

Press Release, June 6, 2024

Young Euro Classic under New Artistic Leadership

The internationally celebrated cellist Alban Gerhardt and the composer and music educator Mathias Hinke, both active worldwide, will take on the artistic leadership of the renowned youth orchestra festival Young Euro Classic together. From 2001 until the anniversary edition of this summer, Prof. Dr. Dieter Rexroth held this position. On April 9, 2024, the highly respected musical dramaturge and orchestra expert died.

"It is with enormous gratitude we remember our many years of excellent collaboration with Dr. Dieter Rexroth," the Festival's manager Dr. Gabriele Minz says, also on behalf of the Festival's presenter, the "German Circle of Friends of European Youth Orchestras e.V." (DFK). Prof. Dr. Dieter Rexroth, the former artistic director and principal dramaturge of the Rundfunk-Orchester und -Chöre GmbH Berlin and artistic director of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester DSO, was associated with Young Euro Classic almost from the very beginning of the Festival, which was marked by his artistic open-mindedness towards the entire world. In this regard, Alban Gerhardt and Mathias Hinke would meet with their predecessor's approval as future artistic directors. "It is an exciting artistic combination," thus Dr. Gabriele Minz, "given Gerhardt's international network and Hinke's championship of musical outreach, the Festival will continue to set standards and reach a broad public."

Alban Gerhardt is no stranger to Young Euro Classic. Having appeared as a soloist with the National Youth Orchestra of Germany at the Festival in 2006, the cellist once again won over the audience last year, when he performed with the Asian Youth Orchestra during the opening night of the 24th edition of Young Euro Classic. After these joint performances, he said: "I have rarely experienced such a warm-hearted and enthusiastic, youthful audience... and as a native Berliner, as a concertgoer and soloist, but also as a former member of the German National Youth Orchestra, I can only say: if Young Euro Classic didn't exist already, one would absolutely have to invent it."

Born in Berlin in 1969, Gerhardt began his international soloist career in 1991 with the Berlin Philharmonic under the baton of Semyon Bychkov. Since then, he has performed around the world with renowned orchestras such as the Royal Concertgebouworkest, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic and the Orchestre National de France, working with conductors such as Christoph von Dohnányi, Kurt Masur, Christian Thielemann, Klaus Mäkelä and Andris Nelsons. His passion for music encompasses classical masterworks alongside contemporary compositions. In addition to his work as a soloist, Alban Gerhardt frequently plays chamber music and engages with musical projects that reach beyond the concert hall. His more than 25 CD recordings have won numerous awards.

Mathias Hinke, born in 1973 in Mexico City, has distinguished himself by remarkable versatility as a composer, pedagogue and musical thinker. He studied composition at the Manhattan School of Music in New York, art history and musicology at the Humboldt University in Berlin and physics at the Free

YOUNG EURO CLASSIC 2024
Konzerthaus Berlin
August 9 – 25, 2024

PROGRAMME & TICKETS
www.young-euro-classic.de

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YOUNG EURO CLASSIC

University in Berlin; he also holds an arts teacher diploma from Cambridge University. He is a member of the leadership team of the "Querklang" project and holds a guest chair at the faculty of experimental music at the Berlin University of the Arts. His diverse activities include keynotes on experimental composition at international institutions and collaboration with renowned artists and directors. Hinke's works have been performed by major orchestras worldwide. Mathias Hinke is known for his many musical outreach projects, involving people without previous musical education in many countries.

Both are determined to keep developing Young Euro Classic as a place for tradition and the exchange of innovative musical ideas, continuing to shape the Festival as an inspiring platform and an outstanding meeting-place for young European and international talents.

Tomorrow's musicians today!

Young Euro Classic. Festival of the World's Best Youth Orchestras
August 9 to 25, 2024 at the Konzerthaus Berlin

The detailed Festival programme is available here:

www.young-euro-classic.de

Price Categories for the evening programme 35 € / 26 € / 15 € (plus advance ticketing fees).

Tickets can be purchased via the Young Euro Classic website, the Ticket Hotline (+49 / (0)30 / 8410 8909, reachable Monday–Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm) and all familiar ticket sales points.

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