

Press Release

Beethoven perspectives

International conference at the Beethoven-Haus from February 10 to 14 brings together renowned Beethoven researchers from all over the world in Bonn

Are there actually any new research results on Beethoven? This is a common question addressed to the staff at the Beethoven Archive, the research centre of the Beethoven-Haus Bonn. In fact, and despite the fact that Beethoven was born 250 years ago, the Bonn composer and his oeuvre continue to be an appealing and ever-changing research subject. Between February 10 and 14, you can get an idea of this at the Kammermusiksaal (chamber music hall) of the Beethoven-Haus.

"On the occasion of the Beethoven anniversary year 2020, we have invited leading representatives of the international Beethoven research as well as promising junior scholars to a conference here in Bonn at Beethoven's birthplace," says Christine Siegert, Director of the Beethoven Archive that is worldwide recognised as the Beethoven research hub. And Malte Boecker, Director of the Beethoven-Haus and Artistic Director of the Beethoven Jubiläums GmbH, adds: "This conference is one of the major projects of the Beethoven-Haus to take place in the Beethoven anniversary year BTHVN2020." It aims not only at capturing the overall state of the Beethoven research but also at forming new perspectives, nurturing the exchange of ideas and as such show Beethoven's relevance for research. The high-level conference is funded by the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

Five major symposia deal with Beethoven in a political, global and regional context as well as Beethoven as a creator and music recipient. At the same time, independent speakers elaborate on biographic, personal and philosophical aspects as well as aspects concerning the history of ideas with regard to Beethoven, on questions of the study of sources, analysis and aesthetics, on individual compositions and genres and on the Beethoven reception in Europe, Asia and America. By the staff of "Beethoven's Workshop", a project funded by the Academy of Sciences and Literature Mainz and located at the Beethoven-Haus, a round table was established to talk about sketches as workshop documents.

Among the top-class researchers coming to Bonn are, among others, Erica Burman, Director of the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies at the San José State University (USA), Daniel Chua (University of Hong Kong), author of the book "Beethoven and Freedom"(2017) and President of the International Musicological Society, William Kinderman, Professor of Performance Studies at the Herb Alpert School of Music, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Ulrich Konrad, Professor of Musicology at the University of Wuerzburg and Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Beethoven-Haus Society as well as Birgit Lodes, Professor at the Vienna University and as a Beethoven expert one of the most important cooperation partners of the Beethoven Archive.

BTHVN 2020

BTHVN BEETHOVEN-HAUS
2020 BONN

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The scientific presentations are complemented by evening events offered in cooperation with Deutschlandfunk (Cologne). Deutschlandfunk will record these events and broadcast them promptly.

The entire conference programme can be downloaded from the website of the Beethoven-Haus at <https://www.beethoven.de/en/termine/view/5163317375008768/Beethoven-Perspectives> and is available in print at the Beethoven-Haus.

The conference sessions are open to the public and free of charge (except for the additional programme). Visitors interested in attending the presentations may register as passive participants at www.conftool.org/beethoven-perspektiven2020/.

(Source: Beethoven-Haus)

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About Beethoven Jubiläums GmbH: *The federal government, the land of Northrhine-Westphalia, the city of Bonn and the Rhein-Sieg-district instructed the Beethoven Jubiläums GmbH, founded by the Beethovenhaus, to coordinate the 250 year anniversary as a national event with international appeal, and to shape the anniversary regarding content and to anchor the brand regionally. The contentional range spans more than 300 promoted projects. The overview of the anniversary year can viewed in the events calendar on www.bthvn2020.de/en.*