



TIROLER
FESTSPIELE
ERL

Press Kit
The 26 | 27 Season



Yearnings

I wish you a warm welcome to my third season as Intendant in Erl!

“Yearnings” – this topic will resonate in many different ways throughout the coming season. There is a yearning for true love, a yearning for death, a yearning for distant sounds, and a yearning for forgiveness. The unattainability of what we yearn for is what drives the protagonists of the coming season. Since my very first visit to Erl, it’s been for me a place of yearnings and of their fulfilment. And it has been a source of joy to me to realise that we share the same fascination. The notion of “unattainability” doesn’t apply to you, for you’ve always found your way back to us with such fidelity and in such numbers that it delights me just as much as it did on that very first day!

Erl is a special place: a place whose Festival is able to bring together what otherwise seems contradictory. The magnificent natural beauty of the Tyrolean lowlands is here paired with supreme artistic quality and an inimitable atmosphere, the result being a multifaceted programme that encapsulates all the possibilities of this unique festival venue.

We’re remaining faithful to our division into four seasons-within-the-season that I established when I began here as Intendant. Our autumn format, *Ausklang*, will once again open the festival year. Here, for the third time running, Andreas Schett will curate a three-day event dedicated to thinking outside the box. It’s going to be an exciting October start to our festival!

-  **Ausklang**
01.10. – 03.10.26
-  **Winter**
06.12.26 – 06.01.27
-  **Easter**
14.03. – 28.03.27
-  **Summer**
01.07. – 25.07.27
-  **Zwischentöne**

The 26 | 27 Season



The winter will again be devoted to Italian opera and the art of bel canto. Concert performances of *Nabucco* and *Anna Bolena*, together with a new staging of *La traviata*, will demonstrate both the heights to which bel canto performance can aspire and the emotional worlds that the human voice can reveal to us. Easter will bring exciting new encounters as well as a reunion with well-loved artists. I am especially delighted that our “Young Festspielhaus” will be presenting a family concert dedicated exclusively to women composers, introducing unjustly forgotten works to Erl for the very first time. The summer will bring the Austrian premiere of Francesco Filidei’s opera *Accabadora* about a very unusual mother-daughter relationship, plus an opportunity to experience two kindred musical masterpieces: Franz Schreker’s *Der ferne Klang* and Richard Wagner’s *Tristan and Isolde*.

As you can see, my yearnings for variety are being utterly fulfilled in the Festival programme for 2026/27. Let’s enjoy the coming season together! Your support and enthusiasm over the past two years have not only emboldened me but have also brought me immense joy. Together, we can create something for the Tyrol and for our friends from all over the world that can offer strength, optimism and inspiration.

Yours sincerely,
Jonas Kaufmann
Intendant



Jonas Kaufmann, photo: Xiomara Bender

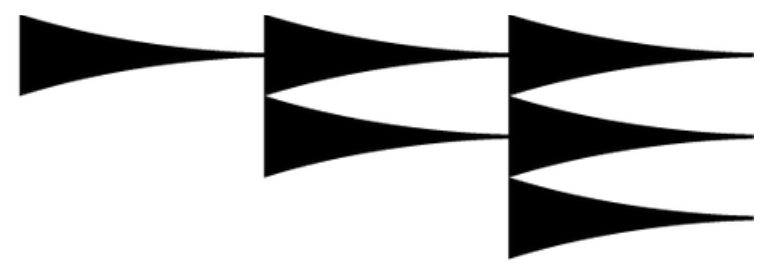
The 26 | 27 Season

Ausklang

01 – 03 October 2026



TIROLER
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TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Ausklang

Our autumn festival format *Ausklang* is returning for its third edition. This October, it will once again be taking the liberty of merging the most diverse variety of musical styles here in Erl. “Open source” is what *Ausklang*’s curator Andreas Schett calls this coming-together of classical music, folk, jazz, pop, world music and more besides. And *Ausklang*’s delight in unexpected musical juxtapositions means there are plenty of surprises in store. “I find it fascinating when music surprises me – let’s say, if I hear a song followed by a Bach prelude and then an improvisation”, explains Schett. “In fact, this probably corresponds very closely to the listening habits that are the norm today. Sometimes this is disparagingly referred to as the ‘playlist phenomenon’, but we do this in a carefully curated way – it’s a kind of ‘curated playlist’, if you will. But first, it’s really important that I pay tribute to our many wonderful musicians and to what they bring with them – the material that we curate. We’re not interested in contributions based on genres or different epochs. Instead, our prime focus is on different artistic perspectives. In *Ausklang*, these aren’t simply ‘worked through’ according to a specific schedule; transitions between them are developed and played together, thereby highlighting what’s special about them. Such as when a lute with electronics leads into a piece by Ligeti. These are moments that you can only experience at *Ausklang*. We offer more than just surprises: we unify”.



Ausklang I Thursday, 01 October 19:00

Leonkoro Quartett
David Helbock’s Random/Control
Musicbanda Franui



Ausklang II Friday, 02 October 19:00

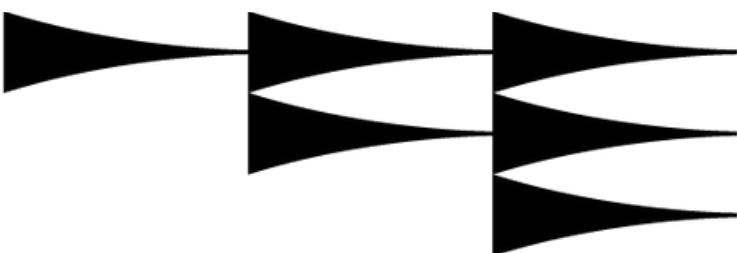
Malakoff Kowalski
Die Strottern & JazzWerkstatt Wien
Musicbanda Franui



Ausklang III Saturday, 03 October 18:00

Maxi Pongrats Trio
Sväng
Anna Prohaska
Shake Stew
Musicbanda Franui

The full programme will be announced at a later date. Events will take place at the Festspielhaus.

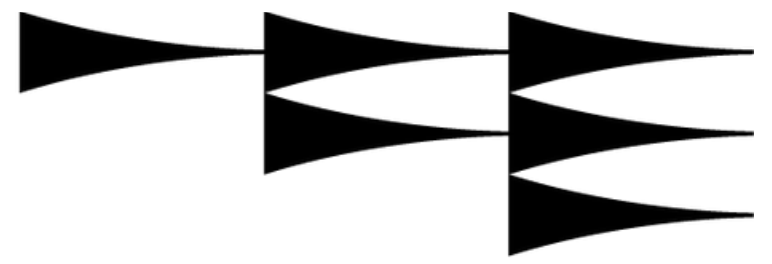


TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

This year's line-up includes the soprano Anna Prohaska, the composer and musician Malakoff Kowalski, the Finnish harmonica quartet Sväng, Maxi Pongratz (formerly of Kofelgschroa) with his new trio, the successful young Leonkoro Quartet from Berlin and the Vorarlberg jazz pianist David Helbock with his project *Random/Control* in which a singer, an alphorn, woodwind instruments and piano improvisation "bring about an incredibly fantastic mix" (thus Schett). The "Strottern" are bringing their new project with JazzWerkstatt Wien entitled *Sieben Zwetschken* ("Seven Plums"). The prizewinning jazz ensemble Shake Stew, led by their bass player Lukas Kranzelbinder, will perform as a folk-music septet: with two double basses and two percussionists as their foundation, then a trumpet and two saxophones playing three-part harmony above them. And the Musicbanda Franui – inspired by the creative imagination of Schett himself – remains the musical host of Ausklang.



Anna Prohaska; photo: Marco Borggreve



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Ausklang

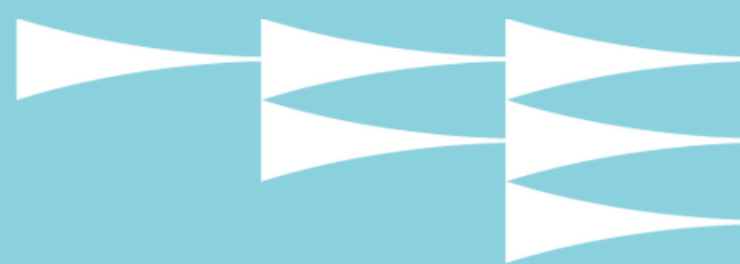
Clockwise from top left:
Shake Stew, photo: Severin Koller
Malakoff Kowalski, photo: Markus C. Hurek
Andreas Schett, photo: Julia Stix
Die Strottern, photo: Victoria Nazarova



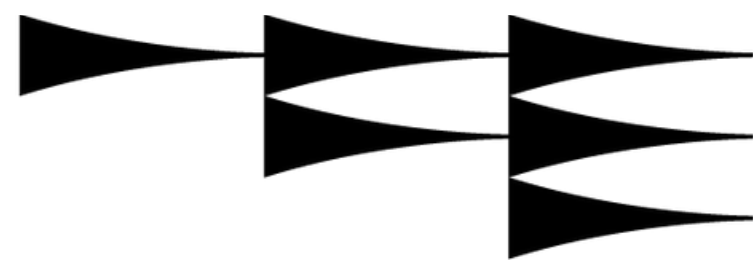
The 26 | 27 Season

Winter

06 December 2026 –
06 January 2027



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TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Winter

Over the past few years, the winter season of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl has established its own clear artistic profile, with bel canto at its heart. Italian opera, with its inimitable combination of vocal virtuosity, emotional intensity and dramatic expression, offers an ideal setting for our winter festival.

Its focus this year is on the man who created a unique synthesis of the dramatic art with the high art of singing – bel canto – and took the result to its absolute zenith: Giuseppe Verdi. *Nabucco* introduces us to the young composer, for it was his breakthrough work and remains firmly rooted in the tradition of Italian Romantic opera. At the same time, however, Verdi here already reveals to us the dramatic vigour and strength of characterisation that would define his later oeuvre. The role of Abigaile in *Nabucco* will be sung by the soprano Anastasia Bartoli, who has long advanced beyond being an insider tip. In this concert performance, she will lead an exquisite ensemble of vocal soloists. And in our new stage production of *La traviata* under the auspices of the French director Mariame Clément, we will experience Verdi at the height of his powers in a deeply humane musical drama borne along by unique melodic riches. Clément promises a sensitive exploration of the opera's characters while also posing critical questions of the social circumstances behind this tragic love story.

Opera

La traviata
Nabucco (concert version)
Anna Bolena (concert version)

Concert

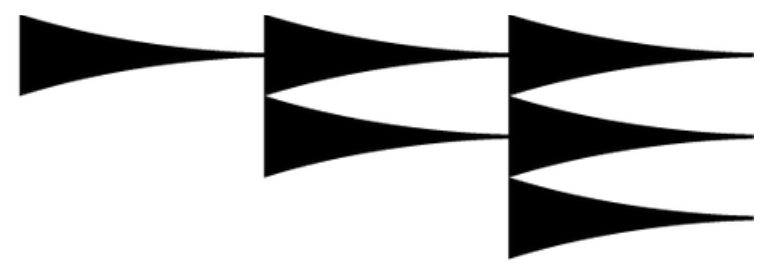
Christmas Oratorio
New Year's Eve concert
New Year's Day concert
Concert for Epiphany

Family concert

A farmer named Verdi

Special

Original and counterfeit



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Finally, there'll be a staged family concert for young and old alike where we will invite our audience to get to know Verdi the man – the composer who liked to describe himself as the “peasant of Sant’Agata”. This event in Erl will be entertaining and playful and will enable our audience both young and old to discover the composer and his unusual life story. Above and beyond this, our winter festival will offer dazzling examples of bel canto itself, with a concert performance of Donizetti’s opera *Anna Bolena* featuring an exceptional cast. And then the great Italian soprano Maria Agresta will make a brilliant occasion of our New Year’s Eve concert.

So, once again, as the highpoint of the Christmas season, the Tiroler Festspiele Erl will invite you to experience the world of Italian opera in all its emotional power. And in its run-up to Christmas, the Festival will also present its traditional performance of Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio* on the second Sunday in Advent. This will be followed by *Nabucco* on the third Sunday, and the Family Concert on the fourth and last Sunday. What better way to shorten the wait for Santa Claus!

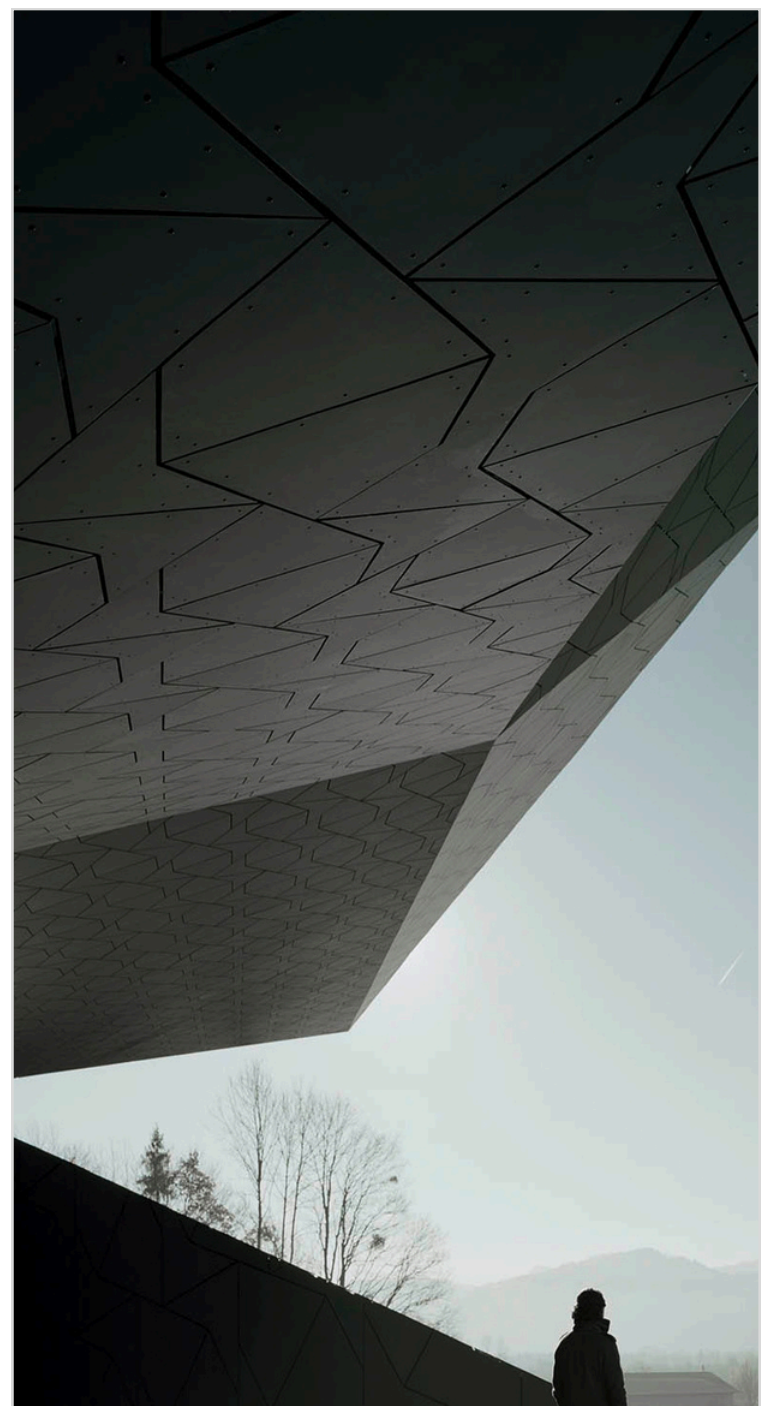
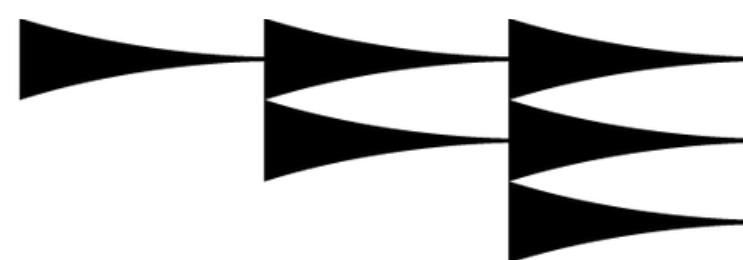


Photo: Brigida González



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Christmas Oratorio

Erl's well-loved tradition of heralding the winter season with Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* will continue in 2026. Our soloists are a group of young singers already making their way on the international scene, and they will be performing under the baton of Julius Zeman, a young conductor whose career is really hitting its stride.

Julius Zeman, photo: Lukas Beck



Sunday, 06 December 2026

11:00

Festspielhaus

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Christmas Oratorio

for soloists, mixed choir and orchestra BWV 248

Alina Wunderlin, soprano

Anita Monserrat, alto

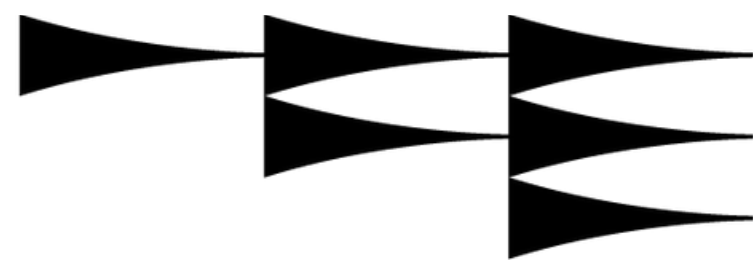
Manuel Günther, tenor

Michael Nagl, bass

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Julius Zeman, musical direction



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Nabucco

(Concert performance)

Operas performed in concert format have become a tradition at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl. To acknowledge this, the festival is expanding its winter season programme and will be presenting Verdi's *Nabucco* as early as mid-December. This early opera by Giuseppe Verdi brought him his international breakthrough, while at the same time becoming a musical symbol of the Italian Risorgimento.

For this performance, the Festival has assembled a top-class cast led by Anastasia Bartoli – regarded by connoisseurs as one of the outstanding interpreters today of the demanding role of Abigaille. The opening of our winter season is thus entirely in the spirit of “Viva VERDI” – that famous utterance that once served as a cry of support for the composer himself while also signifying hopes of a united Italy under “Vittorio Emanuele, Re D'Italia”.

Sunday, 13 December 2026

18.00

Festspielhaus

Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901)

Nabucco

Opera in four acts

Concert performance

Musical direction: **Asher Fisch**

Nabucco: **Gabriele Viviani**

Abigaille: **Anastasia Bartoli**

Zaccaria: **Simon Lim**

Fenena: **Emilia Rukavina**

Ismaele: **Giorgio Berrugi**

Gran Sacerdote: **Lukas Enoch Lemcke**

Abdallo: **Emanuele Pellegrini**

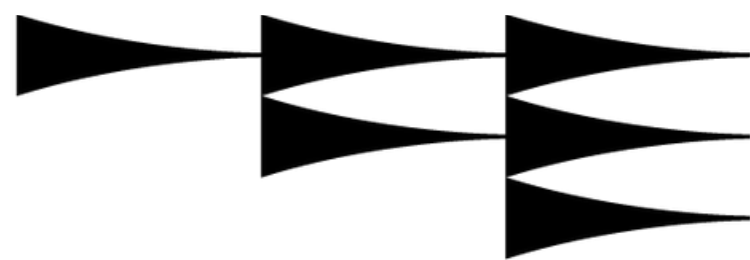
Anna: **Caterina Marchesini**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl



Anastasia Bartoli, photo: Nicola Allegri



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Familienkonzert Ein Bauer namens Verdi

(A farmer named Verdi)

A farmer named Verdi? Has the Tiroler Festspiele Erl somehow got its music history mixed up? Wasn't Giuseppe Verdi a great Italian opera composer? Perhaps even the greatest of them all? This family concert will be unravelling the conundrum in entertaining fashion. We will be telling Verdi's story in a playful, vivid manner – first meeting the young composer from the village of Le Roncole in the Po Valley, then the influential figures in his life including the singer Giuseppina Strepponi and his publisher Giulio Ricordi. There'll be plenty of music, plus surprising insights into the eventful life of Verdi the young man, resulting in a colourful portrait that will transport young and old alike into 19th-century Italy and the world of Italian opera.

Sunday, 20 December 2026
16:00
Festspielhaus

Family concert

A farmer named Verdi

A staged portrait of Giuseppe Verdi for an orchestra, a conductor and four performers

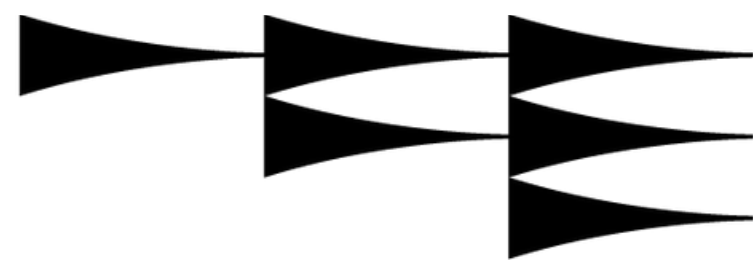
Musical direction: **Asher Fisch**

Director: **Andreas Weirich**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

The rest of the cast will be announced later.



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

La traviata

Following the huge success of its concert performances of *La traviata* in the summer of 2025, the Tiroler Festspiele Erl is now mounting a full staging of Giuseppe Verdi's opera.

Its moving tale of the courtesan Violetta Valéry will receive four performances in a production by the internationally renowned director Mariame Clément, who can look back on an impressive career spanning Berlin and Salzburg. Her production will focus not just on the tragic love story between Violetta and Alfredo, but also on the social structures that determine their lives. Violetta's downfall is thus depicted as more than a private tragedy, for she holds up a mirror to a society whose morals allow no room for her freedom and her love.

Sunday, 27 December 2026
Wednesday, 30 December 2026
Sunday, 03 January 2027
Tuesday, 05 January 2027
in each case 18:00
Festspielhaus

Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901)

La traviata

Opera in three acts

Musical direction: **Asher Fisch**

Director: **Mariame Clément**

Set and costume design: **Julia Hansen**

Lighting design: **Ulrik Gad**

Violetta Valéry: **Julia Muzychenko**

Flora Bervoix: **Tatiana Kuryatnikova**

Annina: **Domenica Radlmaier**

Alfredo Germont: **Dumitru Mîțu**

Giorgio Germont: **Vito Priante**

Gastone: **Peter Kirk**

Barone Douphol: **Gianluca Margheri**

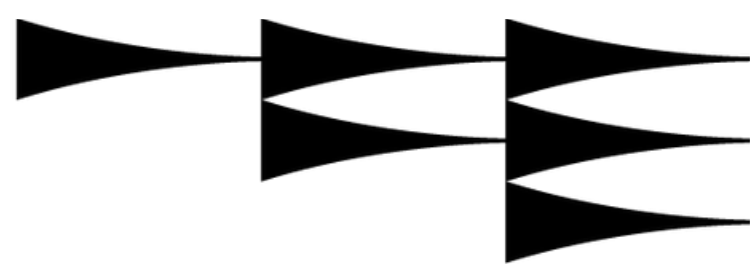
Marchese d'Obigny: **Gianluca Failla**

Grenvil: **Felix Pacher**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

The 26 | 27 Season
Winter



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La traviata

Clockwise from top left:
Julia Muzychenko, photo: Daniil Rabovsky
Mariame Clément, photo: Elisa Haberer
Dumitru Mîțu, photo: n.s.
Vito Priante, photo: Munciguerra



Concert for New Year's Eve

Maria Agresta's career reads like a tour through the great opera houses of the world from La Scala Milan to the Berlin State Opera on Unter den Linden, the Salzburg Easter Festival, the Met in New York and thence to Barcelona, Dresden, Rome and Venice ... There's scarcely a world-class opera house where this celebrated soprano hasn't already sung the major operatic roles.

Now she's coming to Erl, where she will bring the year 2026 to a close with a glittering opera gala. With the Italian conductor Riccardo Frizza at her side (a Verdi expert himself, who'll also be conducting *Anna Bolena* with us), Agresta will offer a spectacular programme to showcase the full breadth of her repertoire. Definitely a festive end to the year, with one of the most sought-after voices of our time!

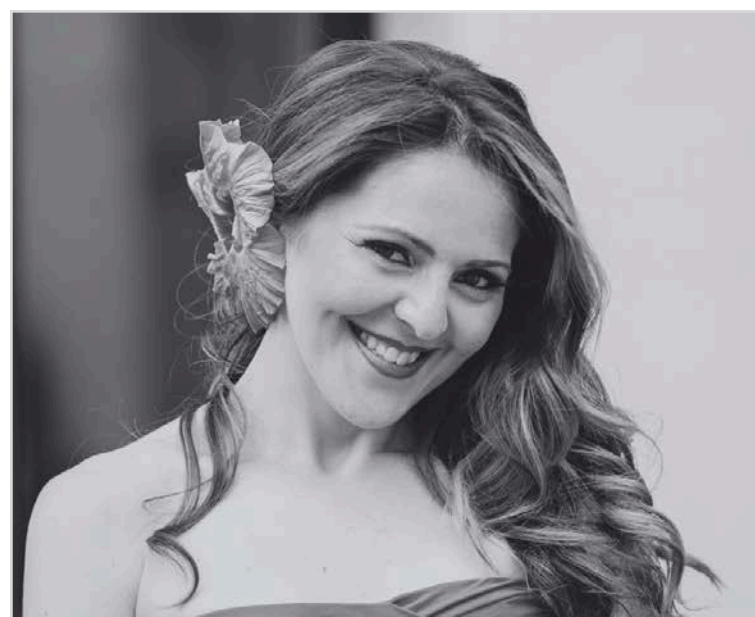
**Thursday, 31 December 2026
18:00
Festspielhaus**

Works by
**Vincenzo Bellini, Giuseppe Verdi and
Giacomo Puccini**

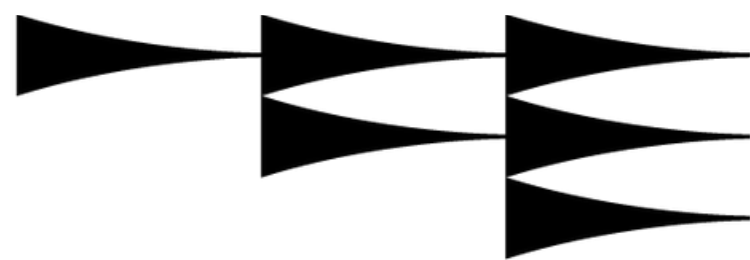
Maria Agresta, soprano
Riccardo Frizza, musical direction

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Riccardo Frizza, photo: Simone Falcetta
Maria Agresta, photo: Elisa Rinaldi



The 26 | 27 Season
Winter



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Concert for New Year's Day

Following his brilliant feat of stepping in for the indisposed Asher Fisch in Erl on New Year's Day 2026, Beomseok Yi – a long-standing member of our team at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl – will officially take up his baton at the same event on 1 January 2027. With a sure hand – and the uplifting spirit to match it – he will conduct the Festival Orchestra in an inspiring programme to mark the beginning of the year. The soloist in this matinée will be the violinist Giuseppe Gibboni, who has won numerous competitions including the Paganini Competition in 2021.



Friday, 01 January 2027
11:00
Festspielhaus

Works by

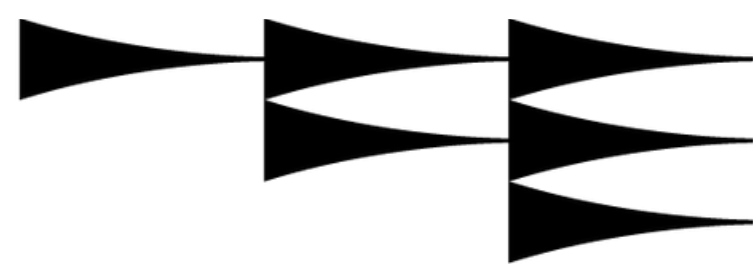
**Franz von Suppé, Fritz Kreisler, Jules Massenet,
Pablo de Sarasate, Josef Strauß and
Johann Strauß**

Giuseppe Gibboni, violin
Beomseok Yi, musical direction

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele

Giuseppe Gibboni (left), photo: Andrej Grilc
Beomseok Yi, photo: fineface.de





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Anna Bolena

(concert performance)

Anna Bolena tells the tragic story of Anne Boleyn, the second wife of Henry VIII of England. Her rise and fall ranks among the most compelling women's narratives in the operatic literature. It was with this work, first performed in 1830 at La Scala Milan, that Gaetano Donizetti achieved his international breakthrough. It is regarded as a highpoint of bel canto, and it was Maria Callas who rediscovered it in the 20th century and brought it vividly back to life. Since then, its demanding title role has been taken up by the world's most renowned sopranos.

Here in Erl, *Anna Bolena* is going to be given a concert performance with Marigona Qerkezi in the title role – one of the most exciting young voices on the bel canto scene. At her side, Aigul Akhmetshina will make her debut in the role of Jane Seymour. This performance of *Anna Bolena* continues Erl's successful cycle of bel canto operas, in the wake of *I puritani* and *La sonnambula*.

From left to right: Aigul Akhmetshina, photo: Lera Nurgalieva
Jack Swanson, photo: Lily Lancaster
Marigona Qerkezi, photo: Mário Amaral



Saturday, 02 January 2027

18:00

Festspielhaus

Gaetano Donizetti (1797–1848)

Anna Bolena

Opera in two acts

Concert performance

Musical direction: **Riccardo Frizza**

Enrico VIII: **Alexandros Stavrakakis**

Anna Bolena: **Marigona Qerkezi**

Giovanna Seymour: **Aigul Akhmetshina**

Lord Rochefort: **Paweł Horodyski**

Lord Riccardo Percy: **Jack Swanson**

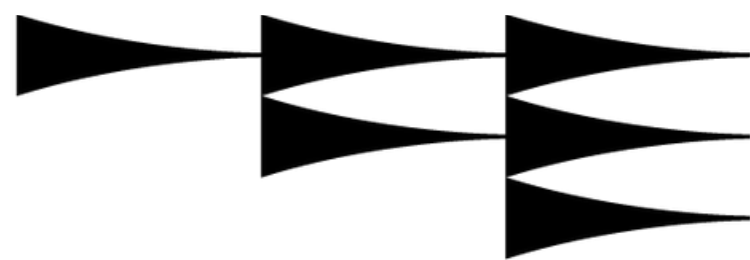
Smeton: **Teresa Iervolino**

Hervey: **Sun Tianxuefei**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Franui Original and counterfeit

It already became clear at the *Ausklang* festival in Erl in autumn 2025 that the collaboration between the pianist Herbert Schuch and the Musicbanda Franui was a complete success. Schuch performed Schubert's *German Dances* in their original version, with Franui offering a seamless segue into its own arrangements of them. Their collaboration back then was a brief but happy juxtaposition of content, and it is now being expanded into a full evening programme. "We had so much fun playing together at *Ausklang*, Herbert Schuch and the rest of us, that we decided to design a whole evening programme together. And this programme will be given its premiere in Erl in the same place where our project originated", explains Andreas Schett, the mastermind behind the Musicbanda Franui and the curator of the *Ausklang* festival. "We're interested in how to take up classical originals and take them further. The notion of 'Weiterspielen' in German – 'playing on' – encapsulates what's actually a great opportunity to bring traditional material into the present day. We're 'playing on' both literally, and in a more metaphorical sense: We're taking the material further by refusing to adhere to any orthodoxy in what the history of interpretation dictates ought to be the 'correct' way of playing something. We are reserving the freedom to find a different way of playing, to rethink the material, and to 'play on' with it. This is the core idea behind our programme".

Monday, 04 January 2027
18:00
Festspielhaus

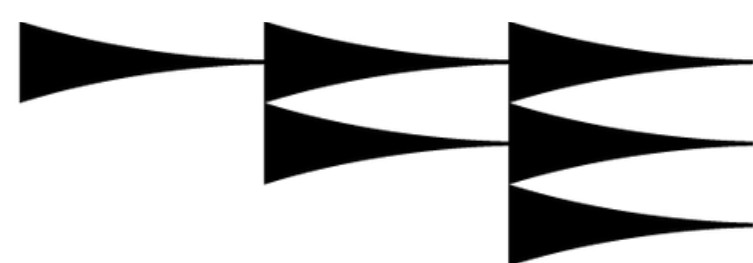
Franui
Original und Fälschung
(Original and counterfeit)
World premiere

Herbert Schuch, piano
Musicbanda Franui



Herbert Schuch, photo: Felix Broede

The 26 | 27 Season
Winter

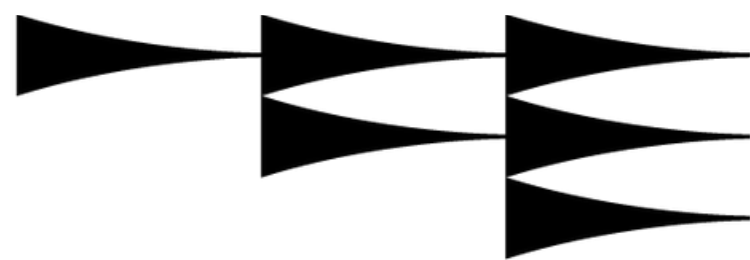


TIROLER
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Original and counterfeit



Musicbanda Franui, photo: Julia Stix



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Concert for Epiphany

The programme for this year's Concert for Epiphany is a deliberate statement of intent. After its intense opera season, this traditional matinée on 6 January offers the Erl Festival Orchestra an opportunity to showcase its symphonic abilities. And it will perform one of the most gripping works in the orchestral repertoire: Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, the "Pathétique".

In the first half of the programme, the Italian pianist Alessandro Taverna will play Ludwig van Beethoven's Fifth Piano Concerto. Taverna is the winner of numerous international competitions and has been pursuing a worldwide career for several years now.



Wednesday, 06 January 2027
11:00
Festspielhaus

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)
Piano Concerto No. 5 in E flat major, Op. 73

Peter Iljitsch Tschaikowski (1840–1893)
Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74, "Pathétique"

Alessandro Taverna, piano
Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele
Asher Fisch, musical direction

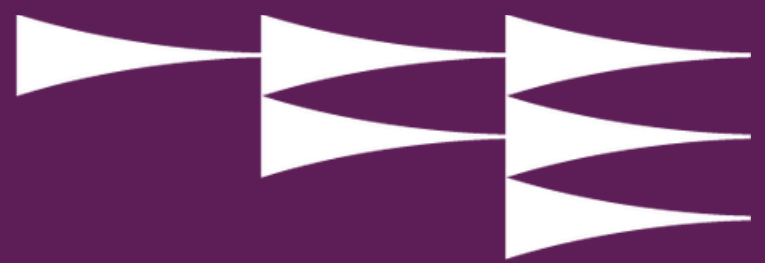
Asher Fisch (left), photo: Xiomara Bender
Alessandro Taverna, photo: n.s.



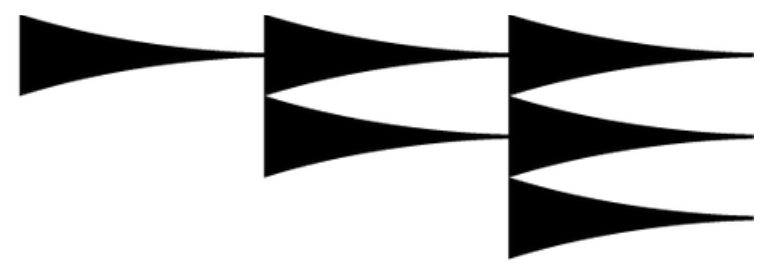
The 26 | 27 Season

Easter

14 – 28 March 2027



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TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Easter

A festival such as the Tiroler Festspiele Erl thrives on getting significant inspiration from all over the world – and on its ability to inspire others in the world in return. At the same time, this Festival, which is now approaching its 30th anniversary, consciously nurtures traditions and breathes new life into them. Erl sees itself as a place where the art of today, the musical heritage of the past and spiritual experiences all enter into a dialogue with each other. Just as Erl's festival seasons mirror the cycle of Nature, from spring through summer and autumn to winter, the spiritual highlights of the calendar year are mirrored in its programmes.

Easter has a special place here. It is the moment of hope after darkness; a festival of resurrection and of the awareness of overcoming death. These are topics that for centuries have found especially powerful expression in the musical traditions of Europe.

Erl's Easter programme in 2027 spans a broad musical spectrum that ranges from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to Alban Berg, from the Viennese Classics to the New Viennese School. It will unite diverse perspectives on the relationship between faith, humanity and artistic vision. At its core is a revival of our production of Richard Wagner's music drama *Parsifal* – a work that perhaps more than any other is able to embody a union of spirituality and music theatre.



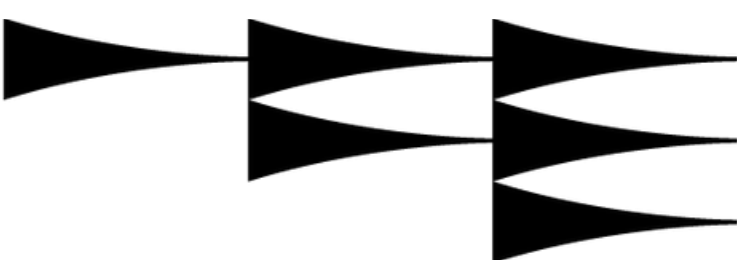
Opera
Parsifal



Concert
Benefit matinée for
CONCORDIA
St Matthew Passion
Mozart and Schubert



Family concert
Nannerl opens up



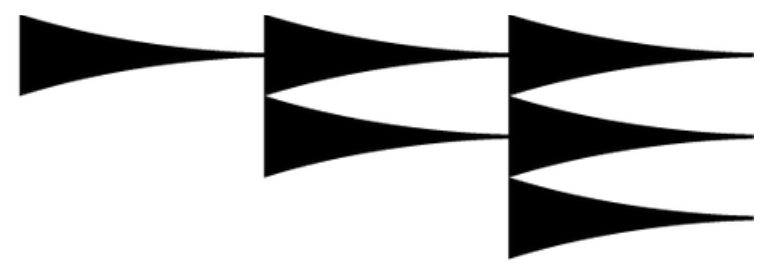
TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Jonas Kaufmann will return to the stage of the Festspielhaus Erl in its title role, alongside the Kundry whose impressive performance was one of the Festival's great artistic highpoints in 2025, and who will assume a further important operatic role here in 2027: Irene Roberts. Johann Sebastian Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, one of the most moving works in music history, will also feature on our programme once again. Its coming together of theological reflection, musical perfection and dramatic intensity has long made this Passion one of the defining moments of Eastertime in Erl.

Finally, the family concert *Nannerl opens up* will lay down a marker. It will open up a varied panorama of women composers, turning the spotlight on an array of personalities whom music history has long sidelined, and letting them speak to today's audiences in all their multifaceted artistry.



Photo: Kitzbichler



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Family concert: Nannerl opens up

Everyone knows about little Wolferl – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. But what about his sister Nannerl, Maria Anna Mozart? She too was a musical wunderkind, she too composed, and she performed alongside her brother in concerts across Europe. But when Nannerl reached “marriageable” age, her career was brought to a halt. That’s what society expected of girls in the 18th century. Many other women composers disappeared from music history in similar fashion. This family concert will be unravelling some fascinating stories. How did girls live – and compose – in the era of the Mozart siblings? Just who were those women composers who’ve since been forgotten – and what does their music sound like today? Come with us on a musical quest that promises lots of discoveries and some surprising new perspectives.



Sunday, 14 March 2027
16:00
Festspielhaus

Family concert

Nannerl packt aus
(Nannerl opens up)

Musical direction: **Hannah Eisendle**

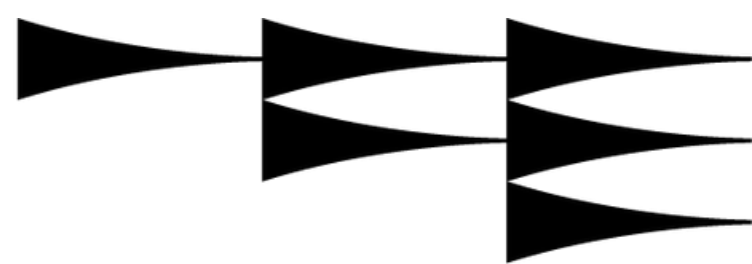
Presenter: **Marin Meissl**

Soprano: **Sieglinde Feldhofer**

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele

Sieglinde Feldhofer (left), photo: n.s.
Hannah Eisendle, photo: Markus Rossle





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Benefit matinée for CONCORDIA

Erl's musical Easter week will in 2027 keep to tradition by beginning with a charity matinée on Palm Sunday in aid of CONCORDIA Social Projects. The programme will feature a work by Alban Berg, a composer to whom the Tiroler Festspiele Erl will be devoting special attention in its coming seasons. His Violin Concerto, entitled "In memory of an angel", is one of the most moving compositions of the 20th century. Although Berg belonged to the Second Viennese School, this Concerto unites his modern musical language with a deeply felt, almost Romantic expressivity. Berg dedicated this work to the memory of Manon Gropius, who died at a tragically young age, and the result is a musical monument of great emotional intensity.

The programme continues with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Requiem – a work of timeless significance that our audiences have often requested, and which is consequently returning once more to the programme of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl.

Sunday, 21 March 2027

11:00

Festspielhaus

Alban Berg (1885–1935)

Violin concerto "In memory of an angel"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Requiem in D minor, K. 626

Sergej Krylov, violin

The soloists in the Requiem will be announced at a later date.

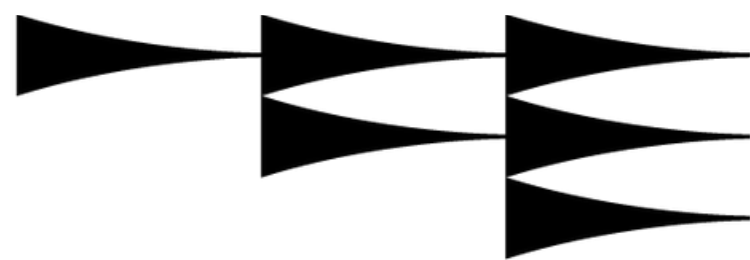
Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Asher Fisch, musical direction



Sergej Krylov, photo: Thomas Juskaitis



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Parsifal

Philipp M. Krenn's production of *Parsifal* was first staged to great acclaim in 2025. It is returning in 2027, with the title role again sung, as back in 2025, by the Intendant of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl himself, Jonas Kaufmann.

He will be reunited with Georg Nigl, whose characterisation of Klingsor was already fêted in 2025, and also with the mezzo-soprano Irene Roberts, whose impressive Kundry proved one of the major artistic highpoints of the 2025 Festival. In the summer of 2027, she will take on another major role: that of Isolde.

Thursday, 25 March 2027
Sunday, 28 March 2027
in each case 16:00
Festspielhaus

Richard Wagner (1813–1883)
Parsifal

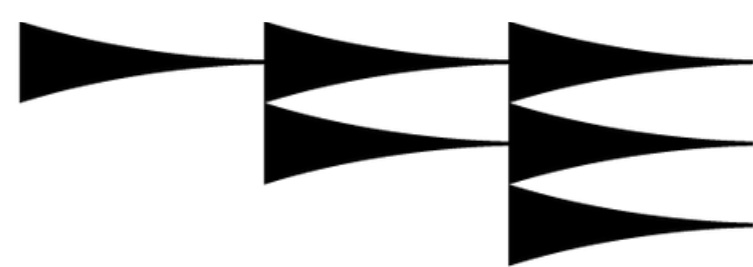
Opera in three acts
Text by Richard Wagner
Revival of the 2025 production

Musical direction: **Asher Fisch**
Director: **Philipp M. Krenn**
Set design: **Heike Vollmer**
Costume design: **Regine Standfuss**
Lighting design: **Stefan Schlagbauer**
Video: **Thomas Achitz**

Amfortas: **Gerald Finley**
Titurel: **Martin Snell**
Gurnemanz: **John Relyea**
Parsifal: **Jonas Kaufmann**
Klingsor: **Georg Nigl**
Kundry: **Irene Roberts**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl
Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

The 26 | 27 Season
Easter

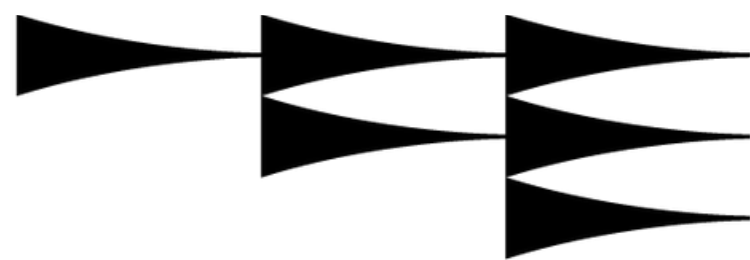


TIROLER
FESTSPIELE
ERL

Parsifal



Parsifal at the Tiroler Festspiele ERL, Easter 2025. Photo: Xiomara Bender



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

St Matthew Passion

Johann Sebastian Bach's *St Matthew Passion* is one of the most moving works in the history of music, and it is taking centre stage once again in the Easter programme of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl. As is traditional, it will be performed on the afternoon of Good Friday. Its combination of theological reflection, compositional mastery and a powerful dramatic narrative has made this work a firm Easter fixture in Erl.

It is intentionally scheduled at the "ninth hour" of the day, 3 p.m., the time of Jesus's death on the Cross according to Christian tradition, which lends this performance an almost liturgical dimension. It will be under the baton of the Belgian conductor Martijn Dendievel, the winner of the 2021 German Conducting Award. He has already worked with orchestras including the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, the WDR Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestre National de Lille. His international career has also brought him experience with large-scale works for chorus and orchestra, including those by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Friday, 26 March 2027
15:00
Festspielhaus

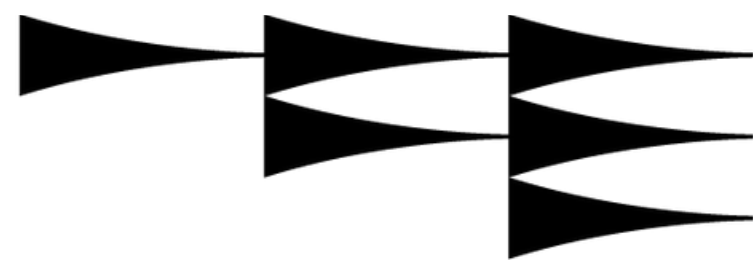
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
St Matthew Passion BWV 244
Oratorio in two parts

Mark Milhofer, Evangelist
Andrew Hamilton, Jesus
Anna-Lena Elbert, soprano
Rachael Wilson, alto
Lunga Eric Hallam, tenor
Michael Nagl, bass

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl
Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Martijn Dendievel, musical direction





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Orchestral concert Schubert & Mozart

After the striking combination of Alban Berg's Violin Concerto and Mozart's Requiem on Palm Sunday 2027, our orchestral concert on Holy Saturday will set up a different, though similarly earnest-minded juxtaposition. Our Principal Conductor, Asher Fisch, will perform Mozart's Requiem alongside another musical reflection on death and transience.

Its starting point is Franz Schubert's song *Death and the Maiden*, which depicts a dialogue between Death and a young girl that is as simple as it is unsettling. The will to live and a vision of death as a calm moment of release are contrasted here, one against the other. Schubert used his song in the second movement of his String Quartet D 810, and Gustav Mahler later arranged this for string orchestra. It here leads us seamlessly into Mozart's Requiem in a poignant musical arc that opens up space for contemplative, individual experience.



Saturday, 27 March 2027
19:00
Festspielhaus

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)
Death and the Maiden D 531

Franz Schubert
from String Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D 810
'Death and the Maiden'
2nd movement: Andante con moto
(arrangement for string orchestra by
Gustav Mahler)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)
Requiem in D minor, K. 626

The soloists in the Requiem and the Schubert song will be announced at a later date.

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl
Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Asher Fisch, piano and musical direction

Asher Fisch, photo: Scheffold Media

The 25 | 26 Season

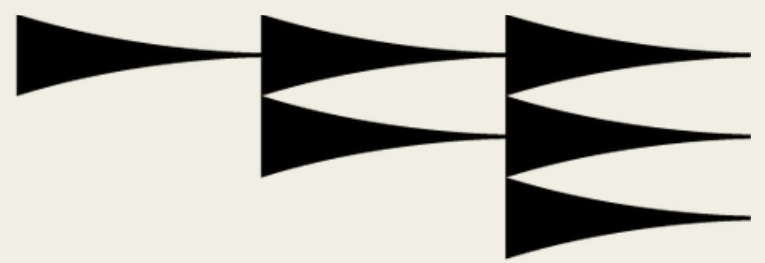
Before summer

Theatre fest

The Tiroler Festspiele Erl will be expanding its summer programme in 2027 to include a new format – a theatrical celebration for performers and audiences alike. Ideas are already being worked out intensively behind the scenes, and the central role in it all will be played by the immersive theatre ensemble Nesterval that was founded in 2011 and has already enjoyed immense success in Vienna and far beyond.

At the heart of each and every production by Nesterval lies a joy in performing – in creating a space for the theatrical experience and involving the audience in it. Their plays are based on the idea of a “play within a play” and often resemble a contemporary TV series or a role-playing game in a computer. The ensemble comprises more than 20 performers, drag artists and actors who in various combinations tell the story of the legendary Nesterval family.

Over the course of the coming season, this ensemble will develop a performance format specifically for Erl. Just where this collaboration might lead us is in itself exciting – we should be able to gain initial insights into it at the start of the year. One thing is certain already, however: just as at the Open Day in 2026, this theatrical celebration will be free of charge, with the doors of the Festspielhaus open to all to experience something extraordinary.



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Sunday, 13 June 2027

All day

in and around the Festspielhaus

featuring
the immersive theatre company
Nesterval

The full programme will be
announced at a later date.

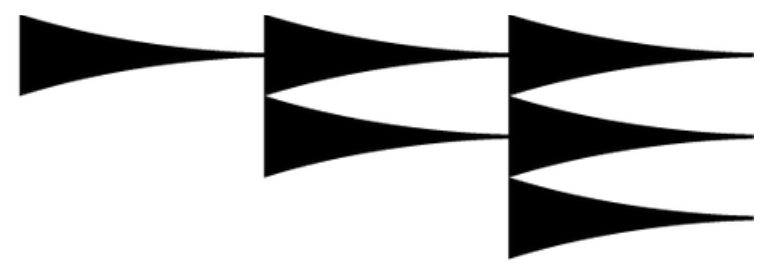
The 26 | 27 Season

Summer

01 – 25 July 2027



TIROLER
FESTSPIELE
ERL



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Summer

Summer in Erl has always been a time of diversity. Inspiration, celebration, eager anticipation and wonderful musical discoveries are what characterise the festival month of July. And our programme for summer 2027 will continue to pursue this deliberately open, multifaceted dramaturgical concept. Summer in Erl is all about artistic encounters, well-known masterpieces and surprising new discoveries – and all in a special atmosphere of festive informality and summer enjoyment.

Asher Fisch will continue his Bruckner cycle with the Festival Orchestra – this time with the composer's famous Fourth Symphony, the "Romantic". Bruckner's music offers a unique combination of monumental sonic architecture and spiritual profundity, and it here returns as a cornerstone of the Festival repertoire.

Our music theatre programme spans a broad arc across the German operatic tradition, with Richard Wagner's *Der fliegende Holländer* followed by one of the core works of the repertoire in the Passionsspielhaus: his *Tristan and Isolde*, an "action for music" (thus its subsidiary title) that redefined the boundaries of musical expression – one might even say it shattered them completely – and left its mark on subsequent generations of composers.

Opera

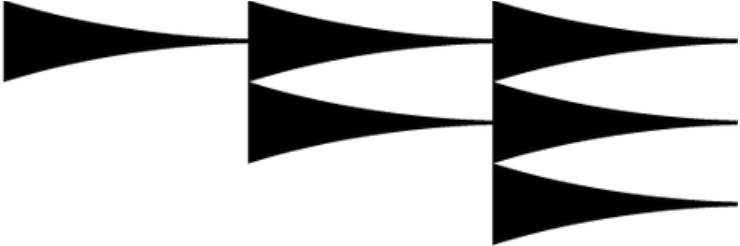
Tristan and Isolde
Der ferne Klang
Accabadora

Concert

Opening Concert
Orchestral Concert
Richard Strauss
Tirol Concerto
Piano matinée
Song matinée Luca Salsi

Special

A reading with music
A new programme by
Franui



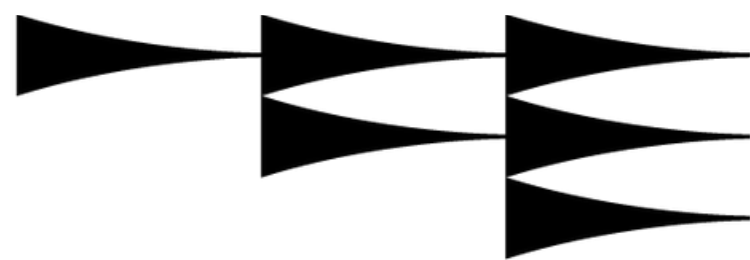
TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

A special discovery of the summer will be Franz Schreker's opera *Der ferne Klang* ("The distant sound"), a dazzling masterpiece of musical Modernism composed in 1910. It unfolds a fascinating, post-Romantic ecstasy of sound whilst telling a deeply moving drama about an artist that in its own way stands in the tradition of Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*.

The Tiroler Festspiele Erl is also delighted to present the Austrian premiere of the opera *Accabadora* by Francesco Filidei – a co-production with the Festival of Aix-en-Provence and other international partners. The Festival is thereby continuing its commitment to presenting works from the great operatic repertoire alongside those that confirm opera as a living art form with its metaphorical finger on the very pulse of our times. The result is an especially varied festival summer that invites opera lovers and the curious alike to come and experience the full diversity of music theatre here in Erl.



Photo: Kitzbichler



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Opening Concert

“Bruckner’s works aren’t really works at all. They’re a fraud that will be dead and forgotten in a year or two”. As we all know, this assessment by Johannes Brahms proved completely wrong. Anton Bruckner’s Fourth Symphony, nicknamed the “Romantic”, is one of the most popular works in the symphonic repertoire today. For Bruckner himself, it was closely linked to powerful images of Nature. To some, it conjures up scenes that feel almost mediaeval, and it offers a truly epic world of sound. Its monumental crescendos, its sharply contoured passages for wind instruments plus its overwhelming terraced dynamics can evoke vivid mental imagery, and they’ve exerted a long-lasting impact right through to the film music of our own time. We hear a different kind of “film” in Benjamin Britten’s *Four Sea Interludes* from his opera *Peter Grimes*. He uses dazzling orchestral colours to let us hear the sea itself in all its facets. Asher Fisch will conduct this programme comprising works that are being heard in Erl for the first-ever time – thereby contributing to the ever-expanding repertoire of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl.

Thursday, 01 July 2027

19:00

Festspielhaus

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Four Sea Interludes from the opera *Peter Grimes*
op. 33a

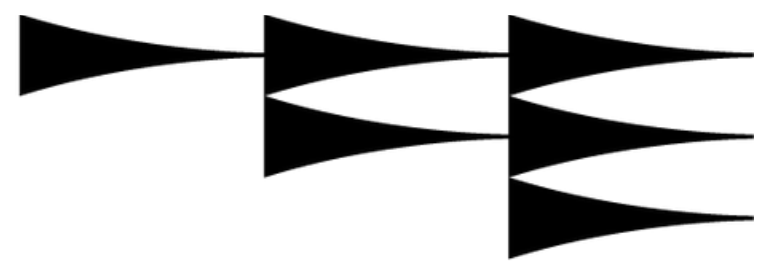
Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Symphony No. 4 in E flat major, “Romantic”

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele

Asher Fisch, musical direction

The 26 | 27 Season
Summer



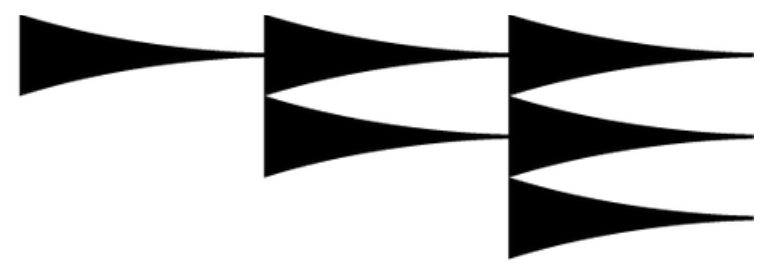
TIROLER
FESTSPIELE
ERL

Opening Concert



The orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele ERL under its chief conductor Asher Fisch, photo: Scheffold Media

The 26 | 27 Season
Summer



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Franui

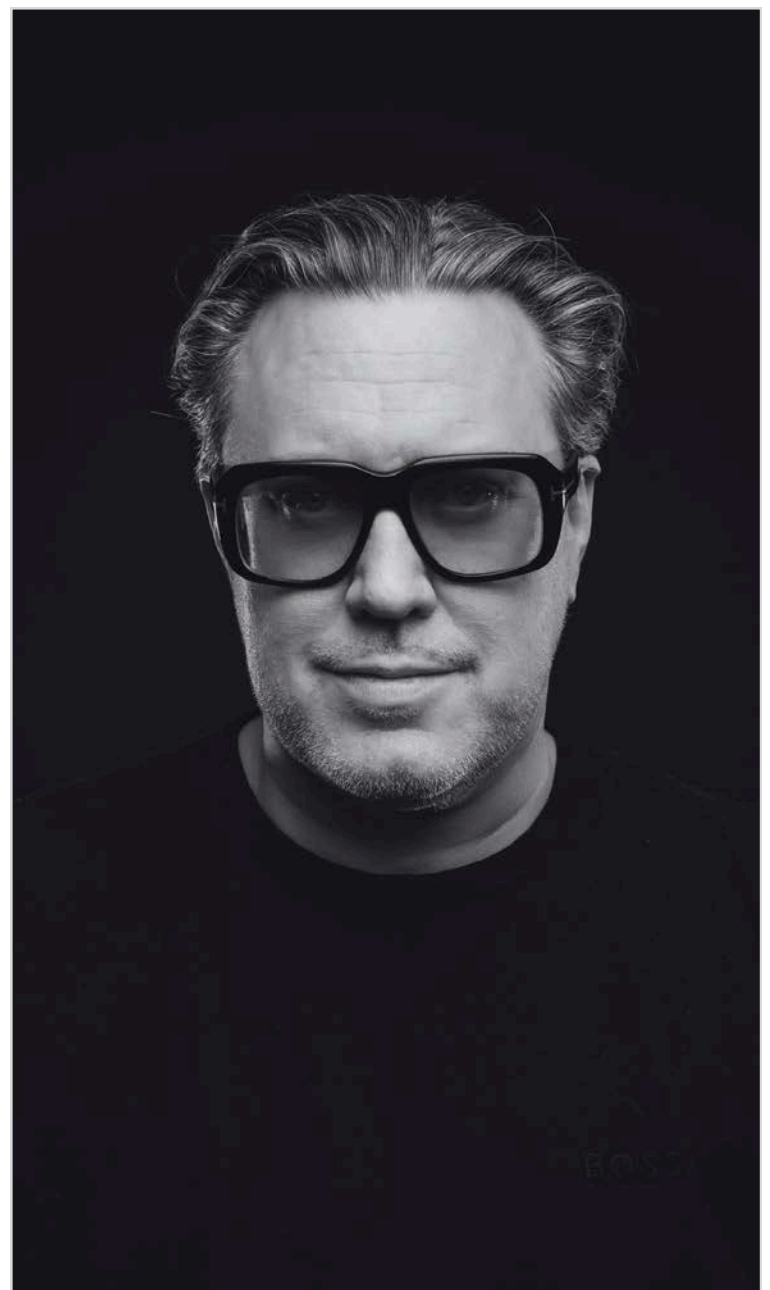
A new programme in collaboration with the
Burgtheater in Vienna

Thomas Bernhard's *Holzfällen* was a sensational success for Franui and Nicholas Ofczarek, with the music ensemble and the renowned actor from the Burgtheater in Vienna proving to be a brilliant theatrical collaboration. They have meanwhile performed *Holzfällen* 50 times – 30 of them at the Burgtheater itself, and all of them sold out. So they're now coming together for a new joint project. We can't reveal too much yet about what's on their forthcoming programme, as they want to keep people guessing until the Burgtheater unveils its 2026/27 season.

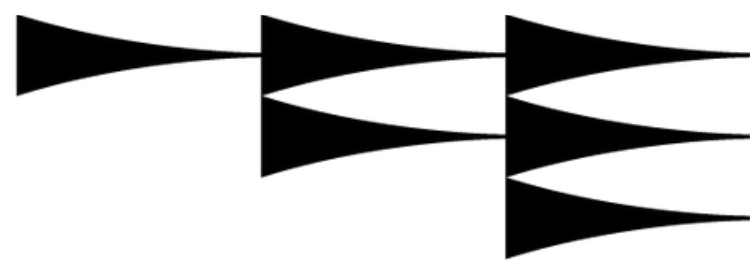
But one thing is certain: Ofczarek will be taking to the stage as both actor and singer. And since the Musicbanda Franui is more or less "at home" in Erl, their project can be experienced at our own Festival first, before they move on to the Burgtheater.

Friday, 02 July 2027
19:00
Festspielhaus

with
Nicholas Ofczarek
Musicbanda Franui



Nicholas Ofczarek, photo: Nadine Poncioni-Rusnov



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Tristan and Isolde

“Drowning, sinking, unconscious, supreme bliss” – these are the final words at the ecstatic musical close of Richard Wagner’s opera *Tristan and Isolde*. With this “action in three acts”, as Wagner himself called it, the Tiroler Festspiele Erl continues its Wagner cycle at the Passionsspielhaus. Johannes Erath’s new production will explore this radical drama of a love caught between metaphysical yearnings and societal order and trace its protagonists’ longings for death. The title roles will be sung by John Matthew Myers and the mezzo-soprano Irene Roberts. Acclaimed in Erl as Kundry in *Parsifal*, this production will see Roberts make her debut in the role of Isolde.

The fact that Wagner was able to complete this work in the first place was thanks in no small part to the self-composure of Mathilde Wesendonck, the object of an unfulfilled passion on his part that he transformed into what became one of the most revolutionary works in operatic history and a time-bomb for the harmonic foundations of Western music.

Saturday, 03 July 2027, 16:00
Friday, 09 July 2027, 17:00
Saturday, 24 July 2027, 16:00
Passionsspielhaus

Richard Wagner (1813–1883)

Tristan and Isolde

Opera in three acts

New production

Musical direction: **Asher Fisch**

Director: **Johannes Erath**

Set design: **Heike Scheele**

Costume design: **Gesine Völlm**

Lighting design: **Andreas Grüter**

Dramaturg: **Gerald Maria Bauer**

Tristan: **John Matthew Myers**

Isolde: **Irene Roberts**

König Marke: **René Pape**

Brangäne: **Kristina Stanek**

Kurwenal: **Christoph Pohl**

Melot: **Sean Michael Plumb**

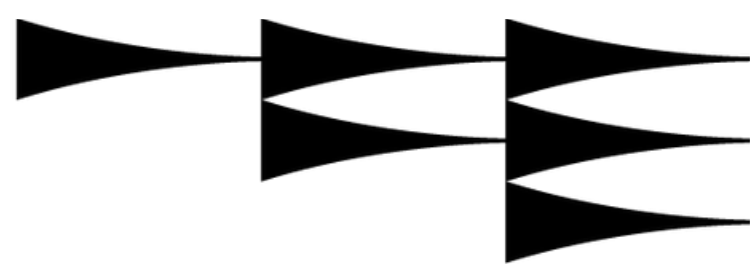
A young sailor/a shepherd: **Matthew Newlin**

Steuermann: **Nikola Diskić**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

The 26 | 27 Season
Summer

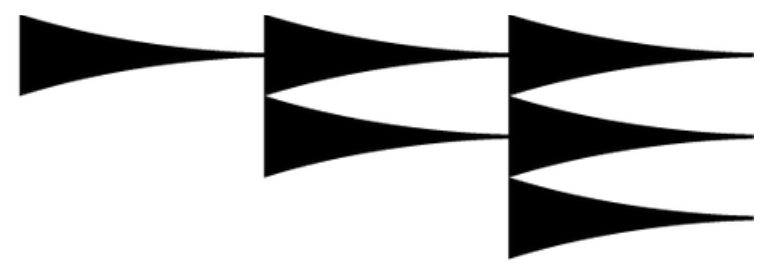


TIROLER
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Tristan and Isolde

Clockwise from top left:
Irene Roberts, photo: Anne Wilk
Johannes Erath, photo: Katrin Strasser
John Matthew Myers, photo: Murphy Made
René Pape, photo: Jiyang Chen





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Tirol Concerto

This programme explores the sounds of folk music and those of spiritual meditation. Sándor Veress's *Four Transylvanian Dances* open up a richly coloured panorama of Eastern European traditions that continues in Martynas Levickis's suite of Lithuanian folk songs. Levickis is one of the leading accordionists of his generation and combines virtuosic brilliance with stylistic diversity, transforming his instrument into a solo vehicle with a near-orchestral brilliance. Philip Glass's *Tirol Concerto* brings a special touch in this context. It wasn't originally composed with this title, but is derived from his Piano Concerto No. 1. This "Tirol" version is a regional renaming – actually an arrangement – that he made in the context of performances given at the Klangspuren Festival in the Tyrol.

For our concert, this work is being performed in a different dramaturgical context and in an arrangement for a different solo instrument – the accordion. Glass himself has adapted this Piano Concerto several times, thereby revealing just how much his music is suited to performance by different ensembles. The local aspect is especially evident here in the work's first and third movements, where Glass quotes a Tyrolean folk song. Works by John Tavener and Astor Piazzolla then take us further on our journey from contemplation to expressive passion. Levickis is here accompanied by the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra.

Sunday, 04 July 2027

11:00

Festspielhaus

Sándor Veress (1907–1992)

Four Transylvanian Dances for string orchestra

Martynas Levickis (*1990)

Lithuanian Folk Songs Suite for accordion and orchestra

Philip Glass (*1937)

Etudes for solo accordion

Piano concerto No. 1 *Tirol Concerto*

John Tavener (1944–2013)

Mother of God

Astor Piazzolla (1921–1992)

Ave Maria (Tanti anni primi)

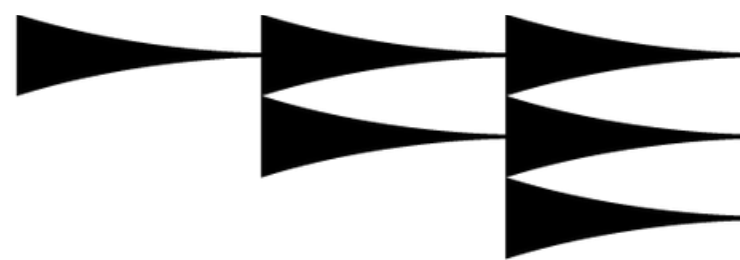
Maria de Buenos Aires

Martynas Levickis, accordion

Stuttgarter Kammerorchester

Martynas Levickis, photo: Stephan Zwickirsch





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Der ferne Klang

Festivals are places suited to realising ambitious ventures. The Tiroler Festspiele Erl accordingly now presents *Der ferne Klang* (The distant sound), Franz Schreker's first major operatic success. This opera, which premiered in 1912, offers a vocal line still inspired by bel canto – Puccini might well have been a model for Schreker – though accompanied by richly coloured, iridescent late-Romantic harmony that pursues the path that Richard Wagner had opened up with his *Tristan and Isolde*.

The plot centres on the tragic figure of the composer Fritz, who devotes his life to a search for a "distant sound" – and in so doing so almost loses the woman who is the love of his life. He realises, too late, that the fulfilment he longed for had always been close to hand. The distant sound is a jewel of the operatic literature but is rarely performed. This production will be supervised by the polarising, in-demand international opera director Calixto Bieito. The orchestra will play under the baton of rising star Christian Blex, who in 2025 won the Herbert von Karajan Conductor's Award at the Salzburg Festival.

Saturday, 10 July 2027
Sunday, 18 July 2027
Sunday, 25 July 2027
in each case 16:00
Festspielhaus

Franz Schreker (1878–1934)

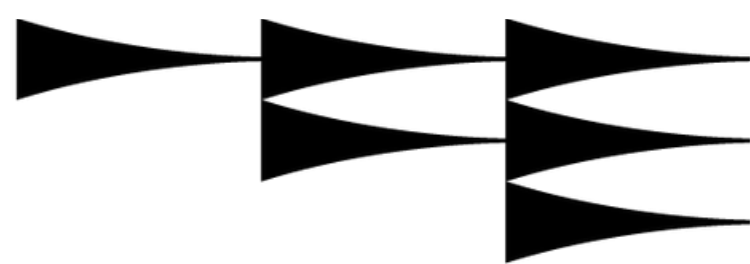
Der ferne Klang
Opera in three acts
New production

Musical direction: **Christian Blex**
Director: **Calixto Bieito**
Set design: **Anna Kirsch**
Costume design: **Anja Rabes**
Lighting design: **Michael Bauer**

Fritz: **Evan LeRoy Johnson**
Grete: **Lidia Fridman**
Dr. Vigeliuss/The baron: **Ashley Riches**
Old Graumann/a Spanish girl: **Miriam Treichl**
Old Graumann/a policeman: **Mark Stone**
Der Graf: **Stefan Astakhov**
Mary: **Fan Zhou**
Milli: **Johanna Thomsen**
Mizi: **Laura Ulloa**
An old woman/the waitress: **Carole Wilson**
Landlord of the inn/second chorus member:
Martin Summer
A bad actor /Rudolf: **Ludwig Mittelhammer**
The chevalier/first chorus member: **Alexander Marev**
A dubious individual: **Robert Watson**

Choir of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl
Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl

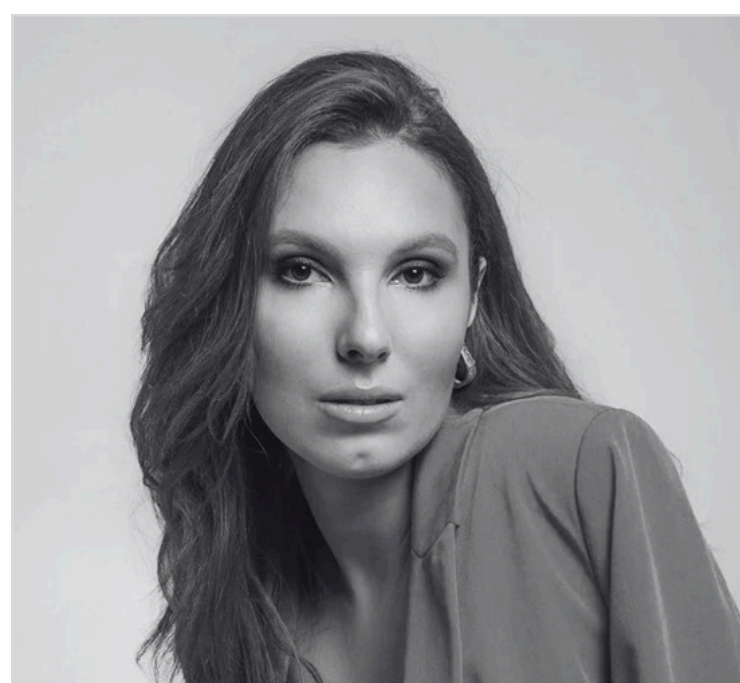
The 26 | 27 Season
Summer

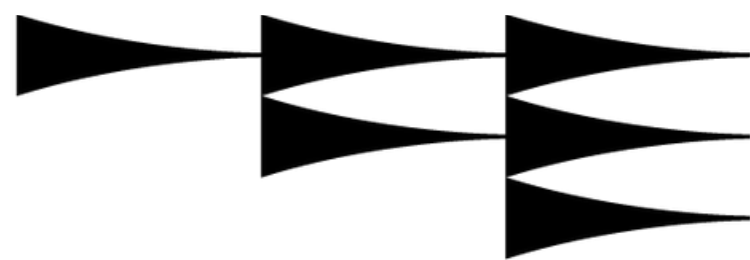


TIROLER
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Der ferne Klang

Clockwise from top left:
Calixto Bieito, photo: Enrique Moreno Esquibel
Lidia Fridman, photo: Natalia Mentugova
Evan LeRoy Johnson, photo: Matt Madison Clark





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Piano matinée Kevin Chen

Kevin Chen, a rising star on the piano scene, is making his debut at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl with an extraordinarily diverse programme that he has conceived as a multi-layered exploration of the art of variation, transformation and musical imagination. In order to demonstrate the principal of constant metamorphosis, Chen begins with Ludwig van Beethoven's arrangement of the Russian folk song *Schöne Minka* (Lovely Minka) then proceeds to his radical 32 Variations in C minor. Felix Mendelssohn's *Variations sérieuses* expand the variation form, taking it into the Romantic era, whilst Franz Liszt's view of Beethoven's *An die ferne Geliebte* transports it into a new musical dimension while at the same time linking up with the works that opened this matinée.

After the interval, Aleksander Scriabin's visionary soundscapes reveal a transcendental space, then Liszt's *Fountains at the Villa d'Este* and his *Les Préludes* (here arranged for solo piano by Chen himself) combine Nature, water, iridescence and pianistic fireworks. In this manner, everything comes together in a journey from the variation to the visionary.

Kevin Chen, photo: Fabrice Umiglia

Sunday, 11 July 2027

11:00

Festspielhaus

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

from Ten Variations on Folk Songs, Op. 107

No. 7: Air russe "*Schöne Minka*"

32 Variations on an Original Theme in C minor,
WoO 80

Ludwig van Beethoven/Franz Liszt (1811–1886)

An die ferne Geliebte (To the distant beloved), S.
469

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)

Variations sérieuses op. 54

Alexander Skrjabin (1872–1915)

from 24 Preludes, Op. 11

No. 11 in B flat major

Fantasy in B minor, Op. 28

Vers la flamme op. 72

Franz Liszt

from *Années de pèlerinage, Troisième année*
S. 163

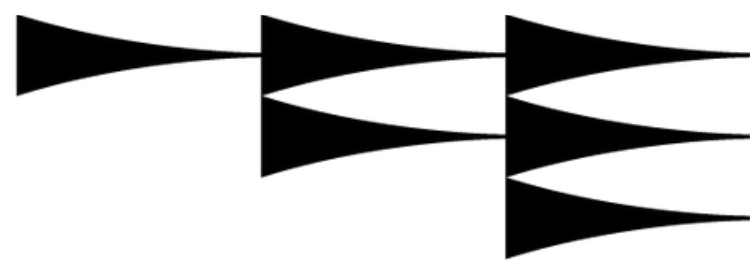
No. 4 *Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este*

Les Préludes (Poème symphonique) S. 97

(Arr.: Kevin Chen)

Kevin Chen, piano





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Orchestral Concert Richard Strauss

When people hear the opening of Richard Strauss's *Also sprach Zarathustra* op. 30 ("Thus Spake Zarathustra"), some people immediately think of Stanley Kubrick's film *2001: A Space Odyssey*, others of the writings of Friedrich Nietzsche – and it was indeed Nietzsche's powerful, eponymous work of philosophical fiction that inspired Strauss to compose this work, one of his most fascinating tone poems. It reveals the young composer as a remarkable musical innovator whose orchestral imagination took him far beyond the bounds of the "cosy Bavarian" persona that he later cultivated. The score could almost have been tailor-made for the virtuosic skills of the Erl Festival Orchestra.

Our programme is complemented by *The Midnight Hour* (2015), the first-ever work to be performed here by the Australian composer Anna Clyne. It is precisely her luminous art of orchestration and her delight in the ecstatic possibilities of orchestral sound that makes Clyne's work a surprisingly apt bridge to Strauss's symphonic sound world.

Another highlight of this evening in the Passionsspielhaus will be Pretty Yende, who will be adding Strauss's *Four Last Songs* to her repertoire and will make this an evening to appeal to all enthusiastic music-lovers.

Pretty Yende, photo: Gregor Hohenberg

Friday, 16 July 2027

19:00

Passionsspielhaus

Richard Strauss (1864–1949)

Vier letzte Lieder (Four Last Songs)

Anna Clyne (*1980)

This Midnight Hour für Orchester

Richard Strauss

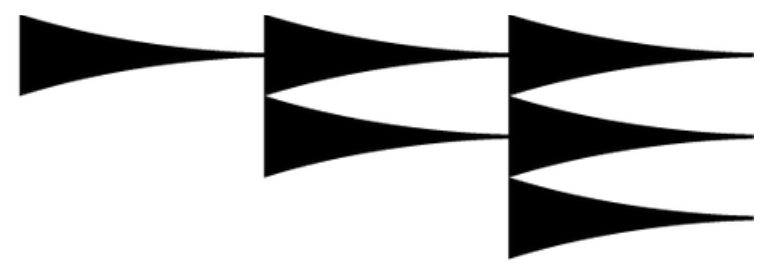
Also sprach Zarathustra (Thus Spake Zarathustra).
Symphonic poem, Op. 30

Pretty Yende, soprano

Asher Fisch, musical direction

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Accabadora

Sardinia in the 1950s: a village still steeped in archaic traditions. Maria is the youngest child of a large family, and as custom dictates, she is taken in by the childless woman Tzia Bonaria. The latter is both feared and respected as an “Accabadora” – working as a seamstress by day, but by night as a woman who ends the suffering of the dying – severing, as it were, the thread of their life.

Will Maria be able to accept the role of daughter to this “last mother”? Francesco Filidei’s new opera was inspired by the haunting novel penned by Michela Murgia. Valentina Carrasco’s production brings a world to life in which age-old rituals, landscapes and human destinies are inextricably intertwined. The work’s world premiere in Aix-en-Provence was jointly produced by the Tiroler Festspiele Erl, which is hosting its first performance in Austria.

Francesco Filidei, photo: Harald Hoffmann
Valentina Carrasco, photo: Nicolas Riente



Saturday, 17 July 2027
Friday, 23 July 2027
in each case um 19:00
Festspielhaus

Francesco Filidei (*1973)

Accabadora

Chamber opera in one act

Commissioned by the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence
(World premiere: 4 July 2026)

Co-production with Opéra National de Lyon,
Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, Opéra de
Dijon and Teatro Comunale di Bologna
Austrian premiere

Musical direction: **Lucie Leguay**

Director and set design: **Valentina Carrasco**

Set design: **Mariangela Mazzeo**

Costume design: **Mauro Tinti**

Lighting design: **Antonio Castro**

Tzia Bonaria Urrai (L'Accabadora): **Noa Frenkel**

Maria: **Rachel Masclet**

Nicola Bastiu: **Lodovico Filippo Ravizza**

Andria Bastiu: **Hugo Brady**

Maestra Luciana/Giannina Bastiu/Una Voce:

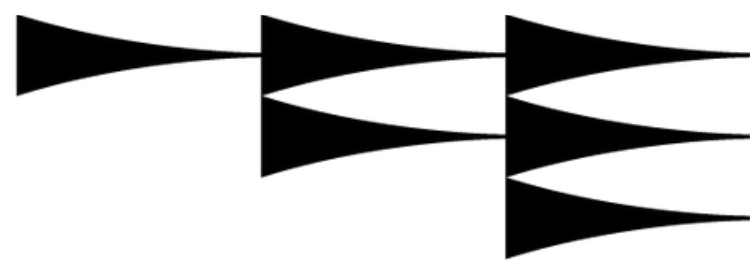
Victoire Bunel

Santino Littorra/Antonio Vargiu/Dottor Mastinu:

Francesco Leone

Orchestra of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl





TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Intimate letters A reading with music

The title says it all: our reading with music, *Intimate letters*, offers intensely personal insights into the great Czech composer Leoš Janáček. Following the huge success of our Callas reading in the winter of 2026, our “Reading with music” cycle will continue in the summer of 2027.

Gregor Bloéb will bring Janáček’s voice to life by reading excerpts both from his letters and from the book about the composer by Jiří Ort, while a top-class ensemble featuring the violist Mariko Hara will explore the musical world of Janáček and his personal longings. At the heart of their programme is his String Quartet No. 2, itself entitled *Intime Briefe* (Intimate letters), and it is complemented by two lovely works from the pen of Franz Schreker – a composer who in 2027 will finally find his place, for the first-ever time, on Erl’s opera programme.

This matinée will offer a portrait of a great composer that is as intimate as it is multifaceted, brought to life by an icon of the theatre who is himself from the Tyrol.



Sunday, 18 July 2027

11:00

Festspielhaus

Reading from

Jiří Ort (*1946)

Leoš Janáček – the Late Wild One. Love and Life in Operas and Letters

Leoš Janáček (1854–1928)

String quartet No. 2 “Intime Briefe” (Intimate Letters)

Franz Schreker (1878–1934)

Intermezzo for string orchestra, Op. 8 (version for string quartet)

Franz Schreker

Scherzo for string orchestra (version for string quartet)

Gregor Bloéb, reading

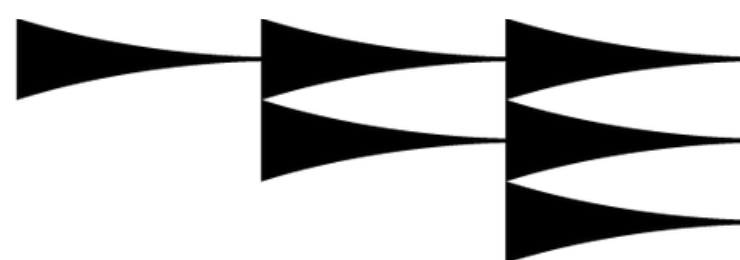
Ruslan Talas, violin

Julian Kainrath, violin

Mariko Hara, viola

Alexandra Kehrer, violoncello

Gregor Bloéb, photo: Günther Egger



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Song matinée Luca Salsi

Sunday, 25 July 2027

11:00

Festspielhaus

Anyone attending the last July weekend of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl back in 2025 will surely remember how Luca Salsi's performances were among the highpoints of the summer festival. His portrayals of the title role in *Rigoletto* and as Giorgio Germont in *La traviata* set new benchmarks for these roles. And in what is a rare gesture of spontaneous affection, he was even greeted by thunderous applause by his new fans when they saw him among them in the audience at the Festspielhaus on his evening off. And this enthusiasm proved mutual, with Salsi expressing an immediate desire to return to us in Erl. Since schedules in the opera business are usually a matter of long-term planning, that wasn't an easy wish to fulfil for our star Italian baritone.

But then we had the idea of organising a Lieder matinée for 2027 in which he might present music from his homeland and reveal a different, more intimate aspect of his artistry. Welcome back, *caro* Luca!

Works by

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, **Gaetano Donizetti**,
Gioacchino Rossini and **Giuseppe Verdi**

Luca Salsi, baritone

Nelson Calzi, piano

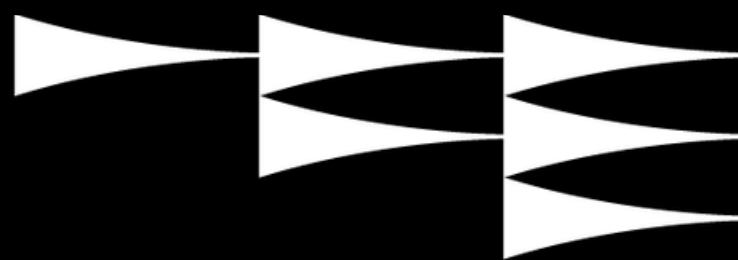


Luca Salsi, photo: Marco Borrelli

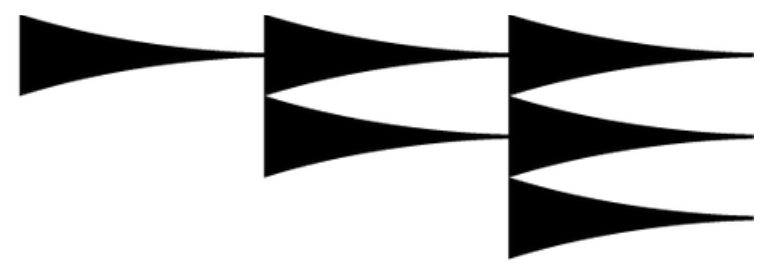
The 26 | 27 Season

Zwischentöne –

Music between the
Festivals



TIROLER
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ERL



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Zwischentöne

Music between the Festivals

In addition to its festival season running through winter, spring, summer and then *Ausklang* in autumn, the Tiroler Festspiele Erl also collaborates with its partners to complement its attractive cultural programme with top-calibre concerts throughout the year, entitled Music between the Festivals, in German: *Zwischentöne* (literally, “intermediate tones”). These events will include a chamber music series with members of the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra and the Bavarian State Orchestra, which was (re)introduced with great success in the 2025/26 season.

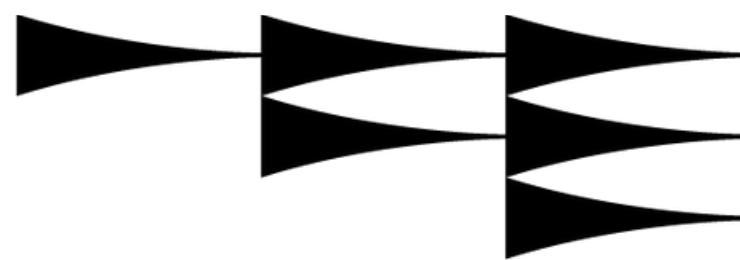
There will also be a new addition in the coming season: a guest performance by the ensemble of the Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz in Munich, which will ring in the arrival of spring with the stirring sounds of operetta.



Guest performances
by the **Gärtnerplatztheater**
Munich



Chamber music
featuring members of the
Münchner Philharmoniker
and the **Bayerisches**
Staatsorchester



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Guest performance by the
Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz

Die Fledermaus

Die Fledermaus is one of the best-known, most often-performed operettas. Ever since its world premiere at the Theater an der Wien in 1874, this comedy of mistaken identity and disguises has been delighting audiences all over the world. The score by Johann Strauss Jr is full of rousing waltz melodies and sparkling ensembles. It kicks off with a brilliant overture introducing the operetta's big tunes, while individual numbers such as the "Champagne aria" and the famous Csárdás sung by Rosalinde have become standards of musical theatre.

Die Fledermaus is a staple of the repertoire of many opera houses around New Year, though it's also perfectly suited to performance here in Erl in the spring – as a kind of musical bouquet to be enjoyed just as Nature blossoms and blooms.

The Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz of Munich is coming to Erl to give a guest performance of its fast-paced hit production of the operetta.

Thursday, 20 May 2027
Saturday, 22 May 2027
in each case 19:00
Festspielhaus

Johann Strauß (Sohn, 1825–1899)
Die Fledermaus
Operetta in three acts

Musical direction: **Michael Brandstätter**
Director: **Josef E. Köpplinger**
Stage design: **Rainer Sinell**
Costume design: **Alfred Mayerhofer**
Choreographer: **Karl Alfred Schreiner**

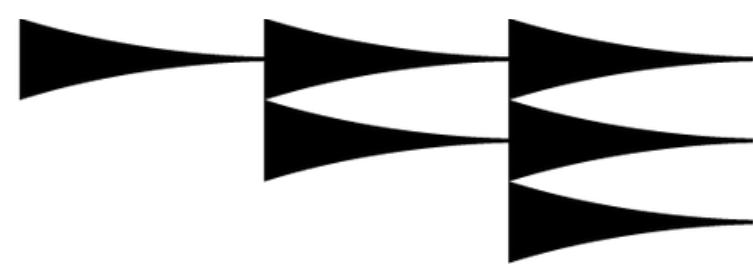
Eisenstein: **Daniel Prohaska**
Rosalinde: **Jennifer O'Loughlin**
Alfred: **Lucian Krasznec**
Dr. Falke: **Daniel Gutmann**
Adele: **Andreja Zidaric**
Prince Orlovski: **Anna-Katharina Tonauer**
Blind: **Juan Carlos Falcón**
Frank: **Reinhard Mayr**

**Ballet, chorus, extras and children's extras of the
Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz
Orchestra of the Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz**



Josef E. Köpplinger, photo: Robert Brembeck

The 26 | 27 Season
Zwischentöne



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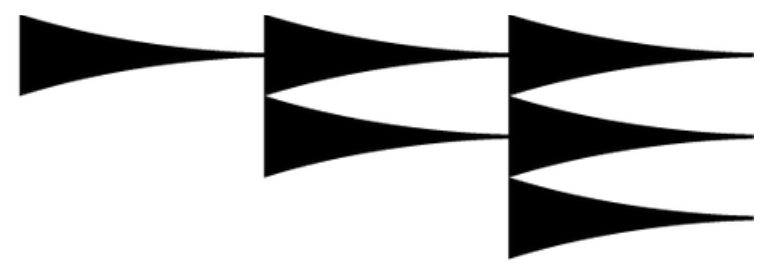
Guest performance by the
Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz

Die Fledermaus



From left to right: Jennifer O'Loughlin, Lucian Kraszec, Daniel Prohaska. Photo: Christian POGO Zach

The 26 | 27 Season
Zwischentöne



TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Guest performance by the
Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz

Schön ist die Welt (The world is so lovely)

A grand operetta gala by the State
Theatre on the Gärtnerplatz

The ensemble of the Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz invites you to a brilliant evening full of charm, wit and musical *joie de vivre* that will take us from the elegant waltzing dreams of the Viennese masters via the light-hearted merriment of the so-called Silver Age of operetta to the saucy rhythms of Berlin and other musical gems.

Since the days when operetta was “invented”, the theatre on the Gärtnerplatz in the heart of Munich has been one of its leading international venues. Whether you want passionate arias, rousing duets or ensembles full of verve: this gala concert *Schön ist die Welt* (“The world is so lovely”) will bring together the best-loved tunes with surprise discoveries, showcasing the whole stylistic spectrum of a genre that for over 150 years has been delighting audiences with its lightness of being, its elegance and its unforgettable melodies. This is a celebration for everyone who loves operetta – and for those who’d like to rediscover it!

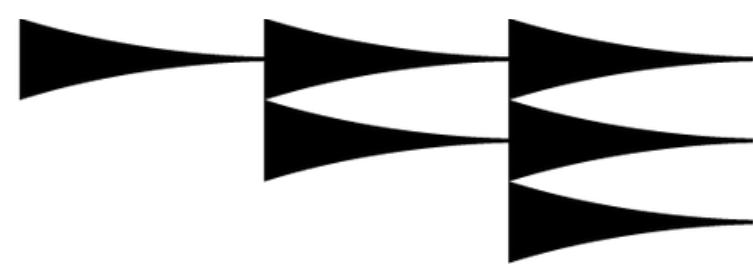
Friday, 21 May 2027
19:00
Festspielhaus

Soloists, chorus, and Orchestra of the
Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz
Musical direction: **Michael Brandstätter**



Michael Brandstätter, photo: silveri photographie

The 26 | 27 Season
Zwischentöne



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Munich Chamber Music

Chamber concerts

featuring members of the Munich Philharmonic
and the Bavarian State Orchestra

Dates and programme to be announced later.



Members of the Bavarian State Orchestra during a chamber concert in Erl in 2026. Photo: Scheffold Media

Jonas Kaufmann Competition

“The future of music theatre lies with young voices”.

Right at the outset of his incumbency as Intendant in Erl, Jonas Kaufmann’s programme planning placed a focus on promoting and developing young, talented musicians.

So founding the international Jonas Kaufmann Competition, to be held at the Tiroler Festspiele Erl, is a thoroughly logical step to take. The first edition of this singing competition will take place in early June 2027 at the Festspielhaus in Erl. There will be a top-notch jury comprising cultural managers from the world’s main music centres such as New York, Milan and Barcelona, chaired by Intendant Jonas Kaufmann.

For the participating artists, this competition will above all offer an extraordinary opportunity – namely the chance to share the stage with Jonas Kaufmann himself.



Jonas Kaufmann, photo: Xiomara Bender



Tiroler Festspiele Erl

Climate smart Culture

Last year, the Tiroler Festspiele Erl installed solar panels on the roof of both its Festspielhaus and the artists' residence that can provide a total peak output of 490 kWp. They were up and running by June 2025. Much of the electricity thereby generated is used directly for day-to-day operations. This reduces energy costs and ensures greater independence from market prices. Above all, however, it makes an important contribution to our transition to renewable energy sources. In times of climate change, this is a challenge that we are all facing. Photovoltaics are also playing a role in the current building work on the new wing of the artists' residence. By installing energy storage systems, we can ensure that the output of the existing and planned photovoltaic systems will be able to provide enough energy for all our day-to-day operations.

What's more, in 2025, the lighting in the main areas of the Festspielhaus and in the outdoor areas was converted to energy-saving LEDs. At present, our estimates are that the resulting reduction in electricity consumption will be roughly 40 percent. In a third phase due in 2026, the stage lighting will be gradually renewed, with outdated fixtures replaced by new, energy-saving LED spotlights. These instances of technological progress will both save energy and also create new artistic possibilities, since the old equipment will be replaced by 30 new movable lights.

The overall project has been supported by:



**Finanziert von der
Europäischen Union**
NextGenerationEU



Bundesministerium
Wohnen, Kunst, Kultur,
Medien und Sport





Price Adjustments

The Tiroler Festspiele ERL is adjusting its ticket price structure as of the 2026/27 season, while at the same time simplifying the ticket categories for opera. The Festival kept its prices fixed for six years from 2012 onwards, and in early 2018 it even lowered the prices for opera.

In light of the worldwide shift in economic conditions, however, it will be necessary to adapt ticket prices for the 2026/27 season. We are doing our best to ensure that our prices remain nevertheless affordable for our audience members. Ticket prices for persons with a disability remain very low (EUR 25.- for opera; 15.- for concerts; 10.- for other events), as do prices for students; children under 10 can attend all our events at no cost. Programme brochures remain free of charge, as does the use of the car park, the shuttle bus and the cloakroom.

Many thanks to:

 Bundesministerium
Wohnen, Kunst, Kultur,
Medien und Sport

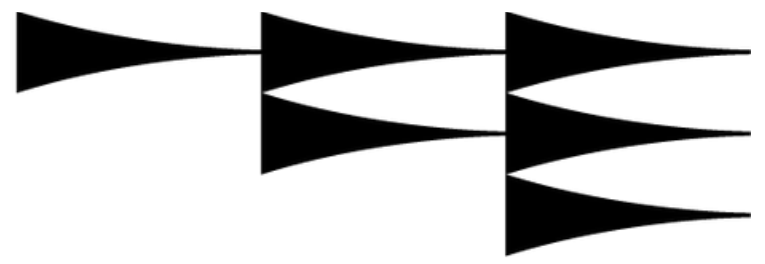


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WORK ON PROGRESS









TIROLER FESTSPIELE ERL

Tickets

tiroler-festspiele.at
karten@tiroler-festspiele.at

Press photographs

are available on the website of the Tiroler Festspiele Erl, at:
tiroler-festspiele.at/ueber-uns/presse

and also on the Festival's Flickr page, at:
[flickr.com/photos/tfe_presse/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/tfe_presse/albums)

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