithuanian composer Justė Janulytė, the work with this name is intended to be performed immediately before Mozart’s *Symphony No. 40 in G minor* – as if one river is flowing into another. Janulytė adopts the famous opening theme of Mozart’s symphony – a figure reminiscent of sighing (*sospiro*), which she diversely varies, colours and harmonises, preparing the audience for the arrival of Mozart’s piece. *Confluere* was played to acclaim on 13 March 2024 in Paris by Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France conducted by Kristiina Poska. Filharmonie Brno co-commissioned the work and will give the first Czech performance.

Described as composer of monochrome music, Justė Janulytė is not unknown in Brno. In 2014 as part of the Exposition of New Music festival, Filharmonie Brno presented her *Elongation of Nights*, and the following year’s Moravian Autumn staged her feature-long multimedia project, *Sandglasses*, the work which, some years previously, had launched her illustrious international career.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



ALEXANDRE THARAUD PIANO RECITAL

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

"Herr, unser Herrscher", chorus from St John Passion, arr. A. Tharaud

Sicilienne from Flute Sonata, BWV 1031, arr. A. Tharaud

Suite in A minor, BWV 818a

"Aus Liebe will mein Heiland sterben", aria from St Matthew Passion,
arr. A. Tharaud

Suite in E minor for lute, BWV 996, arr. A. Tharaud

MAURICE RAVEL

Miroirs (Mirrors)

PAUL DUKAS

L'Apprenti sorcier (The Sorcerer's Apprentice), arr. A. Tharaud

Alexandre Tharaud piano

This is not the first time that Alexandre Tharaud, one of the most acclaimed pianists of his generation, has played in Brno. In October 2019, as part of the Moravian Autumn festival, he gave a recital at Besední dům, enthusing the audience with his performances of pieces by famous and less well-known composers associated with Versailles: Lully, Rameau, Couperin, d'Anglebert, Royer, Duphy and Balbastre. Although he played music by old masters (17th and 18th century) on a modern piano, his touch evoked a perfect impression of period sound.

Some six years later, Alexandre Tharaud returns to Brno and in addition to presenting both of Ravel's piano concertos with Filharmonie Brno (on 16 and 17 January 2025) he offers another solo recital, whose extremely attractive programme combines works by Johann Sebastian Bach (mostly in Tharaud's transcriptions) with music by French composers – Maurice Ravel, whose 150th anniversary we celebrate, and Paul Dukas.

• Prices (CZK) 410 / 370 / 320



THU 16 and FRI 17 Jan 2025, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

MAURICE RAVEL 150

MAURICE RAVEL

Daphnis et Chloé, Suite No. 2

Piano Concerto for the Left Hand in D major

Piano Concerto in G major

La valse, poème chorégraphique

Alexandre Tharaud piano

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

On 7 March 2025, we mark 150 years since the birth of Maurice Ravel (1875–1937). We'll commemorate this important anniversary of a major French composer, who by one part of his oeuvre determined the shape of impressionism in music, on a grand scale: Alexander Tharaud will perform both of his piano concertos, and they will be flanked by famous ballet music (the second suite from the one-act ballet *Daphnis et Chloé* and the choreographic poem *La Valse*), written for the celebrated Parisian ensemble Les Ballets Russes and its impresario Sergei Diaghilev.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250



Alexandre Tharaud, © Marco Borggreve

PRIZE-WINNERS' CONCERT

FRANK PROTO

Nine Variants on Paganini for double bass and orchestra

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Piano Concerto No. 17 in G major (1st movement)

SERGEI PROKOFIEV

Piano concerto No. 1 in D-flat major

and others

Ondřej Sejkora double bass (winner of the 2023 Leoš Janáček competition)

Denis Stefanov piano (overall winner of the 2021 Amadeus competition)

Alexander Kothera piano (overall winner of the 2023 Amadeus competition)

TBD, winner of the 2024 Concertino Praga competition

and others

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Robert Kružík**

Filharmonie Brno has long supported young performers, providing them with the incentive they need to develop their artistic potential. This concert offers the opportunity to prize-winners of major international competitions held in Czechia to perform as soloists with a professional ensemble. Presenting their art will be the overall 2021 and 2023 winners of Amadeus, the Brno Mozart-themed competition for young pianists (Denis Stefanov and Alexander Kothera respectively), the winner of the 2023 Leoš Janáček competition Ondřej Sejkora (a member of Filharmonie Brno's double bass section), and the winner of Concertino Praga, whose name we'll learn in September 2024. Join us and enjoy cutting-edge performances by artists whom we may soon be encountering regularly on prestigious concert stages.

- Prices (CZK) 350 / 300 / 250



Ondřej Sejkora, © Vojtěch Kába

METAMORPHOSES

JOSEPH HAYDN

Symphony No. 87 in A major

ANTON REICHA

Piano Concerto in E-flat major

RICHARD STRAUSS

Metamorphosen, study for 23 solo strings

Ivan Ilić piano

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

The cycle of the six so-called Paris symphonies represents the first pinnacle of achievement in **Joseph Haydn's** oeuvre and, together with the last Mozart symphonies, also the peak of the genre in terms of form, composition and musical content. One of three conductors to have recorded and issued all 107 Haydn symphonies, last year Dennis Russell Davies undertook to perform the whole Paris symphonies cycle with his Filharmonie Brno. Following *Symphony No. 83*, in the upcoming season we can look forward to ***Symphony No. 87***.

During his stay in Vienna (1802–1808), **Anton Reicha** often visited Joseph Haydn, who became his musical role model. Reicha's ***Piano Concerto in E-flat major***, written in Vienna, thus carries a distinct impression of Haydn's style, but also hints at the Romantic period to come.

One of **Richard Strauss's** last major works, ***Metamorphosen*** was written shortly before the end of WWII as an elegy in which this paramount representative of late Romanticism expressed not just his devastation over the loss of irreplaceable cultural values, but also his belief in the beauty of our world. A powerful testimony by the 80-year-old composer, the piece quotes or echoes music by Beethoven, Wagner and Strauss himself.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



FRI 21 Feb 2025, 5:00pm and 7:00pm, Besední dům

AS TIME GOES BY: IN THE ORCHESTRA

ANTONIO VIVALDI

Spring from *The Four Seasons* (1st movement – Allegro)

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Symphony No. 40 in G minor (1st movement – Molto allegro)

RICHARD WAGNER

Ride of the Valkyries from *Die Walküre*

LEOŠ JANÁČEK

Taras Bulba (1st movement – The Death of Andrei)

SERGEI PROKOFIEV

The Montagues and Capulets from *Romeo and Juliet*

ALFRED SCHNITTKÉ

Clowns and Kids (First part of the suite from the film of the same name)

presenters **Kristýna Drážilová** and **Vítězslav Mikeš** (in Czech)

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Patrik Červák**

Let's be honest: who hasn't daydreamed in a concert hall at least once, wishing to leave their place in the audience, and experience instead how an orchestral player sees and hears music in concert? Our project entitled *In the Orchestra* allows you to do precisely this. The ensemble will be spaced throughout the concert hall in Besední dům and the audience will sit among the players. You can't get any closer to the orchestra than this!

We tried this very successfully once before. This time, you'll discover how the make-up of the orchestra developed historically, from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and early 20th-century periods to the more recent past, and see how the conductor's role has changed too. Our musical excerpts will reprise two famous works which had their world premières in Brno, Janáček's *Taras Bulba* in 1921 and Prokofiev's ballet *Romeo and Juliet* in 1938.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



THU 27 and FRI 28 Feb 2025, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

HIDDEN TREASURES OF ROMANTICISM

JEAN SIBELIUS

Karelia, overture

KARL GOLDMARK

Violin Concerto in A minor

JOSEF SUK

Symphony No. 1 in E major

Jiří Vodička violin

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Robert Kružík**

Jean Sibelius (1865–1957) linked his oeuvre with the Finnish national awareness movement. His intellectual world was influenced by the Karelian-Finnish epic *Kalevala* (Land of Heroes), a large collection of folklore and mythology. This was impressed on the overture **Karelia**, Op. 10 (1893) which together with a suite of the same title, Op. 11, Sibelius wrote for the student association in Vyborg (Viipuri in Finnish) to serve as music for tableaux from Karelian history.

The **Violin Concerto in A minor** by the Austrian composer of Hungarian extraction **Karl Goldmark** (1830–1915) became more widely known in the 20th century. It can be ranked alongside the great romantic violin concertos, though unlike those by Brahms, Dvořák and Tchaikovsky, written approximately contemporaneously, Goldmark's ranks technical brilliance over the symphonic unity of the solo part and the orchestral component.

In some respects, **Josef Suk** (1874–1935) in his early works drew inspiration from Antonín Dvořák. His **Symphony in E major** is not often heard in concert, perhaps because it is persistently described as too Dvořák-like, even if it also betrays the influence of other Romantic-era composers. We are confident that our performance will not only make the work more widely known, but also demonstrate the vitality of this music.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250



Jiří Vodička

THE MOZART EFFECT

A concert (not only) for expectant parents

Works by **TOMASO ALBINONI, JOSEPH HAYDN,**
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

and others interspersed with words in Czech

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Patrik Červák**

presenter **Lucie Hradilová**

The beneficial effects of music on the human soul, body and vitality have been experienced by people since ancient times. Our era seeks, in the discipline of music therapy, to describe, investigate, find and develop curative techniques and procedures that are then applied in practice, encompassing both prevention and treatment. Performing and listening to music brings us many benefits. In this concert, entitled the Mozart Effect, we'll be able to experience for ourselves the effects of Classical and Baroque music, and there'll be plenty to enjoy for lovers of famous works. With the musical accompaniment, we'll have a go at relaxing together and developing our imaginations.

Baroque music creates impressions of stability and order, and may help to induce the feeling of security. Thanks to its lucid structure, Classical music helps to improve our memory, concentration and spatial awareness.

The Mozart Effect concert is therefore not just for expectant parents, but may be enjoyed by all lovers of pleasant music.

- Prices (CZK) 350 / 300 / 250



THU 13 and FRI 14 Mar 2025, 7:00pm, Besední dům

HAYDN'S CREATION

JOSEPH HAYDN

The Creation / Die Schöpfung, oratorio for soloists, chorus and orchestra

On text by Robert Lindley after Scripture and John Milton's *Paradise Lost* in the German translation by Gottfried van Swieten

Lada Bočková soprano

Petr Nekoraneč tenor

Peter Mikuláš bass

Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno, choir director **Petr Fiala**

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Petr Altrichter**

In **Joseph Haydn's** (1732–1809) incredibly large and varied oeuvre, three genres emerge in epochal significance: the string quartet, the symphony and the oratorio (masses included). The first two were developed by Haydn throughout his 30 years with the Esterházy band. When that was disbanded in 1790, the 58-year-old, now a famous composer, was given a handsome pension and moved to Vienna. The following decade brought him considerable social and artistic success. During a trip to London, Haydn discovered the English cult of Handel's oratorios; this inspired him to compose two himself (*The Creation* and the cantata cycle *The Seasons*).

From his first London trip, Haydn brought home the English libretto of *The Creation*, by a mysterious Robert Lindley – it was originally intended for Handel. Haydn had it translated into German (and then again back to English so it could be performed in that language too) and set it to music in 1796–1798. The libretto is based on the first book of the Old Testament (Genesis) that describes God's creation of the world over six days, and relies on Milton's celebrated epic poem, *Paradise Lost* (it also uses one Psalm). The biblical text, featured in the recitatives of the three archangels, moves the story forward, while the arias, ensembles and choruses provide a commentary. The 35 varied numbers of the oratorio are arranged in a monumental whole, which feels like a monolith.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



THU 27 and FRI 28 Mar 2025, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

SCHUMANN & SHOSTAKOVICH

ROBERT SCHUMANN

Cello Concerto in A minor

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH

Symphony No. 4 in C minor

Steven Isserlis cello

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

In 1850 **Robert Schumann** (1810–1856) left Saxony for Düsseldorf, where he took up the post of music director. The agreeable environment of the quiet Rhenish landscape aroused a new creative force in him, which manifested itself not only in the rapidity with which new works were written but also in rich invention. The **Cello Concerto in A minor** ranks among the Romantic masterpieces for the instrument. Characteristically for Schumann, the concerto is conceived symphonically: although it places great demands on the soloist's technique, it suppresses virtuoso showmanship to the benefit of conveying the work's musical and philosophical message.

Dmitri Shostakovich's (1906–1975) **Symphony No. 4 in C minor** (1936) has been characterised as a "sonic panorama of the 1930s Soviet Union". It is a prospect both monumental and frightening, with elements of sarcasm and irony so distinctive of Shostakovich. The work was written in a time when an aggressive attack was being waged against its composer and others. Shostakovich did, however, complete the symphony and entrusted the Leningrad Philharmonic with its performance. Instead of proceeding with the première, a note was published that the composer had had it withdrawn. We now know that this was an act of self-preservation. Shostakovich's life was at risk, and he even contemplated suicide. His *Fourth Symphony* received its première on 30 December 1961, thanks to the chief conductor of Moscow Philharmonic Kirill Kondrashin.

This performance commemorates the 50th anniversary of the composer's death.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250



Steven Isserlis, © Satoshi Aoyagi

A STAR VIENNESE QUARTET

JOSEPH HAYDN

String Quartet in B-flat major, Op. 1 No. 1 "La chasse"

JOHANN BAPTIST WANHAL

Double Bass Concerto in D major

KARL DITTERS von DITTERSDORF

Flute Concerto in E minor

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Divertimento in D major, K. 136

Petr Pomkla flute, **Ondřej Sejkora** double bass

Barbara Tolarová violin, **Martin Pavlík** violin

Josef Janda viola, **Katarína Madariová** cello

Martin Sedlák double bass, **Lucie Fišerová** harpsichord

Featuring core Filharmonie Brno musicians as soloists or ensemble members (the harpsichordist Lucie Fišerová being the exception), this chamber concert will take us to late 18th-century Vienna. It is a time of the Josephine reforms, Enlightenment, fundamental political change and, most importantly for us, the late Classical period in music. One of the defining moments of this epoch was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's resignation as the *Kapellmeister* of the Archbishop of Salzburg, Hieronymus, Count Colloredo-Waldsee. Thus in 1781 the composer went freelance and moved to Vienna, where over the following years he made his living particularly from concertising at public and private academies. Thanks to the memoirs of Michael Kelly, the Irish tenor who first portrayed Don Basilio in the Viennese production of the *Marriage of Figaro* (1786), we know that one of these private performances in Vienna in 1784 at the home of the composer Stephen Storace had a truly extraordinary cast: Joseph Haydn and Karl Ditters von Dittersdorf on the violins, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on the viola and Johann Baptist Wanhal on the cello.

• Prices (CZK) 410 / 370 / 320



Easter Festival of Sacred Music

Reconciliation

32nd year

SUN 13 to SUN 27 April 2025

In 2025, the movable feasts of Easter fall in the latter half of April, that is, the closing part of the Easter cycle. Unlike in 2024, they are, therefore, fairly remote from the Feast of the Annunciation (25 March). According to tradition, this was when the words “let it be done” (*fiat*) were first heard, in this case from Mary. We commemorate similar words by Jesus, “not my will, but thine, be done”, on Maundy Thursday. In these truly extreme situations, we hear the words of reconciliation. That “let it be done” reminds us that reconciliation is not necessarily to be understood as a passive submission, but also as a readiness and determination to accept and fulfil one’s mission.

velikonocni-festival.cz/en



THU 22 and FRI 23 May 2025, 7:00pm, Besední dům

BEETHOVEN, “BOHEMIAN BEETHOVEN” AND MARTINŮ

JAN VÁCLAV HUGO VOŘÍŠEK

Grand rondeau for piano trio and orchestra

BOHUSLAV MARTINŮ

Concerto for Piano Trio and String Orchestra, H 231

LUDWIG van BEETHOVEN

Symphony No. 4 in B-flat major

Trio Bohémo

Matouš Pěruška violin, **Kristina Vocetková** cello, **Jan Vojtek** piano
Filharmonie Brno
conductor **Alena Hron**

Alongside many smaller-scale pieces, the “Bohemian Beethoven” **J.V.H. Voříšek** left us a beautiful *Symphony in D major*, often compared with those by Beethoven himself, and the **Grand Rondeau** for piano trio and orchestra. Both show that although his footing was still firmly in the Classical era, he was ready to step out into the world of Romanticism – the same, indeed, applies to Beethoven.

Bohuslav Martinů’s Concerto for Piano Trio and String Orchestra (1933) received its première 30 years after it was written. The publishers wanted Martinů to revise the work substantially. Instead, he wrote a new work, for the same instruments and similarly conceived, and called it *Concertino*. The *Concerto* was thus forgotten for some time.

Ludwig van Beethoven wrote his symphonies from spontaneous inspiration, and hence each of them has a unique form and content. The **Fourth Symphony in B-flat major** (1806) was overshadowed in popularity by the heroic *Third Symphony* and the *Fifth Symphony* with its „Fate” motif. The *Fourth’s* more idyllic tone feels like a diversion from the passions we usually associate with Beethoven, and despite – or perhaps because of – this, it is an ingenious and important creation of the composer.

• Prices (CZK) 460 / 410 / 360



Trio Bohémo, © Stephan Polzer

THU 29 and FRI 30 May 2025, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

WEST SIDE STORY, FRIDA KAHLO AND MISHIMA

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

KURT SCHWERTSIK

Muertes en Relajo, first Czech performance

PHILIP GLASS / arr. **MICHAEL RIESMAN**

Mishima Concerto for piano and orchestra,
co-commissioned by Filharmonie Brno, *first Czech performance*

Maki Namekawa piano

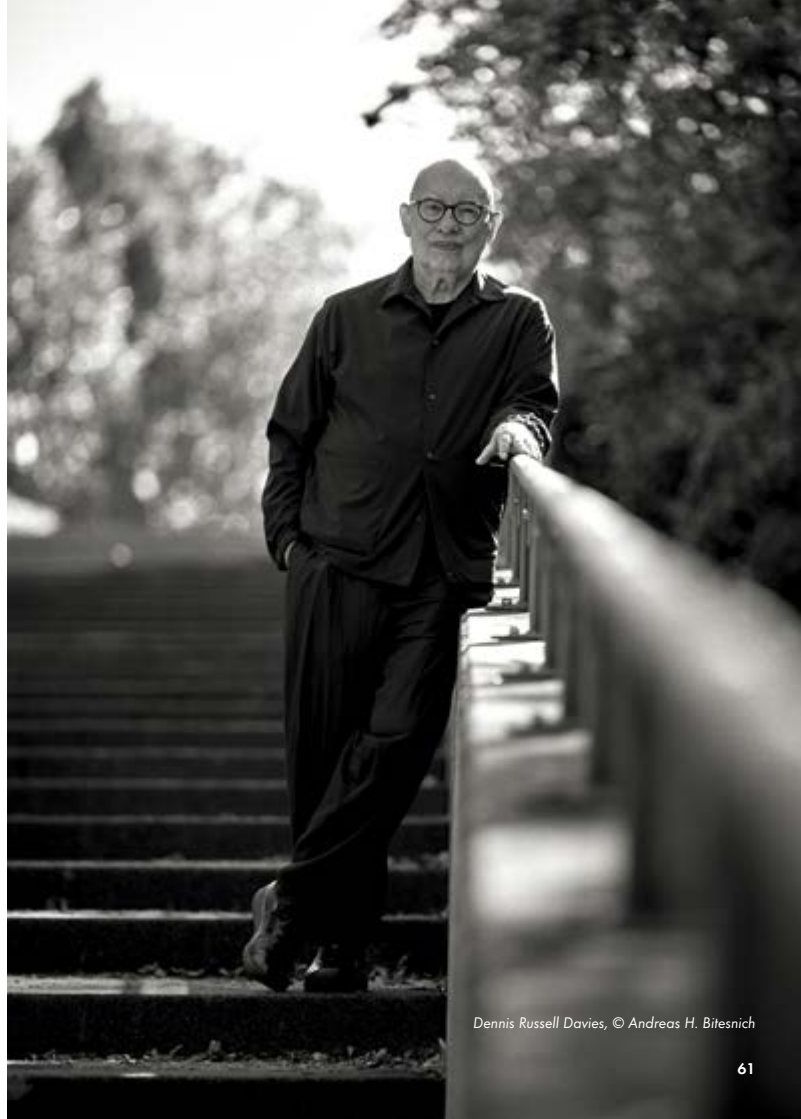
Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

The American chief conductor of Filharmonie Brno, Dennis Russell Davies will lead the performances of two works by famous US composers, Leonard Bernstein and Philip Glass, complemented by a piece by the Austrian Kurt Schwertsik inspired by the diaries of the celebrated Mexican painter Frida Kahlo. All three composers have been linked with Dennis Russell Davies by the bonds of art and friendship.

On 25 June 2025, Kurt Schwertsik celebrates a significant anniversary – his 90th. On this occasion, one of his most important recent works will be presented in a first Czech performance in Brno and then in its first Viennese performance at the Musikverein (1 June 2025).

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250



Dennis Russell Davies, © Andreas H. Bitesnich

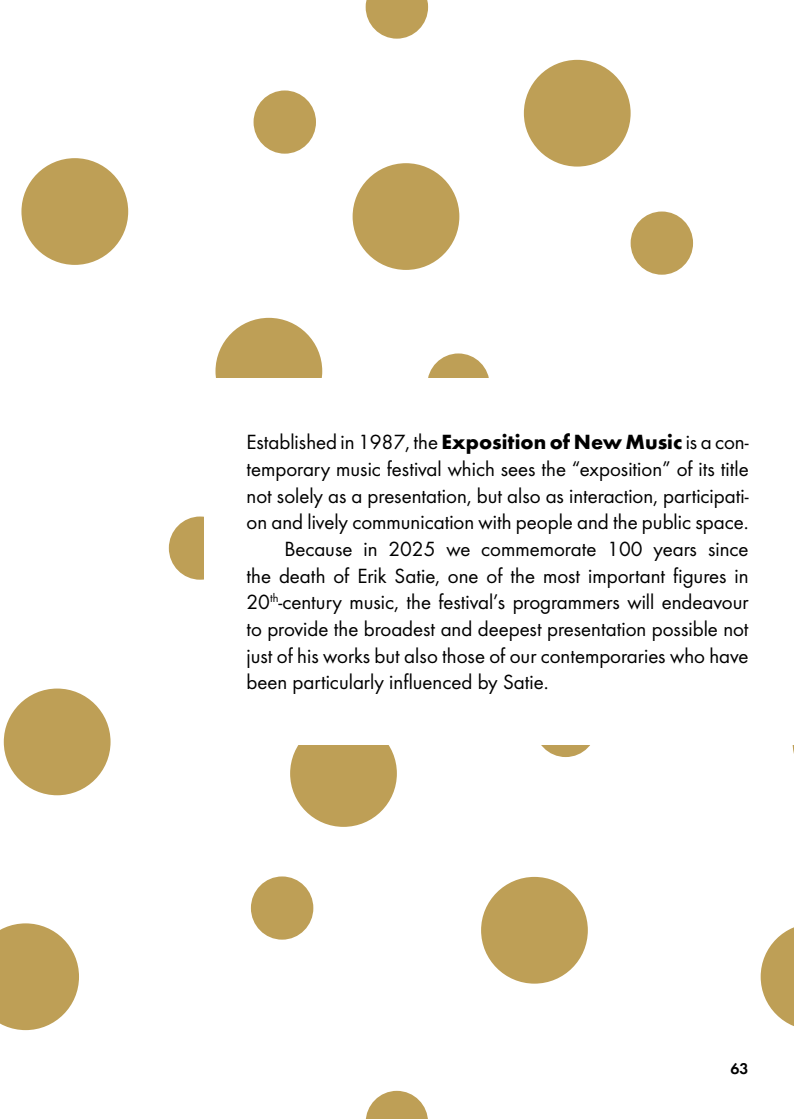


EXPOSITION OF NEW MUSIC

37th year

THU 29 May to TUE 3 June 2025

[SATIE]
100 YEARS AFTER



Established in 1987, the **Exposition of New Music** is a contemporary music festival which sees the “exposition” of its title not solely as a presentation, but also as interaction, participation and lively communication with people and the public space.

Because in 2025 we commemorate 100 years since the death of Erik Satie, one of the most important figures in 20th-century music, the festival’s programmers will endeavour to provide the broadest and deepest presentation possible not just of his works but also those of our contemporaries who have been particularly influenced by Satie.



16th year
June 2025

Mozart's Children

Festival of Young Musicians



TUE 17 Jun 2025, 7:00pm, Besední dům

ADÉLAÏDE FERRIÈRE PERCUSSION RECITAL

JOHN CAGE

Composed Improvisation for snare drum

ANDREW THOMAS

Merlin for marimba

FRANCO DONATONI

Omar, two pieces for vibraphone

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH / arr. FERRUCCIO BUSONI and ADÉLAÏDE FERRIÈRE

Chaconne from Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004, arrangement for marimba

IANNIS XENAKIS

Rebonds for percussion solo

Adélaïde Ferrière marimba and other percussion

Adélaïde Ferrière, a French percussionist of international renown, has performed in Brno once before, in early December 2023 at the Percussion Festival organised by the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts; she led a workshop and gave the closing concert, demonstrating her mastery of the marimba to great acclaim.

While she is in town to perform Fazil Say's *Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra* with Filharmonie Brno led by Tomáš Hanus (19 and 20 June 2025 at the Janáček Theatre), she has agreed to give a recital as part of the Philharmonic Chamber Series at Besední dům the same week. Her programme includes works by Johann Sebastian Bach and three luminaries of 20th-century music, the American composer John Cage (1912–1992), the French composer of Greek origin Iannis Xenakis (1922–2001) and the Italian composer Franco Donatoni (1927–2000). Andrew Thomas' *Merlin* is an outstanding composition for solo marimba; since its première in 1985, the piece has become a well-known standard of the percussion repertoire.

• Prices (CZK) 410 / 370 / 320



Adélaïde Ferrière

THU 19 and FRI 20 Jun 2025, 7:00pm, Janáček Theatre

SUMMER REFRESHMENT

OTTORINO RESPIGHI

Fontane di Roma (Fountains of Rome)

FAZIL SAY

Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra, *first Czech performance*

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune (Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun)

La mer (The Sea), three symphonic sketches

Adélaïde Ferrière percussion

Filharmonie Brno

conductor **Tomáš Hanus**

June is a month when our thoughts are often fixated on the upcoming holidays to be spent travelling or by the water. Let's make the wait more pleasant with beautiful music which is thematically related to such ideas. Indeed, it is water that provides the link – onomatopoeically and symbolically – between the programmes of these pieces. Don't miss the supreme works of French and Italian Impressionism and the masterpiece **Percussion Concerto** by the Turkish composer and pianist **Fazil Say** as performed by the French star **Adélaïde Ferrière** under the baton of Brno-born **Tomáš Hanus**.

• Prices (CZK) 590 / 550 / 510 / 390 / 250



More Music! or Education for Everyone

Family Series

concerts for children and parents

Chamber family afternoons

interactive intimate concerts for children and parents

Kantiléna

children's choir

Young Blood or Music Up Close

intimate concerts by members of the Filharmonie Brno Orchestra Academy and guests

Masterclasses

led by soloists of the season

Concerts for kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools

A year-long varied programme of **workshops**
and **courses** for all ages



Jazz & World Music

Besední dům, 7:00pm

WED 9 Oct 2024

EMIL VIKLICKÝ & IMOGEN RYALL: SONGS

Imogen Ryall voice

Emil Viklický piano

Julian Nicholas saxophones

Petr Dvorský double bass

Eric Ford percussion

MON 18 Nov 2024

SOFIA REI & JORGE ROEDER: COPLAS ESCONDIDAS

Sofia Rei voice, charango, caja vidalera

Jorge Roeder double bass

WED 22 Jan 2025

JACKY TERRASSON SOLO

Jacky Terrasson piano

WED 19 Feb 2025

YAZZ AHMED & RALPH WYLD

Yazz Ahmed trumpet, electronics

Ralph Wyld vibraphone, marimba, electronics

MON 10 Mar 2025

WILL VINSON & AARON PARKS

Will Vinson saxophone

Aaron Parks piano

MON 7 Apr 2025

DAVID PÉREZ: BAILAOR

David Pérez flamenco dance

Juan Manuel Flores flamenco guitar

Antonio Núñez "El Pulga" voice



Jacky Terrasson

Concerts and tours in Czechia

31 Aug 2024, Brno

Dvořákova Praha

Besední dům

DVOŘÁK AND JANÁČEK

soloists Pavlína Švestková, Jaroslav Březina and Roman Hoza

Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno

Filharmonie Brno

Robert Kružik

6 Sep 2024, Česká Lípa

Crystal House of Culture

Lípa Musica

SMETANA Má vlast

Filharmonie Brno

conductor Dennis Russell Davies

24 Sep 2024, Valtice

Lednice-Valtice Music Festival

Valtice Castle Riding Hall

Educational concerts

Filharmonie Brno

conductor Patrik Červák

11 Jan 2025, České Budějovice

Metropol House of Culture

Epiphany concert

Filharmonie Brno

Leoš Svárovský

5 Jul 2025, Litomyšl

Smetanova Litomyšl

KORNGOLD AND GLASS

Filharmonie Brno

conductor Dennis Russell Davies



Concerts and tours abroad

13 Jul 2024, Austria
Neuberger Kulturtag,
Neuberg an der Mürz

BRUCKNER Symphony No. 4
in E-flat major
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Stefan Vladoar

20 Jul 2024, Austria
Grafenegg Festival,
Wolkenturm

SMETANA Má vlast (selections)
DVOŘÁK Waldesruhe
TCHAIKOVSKY Rococo Variations
Julia Hagen – cello
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Dennis Russell Davies

8 Sep 2024, Austria
Ars Electronica Festival, Linz

GLASS / RIESMAN Mishima
Concerto
SMETANA Má vlast (selections)
Maki Namekawa – piano
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Dennis Russell Davies

30 Sep to 5 Oct 2024
South Korea Tour

YUN Fanfare & Memorial
RACHMANINOFF Piano
Concerto No. 3
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8
Changyong Shin – piano
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Dennis Russell Davies

8 Dec 2024, Austria
Musikverein, Vienna

KORNGOLD Der Sturm (The Tempest),
Einfache Lieder (Simple Songs)
FOERSTER Festive Overture
MAHLER Das klagende Lied
soloists Chen Reiss, Kateřina
Hebelková, Attilio Glaser
and Michael Wagner
Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Dennis Russell Davies



Lotte Concert Hall in Seoul, South Korea, © Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates

23 Mar 2025, Poland
NOSPR, Katowice

MARTINŮ Thunderbolt P-47
NOVÁK Philharmonic Dances
JANÁČEK Lachian Dances (selections)
JANÁČEK The Cunning Little Vixen Suite
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Robert Kružík

5 Apr 2025, Austria
Baden

programme TBC
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Norbert Pfafflmeyer

1 Jun 2025, Austria
Musikverein, Vienna

BERNSTEIN Symphonic Dances from
West Side Story
SCHWERTSIK Muertes en Relajo
GLASS / RIESMAN Mishima
Concerto
Maki Namekawa – piano
Filharmonie Brno
conductor Dennis Russell Davies



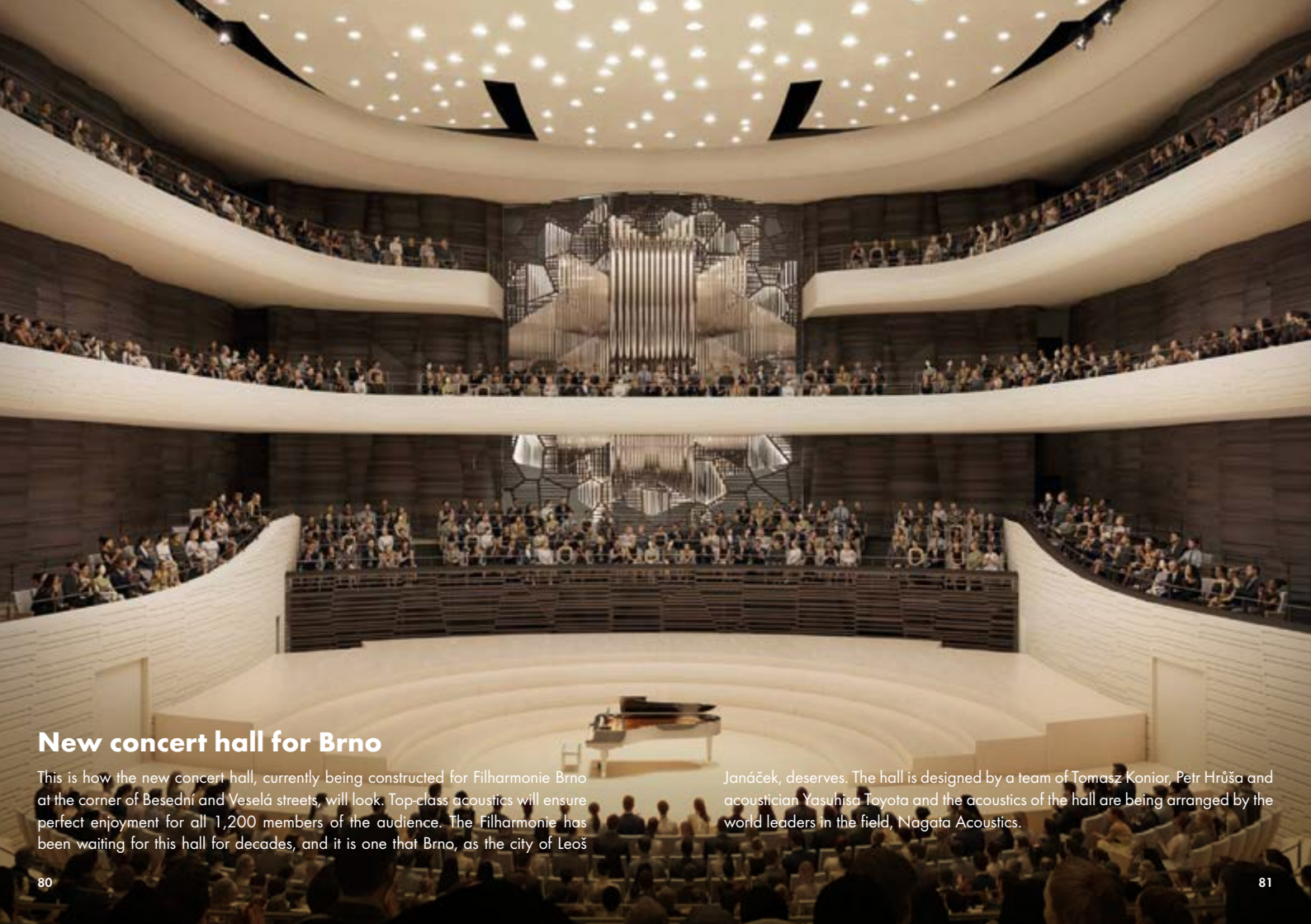
MORAVIAN AUTUMN

International music festival

53rd year

SUN 12 to SUN 26 October 2025

www.moravsky-podzim.cz/en



New concert hall for Brno

This is how the new concert hall, currently being constructed for Filharmonie Brno at the corner of Besední and Veselá streets, will look. Top-class acoustics will ensure perfect enjoyment for all 1,200 members of the audience. The Filharmonie has been waiting for this hall for decades, and it is one that Brno, as the city of Leoš

Janáček, deserves. The hall is designed by a team of Tomasz Konior, Petr Hřůša and acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota and the acoustics of the hall are being arranged by the world leaders in the field, Nagata Acoustics.



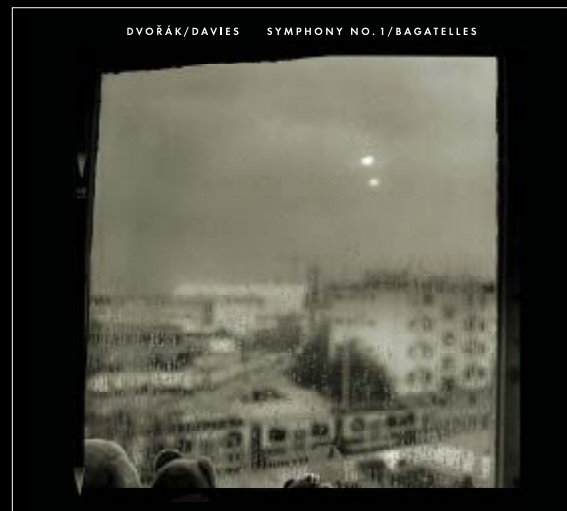
ANTONÍN REJCHA

Lenore

grand musical tableau for soli, chorus and orchestra after a ballad
by Gottfried August Bürger

Martina Janková soprano (Lenore), **Pavla Vykopalová** soprano (Mother),
Wojciech Parchem tenor (Narrator), **Jiří Brückler** baritone (Wilhelm)
Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno, choir director **Petr Fiala**
Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in Brno in January and June 2020.



ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK / DENNIS RUSSELL DAVIES

Symphony No. 1 in C minor, Op. 3

"The Bells of Zlonice"

Bagatelles, Op. 47

arr. Dennis Russell Davies

Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in Brno in June 2020.



ARVO PÄRT LAMENTATE / NEKROLOG / SYMPHONY NO. 3

ARVO PÄRT

Lamentate for piano and orchestra

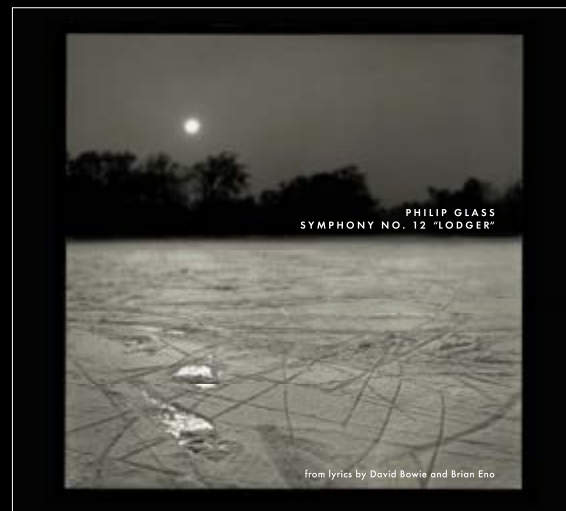
Homage to Anish Kapoor and his sculpture "Marsyas"

Nekrolog, Op. 5

Symphony No. 3

Maki Namekawa piano, **Filharmonie Brno**,
conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in November 2020 and January 2021.



PHILIP GLASS
SYMPHONY NO. 12 "LODGER"

from lyrics by David Bowie and Brian Eno

PHILIP GLASS

Symphony No. 12 "Lodger"

from lyrics by David Bowie and Brian Eno

Angélique Kidjo voice, **Christian Schmitt** organ
Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in July 2021.



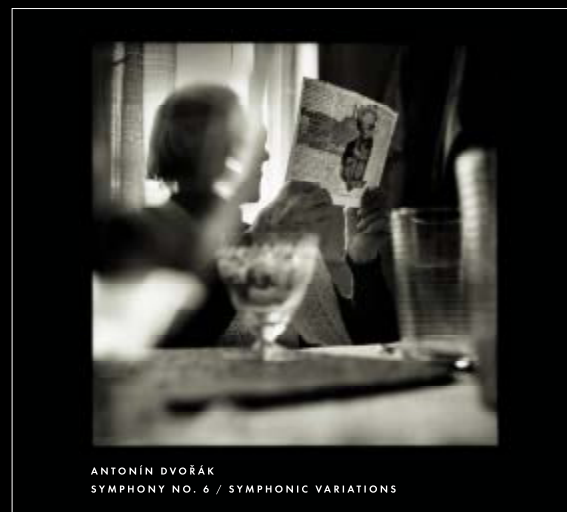


JAN NOVÁK
CHOREAE PHILHARMONICAE
LUDI SYMPHONICI
ELEGANTIAE TRIPUDIORUM

JAN NOVÁK
Choreae philharmonicæ
Ludi symphonici
Elegantiae tripudiorum

Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in Brno in August, September and October 2021.



ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK
SYMPHONY NO. 6 / SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK
Symphony No. 6 in D major, Op. 60
Symphonic Variations, Op. 78

Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in Brno in November 2019 and August 2021.

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK SYMPHONY NO. 9 / NOCTURNE



ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK
Symphony No. 9 in E minor
“From the New World”, Op. 95
Nocturne in B major, Op. 40

Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Recorded at Besední dům in Brno in August and October 2021.

ALFRED SCHNITTKE “Seid nüchtern und wachet...” / Cello Concerto No. 1



ALFRED SCHNITTKE
“Seid nüchtern und wachet...” (Faust Cantata)

Iva Bittová voice, **Jan Mikušek** countertenor, **Richard Samek** tenor,
Jiří Brückler baritone

Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno, choir director **Petr Fiala**
Filharmonie Brno, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

ALFRED SCHNITTKE
Cello Concerto No. 1

Matt Haimovitz cello
MDR-Sinfonieorchester Leipzig, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**

Available in autumn 2024.

TICKETS

- on-line at www.filharmonie-brno.cz/en
- at the Filharmonie Brno Ticket Office,
Besední street, 602 00 Brno
MON to TUE 8:00am to 1:00pm
WED to FRI 1:00pm to 6:00pm
- ¾ of an hour before the concert at the venue

TICKET RESERVATION

- on-line at www.filharmonie-brno.cz/en
- by e-mail: predprodej@filharmonie-brno.cz
- ☎ +420 539 092 811

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jihomoravský kraj

Season Brochure

Filharmonie Brno

69th Concert Season

2024/2025

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Programmes, performers and concert dates are subject to change!

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The cover design is inspired by the ceiling painting in Besední dům, depicting a peacock with flowers.

www.filharmonie-brno.cz

