Heidelberger Frühling Liedfestival

3rd Heidelberger Frühling Liedfestival comes to an end with increased visitor numbers

Yesterday, on 16 June, the **3rd Heidelberger Frühling Liedfestival** came to an end with the final concert of the Liedakademie at the Aula der Alten Universität Heidelberg and with a record number of visitors. From 8 to 16 June, around 3,500 visitors attended the 26 events at six venues in Heidelberg, Germany, which celebrated the diversity of Lied under the motto "Brahms and the disorder of Lieder". That was around 15 per cent more than last year.

The third edition of the Liedfestival, with its Lied recitals, public masterclasses by the Liedakademie with its Artistic Director Thomas Hampson, lectures and Lied formats in the museum, concluded the focus on Johannes Brahms, which included also the Heidelberger Frühling Streichquartettfest in January and the Musikfestival in March/April.

Thorsten Schmidt, Director of Heidelberger Frühling, summarises the festival positively: "With the Liedfestival, we want to make it possible to experience the Lied in various facets in a direct and always different way. The fact that our open-air 'Liedfest für alle', the fully booked innovative Lied formats in the city's museums and the public masterclasses of the Liedakademie were so well received by the public shows us that Heidelberg is a city of Lied and the Liedfestival is becoming a permanent fixture in the festival calendar."

Guests included artists such as Erika Baikoff, Sarah Maria Sun, Konstantin Krimmel, Patricia Nolz and Florian Boesch. The stage also belonged to young voices such as Ema Nikolovska, Theresa Pilsl, Jonas Müller and the current scholars of the Heidelberger Frühling Liedakademie, who could be experienced in public masterclasses with Artistic Director Thomas Hampson and lecturer Susan Manoff – also via livestream. The videos are still available on the Heidelberger Frühling website and Instagram channel.

The Liedfestival is a project of the **Heidelberger Frühling Liedzentrum**, which was founded in 2016 as a centre of excellence for Lied. It has set itself the goal of cultivating the heritage of Lied and ensuring its renewal at an excellent level. The year-round Liedakademie under the Artistic Direction of Thomas Hampson, the "Das Lied" competition founded by Thomas Quasthoff and, since 2022, the Liedfestival are united under the umbrella of the Liedzentrum.

The 4th Heidelberger Frühling Liedfestival is scheduled to take place from 24 May to 1 June 2025.

Pictures of the 2024 Heidelberger Frühling Liedfestival are available for download here.

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