



PRESS INFORMATION

THE ELBPILHARMONIE HAMBURG A WORLD CLASS CONCERT HALL

Built on a historical warehouse and designed by Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron, a spectacular concert hall with a spellbinding glass facade is being built: The Elbphilharmonie is Hamburg's new architectural and musical landmark and will be home to exceptional concert experiences.

The »vineyard« principle: the Grand Hall

With its 2100 seats the Grand Hall is the heart of the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg. The audience is seated on all sides of the stage, the seating rising up as in a stadium, similar to the terraced planting of vineyards. The conductor and the orchestra take their place in the middle of the hall, with the seating rising steeply in interwoven tiers. This guarantees unobstructed sightlines of the stage and an excellent listening experience from every seat. In its appearance, the Grand Hall resembles a mixture of the Berlin Philharmonie and the Teatro alla Scala in Milan. The reflector in the centre of the pointed ceiling is architecturally impressive in itself. It provides for the outstanding acoustics and contains lighting and technical equipment. The acoustic concept was developed by one of the world's leading experts on acoustics, Yasuhisa Toyota of Nagata Acoustics. He measured and tested the sound quality and its distribution on an exact 1:10 model of the Grand Hall.

An organ from Bonn

A four-manual organ with 65 stops completes the Grand Hall of the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg. A remote console with additional stops is located in the reflector above the stage. Its sound quality is particularly ideal for the repertoire from the 19th century on, as well as meeting the requirements of contemporary music. The traditional organ workshop, Johannes Klais Orgelbau Bonn, is responsible for the organ.

The Recital Hall as »shoebox« and Kaistudio

In addition to the Grand Hall, the Elbphilharmonie has two other concert halls, a recital hall and a small studio. In contrast to the Grand Hall the Recital Hall is in the classic »shoebox« form. Equipped with flexible podium and seating for up to 550, it is suitable not only for chamber music, jazz concerts or solo recitals but allows for various other possible uses. The Kaistudio 1, the third hall of the Elbphilharmonie, has seating for approx. 170 and is the centre of a lively music education area located within the old warehouse construction. It can serve as a concert venue for contemporary and experimental music and as a rehearsal space for ensembles and choirs. In addition to the Kaistudio 1, the music education area comprises six further rehearsal rooms, the Klingendes Museum (Interactive Instrument Museum), and further backstage and foyer areas.

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NDR Symphony Orchestra to be Orchestra in Residence

When the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg opens, some 650 concerts will be held annually in the auditoriums of the concert halls Elbphilharmonie and Laeiszhalle, around 200 of which will be Elbphilharmonie Konzerte. The majority of concerts will be presented by Hamburg-based orchestras, choirs and ensembles, while private concert promoters will add further international highlights to the programme. The »Orchestra in Residence« of the Elbphilharmonie is the NDR Symphony Orchestra with its chief conductor Thomas Hengelbrock. It has been assigned the status of orchestra in residence as part of a long-term cooperation agreement between the NDR (North German Broadcasting Corporation) and the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. Alongside the NDR Symphony Orchestra, the Hamburg Philharmonic Orchestra (whose primary role continues to be playing for the Hamburg State Opera) will perform its Philharmonic Concerts in both the Elbphilharmonie and the Laeiszhalle. The Hamburg Symphony Orchestra under its chief conductor Jeffrey Tate becomes the »Orchestra in Residence« at the Laeiszhalle, while the Ensemble Resonanz finds a new home in the Recital Hall of the Elbphilharmonie. The programme will cover the full spectrum of classical music – from Renaissance to contemporary music, from solo recitals and chamber music to large-scale choral and orchestral concerts. The stylistic repertoire will also extend beyond classical music to include jazz, world music and sophisticated pop.

»Planet Elbphilharmonie«

In addition to the concert halls the Elbphilharmonie houses a 250-room hotel and 45 private apartments. The Kaispeicher foundation, which until the 1990's served as a store for cocoa beans, contains rehearsal and storage spaces, an education centre, restaurants, a park deck as well as the spa facilities and conference rooms of the hotel. Between the Kaispeicher and the new glass corpus the publicly accessible Plaza is located at a height of 37 metres. It provides access to the various sections of the Elbphilharmonie and offers its visitors a spectacular view over the entire city of Hamburg. The Elbphilharmonie is literally a citizen's concert hall: Approx. 68 million Euro have been donated to the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg Foundation for its construction and the operation of the Elbphilharmonie Konzerte.

Laeiszhalle Elbphilharmonie Hamburg

The Elbphilharmonie, which opens its doors on January 11 and 12, 2017 in Hamburg's Hafencity, and the renowned Laeiszhalle are under the direction of one company. Christoph Lieben-Seutter has been General and Artistic Director since 2007, and since the 2009/2010 season he has also been responsible for the Elbphilharmonie Konzerte, a programme of around 120 concerts that are held in the Laeiszhalle and in many other venues throughout the city, alongside those presented by Hamburg orchestras and private concert promoters. The Elbphilharmonie Konzerte offer a wide-ranging, modern and cosmopolitan programme that introduces audiences to the programming concept of the Elbphilharmonie and steers Hamburg forward in its role as a city of music. Information and tickets are available at www.elbphilharmonie.de, from the Elbphilharmonie Kulturcafé (Am

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Mönckebergbrunnen/Barkhof 3) and from the ticket office in the Brahms Kontor, directly opposite the Laeiszhalle (Johannes-Brahms-Platz 1). Ticket hotline: +49 40 357 666 66, tickets@elbphilharmonie.de.

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