SEASON GUIDE

123rd season
2018/2019

Czech Philharmonic

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123rd season 2018/2019

Semyon Bychkov
Chief Conductor and Music Director

ESTABLISHED BY THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 Introduction by the Chief Conductor
8 Czech Philharmonic
13 Semyon Bychkov
16 Jakub Hrůša
21 Tomáš Netopil
24 Members of the Czech Philharmonic
26 Members of the Orchestral Academy of the Czech Philharmonic

Concerts

29 A Subscription Series
41 B Subscription Series
53 C Subscription Series
61 K Subscription Series
69 S Special Non-Subscription Concerts
78 Concerts for Other Presenters in Prague
80 Tours
89 Broadcasts and Recordings
91 **Education Programmes**
93 EA Subscription Series for Parents with Children
97 EB Subscription Series of Concerts for Schools
98 EC Subscription Series of Concerts for Schools
103 EM Individual Concerts for the General Public
108 E Individual Concerts for Parents with Children
111 **Master Classes**
112 Romano Drom 2018
114 Information about Tickets
119 Transportation and Access to the Rudolfinum
122 Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic
124 Partners of the Czech Philharmonic
127 Contacts
142 **Calendar**

INTRODUCTION

Dear Friends of the Czech Philharmonic,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to our new 2018/2019 season. Together, the orchestra and I are embarking on a new chapter in our life, a chapter in which you play a vital role. 122 years ago the first generation of Czech Philharmonic musicians led by Dvorak performed on the Rudolfinum stage for their audience. Since that defining moment, they and their successors have never stopped sharing the thing that they love the most: Music.

If it weren't for what can be defined as a need to be touched, transported and ennobled by something greater than any of us, there would be no other reason why so many people of different cultures, taste, temperament, mentality would come together regularly. Music answers that need. It would never be called a universal language if it didn't have the capacity to speak to every heart and every mind in a way that nothing else can. It tells us what we want to know, but also what we try to avoid. It comforts us when we are troubled, but disturbs when we are too comfortable. It reveals the human condition in all of its complexity. It reminds us of how meaningless life would be without beauty.

My aquaintance with the Czech Philharmonic goes back to 2013. As we began to record the Tchaikovsky Cycle, what had started as with one week of rehearsals and concerts, grew into a regular collaboration. Together we have lived many unforgettable moments, which confirmed to me what the world had always known: that this orchestra is one of the unique jewels in musical civilization, loved as much as the city in which it lives and the country it represents.

When I was asked to succeed the beloved Jiri Belohlavek and become part of the noble history of this orchestra, I was deeply moved and honored. There are many ways to describe the Czech Philharmonic tradition. One of them must be a never ending search for truth in musical expression. This is both our credo and a mission. I ask you to accompany me and our orchestra on this journey.

Semyon Bychkov

Czech Philharmonic

"The Czech Philharmonic is among the very few orchestras that have managed to preserve a unique identity. In a music world that is increasingly globalized and uniform, the Orchestra's noble tradition has retained authenticity of expression and sound, making it one of the world's artistic treasures. When the orchestra and Czech government asked me to succeed beloved Jiří Bělohlávek, I felt deeply honoured by the trust they were ready to place in me. There is no greater privilege for an artist than to become part of and lead an institution that shares the same values, the same commitment and the same devotion to the art of music."

Semyon Bychkov,
Chief Conductor and Music Director

The 122-year-old Czech Philharmonic gave its first concert – an all Dvořák programme which included the world premiere of his *Biblical Songs, Nos. 1–5* conducted by the composer himself – in the famed Rudolfinum Hall on 4 January 1896. Acknowledged for its definitive interpretations of Czech composers, whose music the Czech Philharmonic has championed since its formation, the Orchestra is also recognised for the special relationship it has to the music of Brahms and Tchaikovsky – friends of Dvořák – and to Mahler, who gave the world premiere of his *Symphony No. 7* with the Orchestra in 1908.

The Czech Philharmonic's extraordinary and proud history reflects both its location at the very heart of Europe and the Czech Republic's turbulent political history, for which Smetana's *Má vlast* (My Homeland) has become a potent symbol. The Orchestra gave its first full rendition of *Má vlast* in a brewery in Smíchov in 1901; in 1925 under Chief Conductor Václav Talich, *Má vlast* was the Orchestra's first live broadcast and, five years later, the first work that the Orchestra committed to disc. During the Nazi occupation, when Goebbels demanded that the Orchestra perform in Berlin and Dresden, Talich programmed *Má vlast* as an act of defiance; while in 1945 Rafael Kubelík conducted the work as a 'concert of thanks' for the newly liberated Czechoslovakia. Forty five years later, *Má vlast* was Kubelík's choice to mark Czechoslovakia's first free elections and, this year, Decca Classics released Jiří Bělohlávek's recording of *Má vlast* made at the time of the 2014 Prague Spring Festival to mark the 100th anniversary of Czech and Slovak independence.

The opening of the 'Centenary Season' is marked by Semyon Bychkov's first concerts as the Orchestra's Chief Conductor and Music Director. Opening his tenure with three performances of Mahler's Symphony No. 2 *Resurrection*, the following subscription concerts feature Berio's *Sinfonia* and Dvořák's *Symphony No. 7*. The celebrations continue with a single concert in London followed by an extensive 13-concert tour of the US and a week-long residency in Vienna, in addition to a European tour and further concerts in Prague.

Throughout the Orchestra's history, two features have remained at its core: its championing of Czech composers and its belief in music's power to change lives. Defined from its inauguration as 'an organisation for the enhancement of musical art in Prague, and a pension organisation for the members of the National Theatre Orchestra in Prague, its widows and orphans', the proceeds from the four concerts that it performed each year helped to support members of the orchestra who could no longer play and the immediate families of deceased musicians.

As early as the 1920's, Václav Talich (Chief Conductor 1919–1941) pioneered concerts for workers, young people and other voluntary organisations including the Red Cross, the Czechoslovak Sokol and the Union of Slavic Women and in 1923 gave three benefit concerts for Russian, Austrian and German players including members of the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras. The philosophy continues today and is equally vibrant. In addition to a recently launched Orchestral Academy, a comprehensive education strategy engages with more than 400 schools bringing all ages to the Rudolfinum – some travelling as many as four hours – to hear concerts and participate in masterclasses. An inspirational music and song programme for the large Romany communities within the Czech Republic and Slovakia has helped many socially excluded families to find a voice.

An early champion of Martinů's music, the Orchestra premiered his *Czech Rhapsody* in 1919 and, its detailed inventory of Czech music, undertaken by Václav Talich, included the world premieres of Martinů's *Half Time* (1924), Janáček's *Sinfonietta* (1926) and the Prague premiere of Janáček's *Taras Bulba* (1924). Rafael Kubelík was also an advocate of Martinů's music and premiered *Field Mass* (1946) and *Symphony No. 5* (1947), while Karel Ančerl conducted the premiere of Martinů's *Symphony No. 6 Fantaisies symphoniques* (1956). *Fantaisies symphoniques* has also featured twice in the Orchestra's programmes at the BBC Proms, first in 1969 under Chief Conductor Václav Neumann and then in 2010 under Sir John Eliot Gardiner.

Prague has long been favoured by composers, not least Mozart who, following performances of *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*, travelled the 250km journey from Vienna to premiere *La Clemenza di Tito* in 1791. Five years later, Beethoven made two trips to Prague returning again in 1798 to give the premiere of his *Piano Concerto No. 1*. His *Seventh Symphony* was composed in the spa town of Teplitz (now Teplice). Mahler's ties ran even deeper. Born in the Bohemian village of Kaliště, now part of the Czech Republic, he was 23 when he conducted the Royal Municipal Theatre in Moravia and first came to Prague to conduct the Neues Deutsches Theatre before giving the world premiere of his *Symphony No. 7* with the Czech Philharmonic.

Mahler, however, was not the first non-Czech composer to conduct the Czech Philharmonic. Edward Grieg conducted the Orchestra in 1906; Stravinsky performed his *Capriccio for Piano and Orchestra* under Václav Talich in 1930; Leonard Bernstein conducted the European premiere of Aaron

Copland's *Symphony No. 3* at the Prague Spring in 1947; Arthur Honegger conducted a concert of his own music in 1949; Darius Milhaud gave the premiere of his *Music for Prague* at the Prague Spring Festival in 1966; and, in 1996, Krzysztof Penderecki conducted the premiere of his *Concerto for Clarinet and Chamber Orchestra*. During the past two seasons, the Czech Philharmonic has continued its tradition of inviting composer-conductors – in 2016 Peter Eötvös conducted his composition *Speaking Drums* at the Rudolfinum, and in 2018 Thomas Adès presented his *Totentanz*.

Their names are joined by the many luminaries who have collaborated with the Orchestra over the years: Martha Argerich, Claudio Arrau, Evgeny Kissin, Erich Kleiber, Leonid Kogan, Erich Leinsdorf, Lovro von Matačić, Ivan Moravec, Yevgeny Mravinsky, David Oistrakh, Antonio Pedrotti, Sviatoslav Richter, Mstislav Rostropovich, Gennady Roszhdestvensky, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Wolfgang Schneiderhan, Georg Szell, Henryk Szeryng, Bruno Walter and Alexander Zemlinsky.

SEMYON BYCHKOV

Chief Conductor and Music Director

Newly appointed as Music Director and Chief Conductor of the Czech Philharmonic, Semyon Bychkov assumed the title at the beginning of the 2018/2019 season. Born in St Petersburg in 1952, Bychkov emigrated to the United States in 1975 and has been based in Europe since the mid-1980s. In common with the Orchestra, Bychkov has one foot firmly in the cultures of both the East and the West.

Conducting the Czech Philharmonic for the opening of the 2017 Smetana Litomyšl Festival, Hospodářské noviny wrote of the performance of Tchaikovsky's *Francesca da Rimini*: *"The Czech Philharmonic is currently on excellent form and trusts Semyon Bychkov. And, being battle-hardened from working around the world with the best orchestras on the planet, he gives the Philharmonic players the room to develop their musical potential. The result is a unique musical creation."*

Following his early concerts with the Czech Philharmonic in 2013, Bychkov and the Orchestra devised *The Tchaikovsky Project,* a series of concerts, residencies and studio recordings which allowed them the luxury of exploring Tchaikovsky's music together, both in Prague's Rudolfinum and abroad. The first fruit of *The Tchaikovsky Project* – a recording of Symphony No. 6 coupled with the *Romeo & Juliet Fantasy-Overture* – was released by Decca in October 2016, and was followed in August 2017 by the release of the *Manfred* Symphony. *The Tchaikovsky Project* culminates in 2019 with residencies in Vienna and Paris, and Decca's release of all Tchaikovsky's symphonies, the three piano concertos, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Serenade for Strings* and *Francesca da Rimini*.

Semyon Bychkov won the Rachmaninov Conducting Competition when he was 20 years old. Two years later, having been denied his prize of conducting the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra, he left the former Soviet Union where, aged five, he had been singled out for an extraordinarily privileged education in music. Initially studying piano, Bychkov was later selected to study at the Glinka Choir School where he received his first conducting lesson aged 13. Four years later he was accepted at the Leningrad Conservatory as a student of the legendary Ilya Musin.

By the time Bychkov returned to St Petersburg in 1989 as the Philharmonic's Principal Guest Conductor, he had enjoyed success in the US as Music Director of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra and the Buffalo Philharmonic. His international career, which began in France with Opéra de Lyon and at the Aix-en-Provence Festival, had taken off when a series of high-profile cancellations resulted in invitations to conduct the New York Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic and Royal Concertgebouw Orchestras. In 1989, he was named Music Director of the Orchestre de Paris; in 1997, Chief Conductor of the WDR Symphony Orchestra Cologne; and the following year, Chief Conductor of the Dresden Semperoper.

Bychkov's repertoire is wide-ranging both in the concert hall and in the opera house. He conducts in all the major houses including La Scala, Opéra national de Paris, Dresden Semperoper, Wiener Staatsoper, New York's Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and Teatro Real. Madrid. While Principal Guest Conductor of Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, his productions of Janáček's *Jenůfa,* Schubert's *Fierrabras,* Puccini*'s La bohème,* Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* and Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov* were awarded the prestigious *Premio Abbiati*. In 2018, he will conduct Wagner's *Parsifal* both at the Wiener Staatsoper and Bayreuth. Other new productions in Vienna include Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* and *Daphne,* Wagner's *Lohengrin* and Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina;* while in London, he made his debut with a new production of Strauss' *Elektra,* and subsequently conducted new productions of Mozart's *Così fan tutte,* Strauss' *Die Frau ohne Schatten* and Wagner's *Tannhäuser*.

On the concert platform, the combination of innate musicality and rigorous Russian pedagogy has ensured that Bychkov's performances are highly anticipated. In the UK, in addition to regular performances with the London Symphony Orchestra, his honorary titles at the Royal Academy of Music and the BBC Symphony Orchestra – with whom he appears annually at the BBC Proms – reflect the warmth of the relationships. In Europe, he tours frequently with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic and Munich Philharmonic, as well as being an annual guest of the Berlin Philharmonic, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the Orchestre National de France and the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia; in the US, he can be heard with the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Los Angeles Symphony, Philadelphia and Cleveland Orchestras. In 2018/2019, in addition to his commitments to the Czech Philharmonic: concerts and recordings in Prague, including the opening of the season in October; the celebration of 100 years of Czech independence in London; an extensive 13-concert tour of the US; a week in Vienna; and a tour in Belgium and Germany; Bychkov will conduct the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the Berlin and Munich Philharmonics, the Royal Concertgebouw, Santa Cecilia, the orchestras of Philadelphia and Cleveland, and the New York Philharmonic.

Recognised for his interpretations of the core repertoire, Bychkov has worked closely with many extraordinary contemporary composers including Luciano Berio, Henri Dutilleux and Maurizio Kagel. In recent seasons he has worked closely with Renée Staar, Thomas Larcher, Richard Dubignon, Detlev Glanert and Julian Anderson, conducting premières of their works with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw and BBC Symphony Orchestra at the BBC Proms.

Bychkov's recording career began in 1986 when he signed with Philips and began a significant collaboration which produced an extensive discography with the Berlin Philharmonic, Bavarian Radio, Royal Concertgebouw, Philharmonia, London Philharmonic and Orchestre de Paris.

Subsequently a series of benchmark recordings – the result of his 13-year collaboration (1997–2010) with WDR Symphony Orchestra Cologne – include a complete cycle of Brahms Symphonies, and works by Strauss (*Elektra, Daphne, Ein Heldenleben, Metamorphosen, Alpensinfonie, Till Eulenspiegel*), Mahler (Symphony No. 3, *Das Lied von der Erde*), Shostakovich (*Symphony Nos. 4, 7, 8, 10, 11*), Rachmaninov (*The Bells, Symphonic Dances,* Symphony No. 2), Verdi (*Requiem*), Detlev Glanert and York Höller. His recording of Wagner's *Lohengrin* was voted BBC Music Magazine's Disc of the Year in 2010; his recording of César Franck's Symphony in D minor as BBC Radio 3 Record Review's Building a Library Recommended Recording; and his recent recording of Schmidt's Symphony No. 2 with the Vienna Philharmonic was selected as BBC Music Magazine's Record of the Month.

Semyon Bychkov was named 2015's Conductor of the Year by the International Opera Awards.

JAKUB HRŮŠA

Principal Guest Conductor

"The Czech Philharmonic is very close to my heart artistically and personally. With the leading orchestra of our country, I have repeatedly experienced moments of beauty and deep feeling on the podium. I regard it as an honor that I may continue to be a part of the innermost musical family of the Czech Philharmonic, now alongside the new Chief Conductor, Semyon Bychkov, and together with my wonderful colleague Tomáš Netopil. I am looking forward to our joint projects, whether they will involve performing the classics from this country and around the world or excursions into the realm of lesser-known repertoire and contemporary music. It is my wish that together, our whole institution might continue successfully and harmoniously along the artistic path begun by Jiří Bělohlávek."

Jakub Hrůša made his debut with the Czech Philharmonic in 2004 when he stepped in at short notice to conduct a programme of Janáček, Martinů and Dvořák. He had just graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague where Jiří Bělohlávek was amongst his teachers. Hrůša has subsequently conducted the Orchestra in forty concerts at home and on tour and, at the start of the 2015/2016 season, was appointed Permanent Guest Conductor. This season he conducts the opening concerts of the Czech Philharmonic season and has been named Principal Guest Conductor with effect from the 2018/2019 season.

A regular guest with leading orchestras in both Europe and the USA, Jakub Hrůša is also Chief Conductor of Bamberg Symphony, Principal Guest Conductor of Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra (TMSO), and Principal Guest Conductor of the Philharmonia Orchestra. He served as Music Director and Chief Conductor of PKF–Prague Philharmonia from 2009 to 2015. Recent orchestral highlights include debuts with the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale dei Santa Cecilia, Filarmonica della Scala, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony and Chicago Symphony Orchestras, as well as return engagements with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Wiener Symphoniker, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, the Cleveland Orchestra and Los Angeles Philharmonic. This season he will make his debuts with the San Francisco Symphony and Munich Philharmonic Orchestras.

Equally at home in operatic repertoire, Hrůša is a regular guest of the National Theatre in Prague and Glyndebourne Festival Opera, and between 2010 and 2012 he was Music Director of Glyndebourne on Tour. For Glyndebourne Festival, he has conducted Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen,* Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Turn of the Screw*, Bizet's *Carmen,* Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Puccini's *La bohème.* Elsewhere he has conducted Janáček's *The Makropulos Affair* (Wiener Staatsoper), *Jenůfa* (Finnish National Opera), and Dvořák's *Rusalka* (Opéra national de Paris), alongside works by Puccini (*Il trittico* for Oper Frankfurt) and Mussorgsky (*Boris*

Godunov for Royal Danish Opera). Recent performances include returns to the Opéra national de Paris for Lehár's *The Merry Widow*, his debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for Bizet's *Carmen*, and a new production of Samuel Barber's *Vanessa* for Glyndebourne Festival.

In the studio, Jakub Hrůša has recorded the Tchaikovsky and Bruch Violin Concertos with the Czech Philharmonic and Nicola Benedetti for Universal; live recordings for Octavia Records of works by Berlioz, Strauss and Suk with the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra; three discs for Pentatone with PKF–Prague Philharmonia; and six discs of Czech music for Supraphon. Marking the start of his tenure as Chief Conductor of the Bamberg Symphony, Hrůša and the Orchestra recorded Smetana's *Má vlast*, the first disc in a new partnership with Tudor.

In recognition of his championing of Janáček's music abroad, Jakub Hrůša was awarded the inaugural Sir Charles Mackerras Prize. He is also President of the International Martinů Circle.

TOMÁŠ NETOPIL

Principal Guest Conductor

"I am immensely honored to be part of an artistic team with the potential to follow up fully on the artistic legacy of Jiří Bělohlávek and to further refine the orchestra into the form of perfect musical joy. For me, working with this orchestra is at once a great obligation, a challenge, and a pleasure."

Recently appointed Principal Guest Conductor of the Czech Philharmonic, Tomáš Netopil studied violin and conducting both in his native Czech Republic with Jiří Bělohlávek and under the guidance of Jorma Panula at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. He made his Czech Philharmonic debut ten years ago in 2007 with music by Haydn, Sibelius and Novák, and has subsequently returned to conduct the Czech Philharmonic on numerous occasions. In February 2018, Tomáš Netopil will conduct the Orchestra on a 7-city tour of UK and Eire.

Tomáš Netopil's broad repertoire reflects his Czech heritage. His recent performances include Janáček's *Makropulos Case* (Vlaamse Opera in Antwerp); *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Semperoper Dresden, Vienna Staatsoper); *Káťa Kabanová* (Vienna Staatsoper); and Dvořák's *Rusalka* (Semperoper Dresden, Vienna Staatsoper) sitting alongside Busoni's *Dr Faust* (Semperoper Dresden); Mozart's *Così fan tutte* (Vienna Staatsoper) and *La Clemenza di Tîto* (Semperoper Dresden); as well as Halévy's *La Juive* (Semperoper Dresden, Vlaamse Opera). Netopil was Artist in Residence at the 2017 Dvořák Prague International Music Festival and, at the Festival's closing concert, he conducted the Wiener Symphoniker in the composer's *Te Deum,* later performing the work at the Wiener Konzerthaus and Wiener Musikverein.

In the studio, Netopil has built a distinctly Czech discography which includes Janáček's *Glagolitic Mass* in its never previously recorded 1927 version, Dvořák's complete cello works, Martinů's *Ariane* and Double Concerto, Smetana's *Má vlast* and Suk's *Asrael*.

Tomáš Netopil was appointed Music Director of the Aalto Theatre and Philharmonie Essen in 2013 where, in addition to his opera commitments, he is a regular presence on the concert platform. This season's productions include Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*, Strauss' *Salome*, Wagner's *Lohengrin* and *Die Walküre*. Before moving to Essen, he held the position of Music Director of the Prague National Theatre and Estates Theatre for four years.

Amongst his symphonic engagements, Netopil has conducted the Berliner Philharmoniker, the Gewandhaus Orchester Leipzig, Staatskapelle Dresden, Sinfonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, RSB Berlin, Konzerthausorchester Berlin, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, Tonhalle Orchester Zürich, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte Carlo, Rotterdams Philharmonisch

Orkest, Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala, Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Orchestra Nazionale della RAI Torino, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Oslo Philharmonic, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, NHK Symphony Orchestra and Dallas Symphony Orchestra.
Tomáš Netopil was First Prize Winner of the Sir George Solti International Conductors' Competion in 2002 and was named the 'Classical Face to Watch' in 2018 by the UK's The Times.

Members of the Czech Philharmonic

CONDUCTORS
Semyon Bychkov, *chief conductor and music director*
Jakub Hrůša, *principal guest conductor*
Tomáš Netopil, *principal guest conductor*

FIRST VIOLINS
Josef Špaček, *concertmaster*
Jiří Vodička, *concertmaster*
Jan Mráček, *concertmaster*
Irena Jakubcová, *first deputy*
Magdaléna Mašlaňová, *second deputy*
Ota Bartoš
Luboš Dudek
Marie Dvorská
Jan Jouza
Bohumil Kotmel
Jiří Kubita
Lenka Machová
Viktor Mazáček
Pavel Nechvíle
Aida Shabuová
Helena Skopová
Zdeněk Starý
Jindřich Vácha
Milan Vavřínek
Miroslav Vilímec
Zdeněk Zelba

SECOND VIOLINS
Václav Prudil, *section leader*
Ondřej Skopový, *first deputy*
Libor Vilímec, *second deputy*
Petra Brabcová
Xenie Dohnalová
Zuzana Hájková
Petr Havlín
Pavel Herajn
Jitka Kokšová
Milena Kolářová
Marcel Kozánek
Veronika Kozlovská
Jan Ludvík
Vítězslav Ochman
Jiří Ševčík
Helena Šulcová
Markéta Vokáčová

VIOLAS
Jaroslav Pondělíček, *section leader*
Pavel Ciprys, *first deputy*
Dominik Trávníček, *second deputy*
Pavel Hořejší
Ondřej Kameš
Jaroslav Kroft
Jan Mareček
Jaromír Páviček
Ivan Pazour
Jiří Poslední
Jiří Řehák
Jan Šimon
René Vácha
Lukáš Valášek

CELLOS
Václav Petr, *concertmaster*
Josef Špaček, *first deputy*
Ivan Vokáč, *second deputy*
Jakub Dvořák
Josef Dvořák
Jan Holeňa
František Host
Tomáš Hostička
Jan Keller
František Lhotka
Peter Mišejka
Marek Novák
Karel Stralczynský
Eduard Šístek

DOUBLE BASSES
Jiří Hudec, *section leader*
Petr Ries, *first deputy*
Pavel Nejtek, *second deputy*
Ondřej Balcar
Zdeněk Benda
Jaromír Černík
Martin Hilský
Roman Koudelka
Jiří Valenta
Jiří Vopálka

HARPS
Jana Boušková, *section leader*
Barbara Pazourová, *deputy*

FLUTES
Radomír Pivoda, *section leader, principal player*
Andrea Rysová, *principal player*
Roman Novotný
Jan Machat
Petr Veverka

OBOES
Ivan Sequardt, *section leader, principal player*
Jana Brožková, *principal player*
Jiří Zelba
Vojtěch Jouza
Vladislav Borovka

CLARINETS
Tomáš Kopáček, *section leader, principal player*
Jan Mach, *principal player*
František Bláha
Petr Sinkule
Jan Brabec

BASSOONS
Ondřej Roskovec, *section leader, principal player*
Jaroslav Kubita, *principal player*
Martin Petrák
Tomáš Františ
Ondřej Šindelář

FRENCH HORNS
Jan Vobořil, *section leader, principal player*
Ondřej Vrabec, *principal player*
Jiří Havlík
Zdeněk Divoký
Petr Duda
Jindřich Kolář
Kateřina Javůrková
Petra Čermáková

TRUMPETS
Jaroslav Halíř, s*ection leader, principal player*
Ladislav Kozderka, *principal player*
Zdeněk Šedivý
Jiří Šedivý
Antonín Pecha

TROMBONES
Robert Kozánek, *section leader, principal player*
Lukáš Moťka, *principal player*
Břetislav Kotrba
Karel Kučera
Jiří Sušický
Jan Perný

TUBA
Karel Malimánek

PERCUSSION
Petr Holub, *section leader*
Michael Kroutil, *principal timpanist*
Daniel Mikolášek
Pavel Polívka
Miroslav Kejmar

PIANO
Václav Mácha

Members of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestral Academy, 2018/2019 season

Marie Hasoňová, *violin*
Kateřina Krejčová, *violin*
Veronika Mojzešová, *violin*
Anna Pacholczak, *violin*
Kateřina Jelínková, *viola*
Radka Teichmanová, *viola*
Dora Hájková, *cello*
Aneta Šudáková, *cello*
Danijel Radanovič, *double bass*
Václav Hořák, *double bass*
Magdaléna Klárová, *oboe*
Kanako Mori, *French horn*
Jakub Chmelař, *tuba*
Ladislav Bilan, *percussion/timpani*
Marcin Drajewicz, *percussion/timpani*
Chelsea Lane, *harp*
Isabelle Müller, *harp*

And additional players selected in auditions in April 2018.

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

A

When Semyon Bychkov chose the programme for his first subscription concert, he suggested Dvořák's Seventh Symphony without hesitation, so that from the start of his tenure at the helm of the Czech Philharmonic, he would honour the orchestra's national tradition. On the other hand, Luciano Berio's Sinfonia makes a striking contrast: it is a major, groundbreaking work of the twentieth century, and its importance is sometimes compared with Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. We have spoken with Zuzana Růžičková several times about programming some of the works of her husband, Viktor Kalabis. Strážnice Festival is one of his most popular works, and Jakub Hrůša decided to perform it as a tribute to this pair of extraordinary musicians. Mahler and Dvořák with Simon Rattle will be a special event, which the Czech Philharmonic is eagerly anticipating, as well as the return of the popular conductor Christoph Eschenbach with the American star violinist Joshua Bell.

Preludes to Subscription Concerts

The subscription concerts of series A are held on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in the Dvořák Hall.

The prices of single tickets range from CZK 250 to 1,200. Subscription prices range from CZK 1,400 to 4,400.

Individual tickets and subscriptions are sold at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum and online at czechphilharmonic.cz. Reservations and information are available through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service.

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The Czech Philharmonic offers these Preludes as a free bonus with its evening concerts. They always take place at 6:30 p.m. (or at 2 p.m. on Saturdays) in the Suk Hall unless stated otherwise.

Eva Hazdrová-Kopecká, Pavel Ryjáček, or Petr Kadlec lead the discussion.

October 2018

17 Oct. 2018 ___ Wednesday
18 Oct. 2018 ___ Thursday
19 Oct. 2018 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Luciano Berio
Sinfonia, for 8 voices and orchestra

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7
in D Minor, Op. 70

London Voices
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

January 2019

23 Jan. 2019 ___ Wednesday
24 Jan. 2019 ___ Thursday
25 Jan. 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Viktor Kalabis
Strážnice Festival, a suite for large orchestra, Op. 9

Antonín Dvořák
Piano Concerto in G Minor, Op. 33

Bohuslav Martinů
Symphony No. 5, H 310

Pierre-Laurent Aimard *piano*
Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

February 2019

13 Feb. 2019 ___ Wednesday
14 Feb. 2019 ___ Thursday
15 Feb. 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Leoš Janáček
Concertino

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 3 in E Flat Major, Op. 75

Franz Schubert
Symphony No. 9 in C Major, D 944 ("The Great")

Kirill Gerstein *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

February, March 2019

27 Feb. 2019 ___ Wednesday
28 Feb. 2019 ___ Thursday
01 March 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Antonín Dvořák
The Golden Spinning Wheel, symphonic poem, Op. 109

Gustav Mahler
Das Lied von der Erde

Magdalena Kožená
mezzo-soprano
Simon O'Neill *tenor*
Simon Rattle *conductor*

March 2019

27 March 2019 __ Wednesday
28 March 2019 ___ Thursday
29 March 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Winning work from the Czech Philharmonic Composers' Competition (world premiere)

Esa-Pekka Salonen
Cello Concerto (2016)

Sergei Prokofiev
Romeo and Juliet (selection from suites)

Truls Mørk *cello*
Ben Gernon *conductor*

June 2019

05 June 2019 ___ Wednesday
06 June 2019 ___ Thursday
07 June 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Camille Saint-Saëns
Violin Concerto No. 3
in B Minor, Op. 61

Anton Bruckner
Symphony No. 3 in D Minor

Joshua Bell *violin*
Christoph Eschenbach
conductor

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

B

The world premiere of Jiří Gemrot's Resurrection of Light and Hope is just as fitting for Advent as Honegger's Christmas Cantata, and it was written on commission for the Czech Philharmonic. Having recorded Dvořák's Violin Concerto with Jiří Bělohlávek, Frank Peter Zimmermann is returning with the music of a Czech composer, this time Bohuslav Martinů's First Violin Concerto. Stravinsky's Violin Concerto with Josef Špaček and Tchaikovsky's with Kirill Gerstein promise to be special experiences, along with two of Tchaikovsky's symphonies, with which we will be concluding a major recording project for the DECCA label. To close the season, we are inviting to the Rudolfinum a star conductor of the first magnitude, Franz Welser-Möst, music director of the Cleveland Orchestra. Petr Altrichter has chosen the most beautiful symphonic dances, and Semyon Bychkov will open another cycle planned to span several seasons, with performances of all of Mahler's symphonies.

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES B

Preludes to Subscription Concerts

The subscription concerts of series B are held on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in the Dvořák Hall.

The prices of single tickets range from CZK 250 to 1,200. Subscription prices range from CZK 1,400 to 4,400.

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The Czech Philharmonic offers these Preludes as a free bonus with its evening concerts. They always take place at 6:30 p.m. (or at 2 p.m. on Saturdays) in the Suk Hall unless stated otherwise.

Eva Hazdrová-Kopecká, Pavel Ryjáček, or Petr Kadlec lead the discussion.

December 2018

19 Dec. 2018 ___ Wednesday*
20 Dec. 2018 ___ Thursday
21 Dec. 2018 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Antonín Dvořák
Te Deum, Op. 103

Jiří Gemrot
Resurrection of Light and Hope (world premiere)

Bohuslav Martinů
Violin Concerto No. 1, H 232

Arthur Honegger
A Christmast Cantata, for baritone, children's choir, mixed choir, organ, and orchestra

Frank Peter Zimmermann *violin*
Kateřina Kněžíková *soprano*
Jan Martiník *bass*
Prague Philharmonic Choir
Lukáš Vasilek *choirmaster*
Severáček, Liberec Children's Choir
Silvie Pálková *choirmaster*
Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

* as part of the festival Bohuslav Martinů Days

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES B

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES B

January 2019

09 Jan. 2019 ___ Wednesday
10 Jan. 2019 ___ Thursday
11 Jan. 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Detlev Glanert
Weites Land, "Musik mit Brahms"

Igor Stravinsky
Violin Concerto in D Major

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Symphony No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 13 ("Winter Dreams")

Josef Špaček *violin*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES B

February 2019

20 Feb. 2019 ___ Wednesday
21 Feb. 2019 ___ Thursday
22 Feb. 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Major, Op. 44

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 17 ("Little Russian")

Kirill Gerstein *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES B

April 2019

03 April 2019 ___ Wednesday
04 April 2019 ___ Thursday
05 April 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Gustav Mahler
Symphony No. 9 in D Major

Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES B

May 2019

01 May 2019 ___ Wednesday
02 May 2019 ___ Thursday
03 May 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Winning work from the Czech Philharmonic Composers' Competition (world premiere)

Antonín Dvořák
Slavonic Dances, Op. 46

Leoš Janáček
Lachian Dances (selection)

Johannes Brahms
Hungarian Dances (selection)

Alexander Porfiryevich Borodin
Polovtsian Dances from the opera Prince Igor

Petr Altrichter *conductor*

June 2019

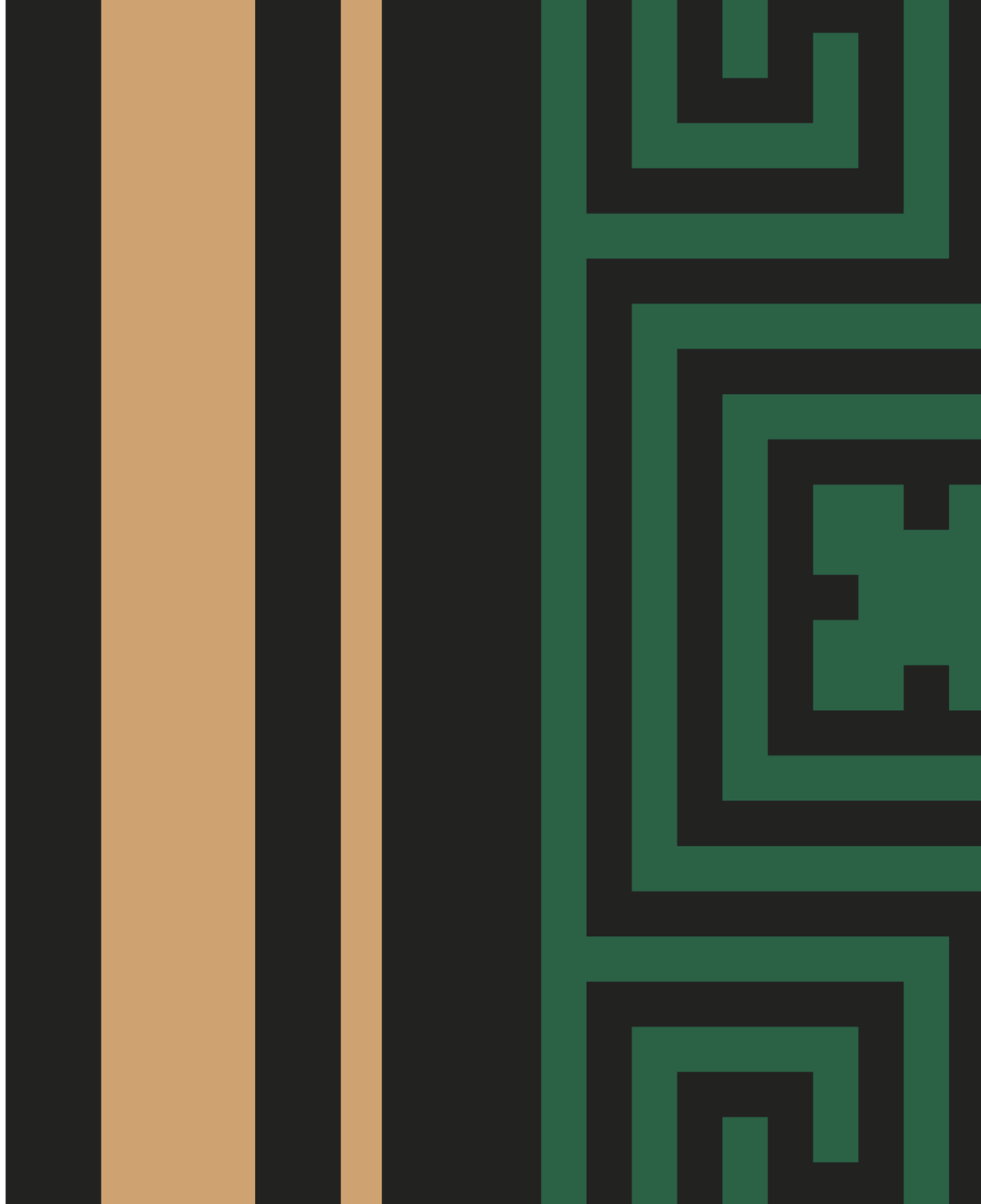
26 June 2019 ___ Wednesday
27 June 2019 ___ Thursday
28 June 2019 ___ Friday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Franz Schubert
Symphony No. 3
in D Major, D 200

Richard Strauss
Sinfonia Domestica, Op. 53,
TrV 158

Franz Welser-Möst *conductor*



SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

Subscription Series C is something entirely new in our programming. Along with the popular Saturday afternoon concerts, we have added Thursday and Friday evenings with programmes calling for smaller orchestral forces that are perfectly made for the acoustics of the Dvořák Hall. We will be covering a broad range of styles with an extraordinary roster of conductors and soloists. Leading the Czech Philharmonic in the opening programme will be the Italian conductor Giovanni Antonini, who gives stirring renditions of works from the Baroque and Classical eras with the world's best orchestras. Manfred Honeck has prepared a combination of Mozart's Requiem and music of the twentieth century with moving texts narrated by Petr Štěpánek. David Robertson and Jiří Vodička will present a sparkling combination of classics and modern works, and Tomáš Netopil and the pianist Nikolai Lugansky have chosen an exemplary evening of Viennese music with works by Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven.

Preludes to Subscription Concerts

The subscription concerts of series C are held on Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays at 3 p.m. in the Dvořák Hall.

The prices of single tickets range from CZK 220 to 1100. Subscription prices range from CZK 800 to 2,900.

Individual tickets and subscriptions are sold at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum and online at czechphilharmonic.cz. Reservations and information are available through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service.

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The Czech Philharmonic offers these Preludes as a free bonus with its evening concerts. They always take place at 6:30 p.m. (or at 2 p.m. on Saturdays) in the Suk Hall unless stated otherwise.

Eva Hazdrová-Kopecká, Pavel Ryjáček, or Petr Kadlec lead the discussion.

December 2018

13 Dec. 2018 ___ Thursday
14 Dec. 2018 ___ Friday
7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

15 Dec. 2018 ___ Saturday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Franz Schubert
Overture in C Major, Op. 170 D 591 ("In the Italian Style")

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Symphony No. 38 in D Major, K 504 ("Prague")

Joseph Haydn
Symphony No. 101 in D Major, Hob. I/101 ("The Clock")

Giovanni Antonini *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES C

January 2019

17 Jan. 2019 ___ Thursday
18 Jan. 2019 ___ Friday
7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

19 Jan. 2019 ___ Saturday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Arvo Pärt
Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten

Franz Schubert
Litany for the Feast of All Souls, D 343

Witold Lutosławski
Musique funèbre, for string orchestra

Requiem – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Death in Music and Text

Nicola Proksch *soprano*
Marie Henriette Reinhold *mezzo-soprano*
Patrick Grahl *tenor*
Jan Martiník *bass*
Petr Štěpánek *narration*
Prague Philharmonic Choir
Lukáš Vasilek *choirmaster*
Schola Gregoriana Pragensis
David Eben *artistic director*
Manfred Honeck *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES C

March 2019

14 March 2019 ___ Thursday
15 March 2019 ___ Friday
7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

16 March 2019 ___ Saturday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Igor Stravinsky
Concerto in E Flat Major ("Dumbarton Oaks")

Sergei Prokofiev
Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, Op. 63

Joseph Haydn
Symphony No. 22 in E Flat Major, Hob I/22 ("The Philosopher")

Bohuslav Martinů
Sinfonietta La Jolla, for piano and chamber orchestra, H 328

Jiří Vodička *violin*
David Robertson *conductor*

April 2019

11 April 2019 ___ Thursday
12 April 2019 ___ Friday
7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

13 April 2019 ___ Saturday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Selection of ballet music from the opera Idomeneo, K 367
(No. 1: Chaconne and No. 2: Pas Seul de Mr le Grand)

Ludwig van Beethoven
Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, Op. 58

Joseph Haydn
Symphony No. 104 in D Major, Hob I/104 ("London")

Nikolai Lugansky *piano*
Tomáš Netopil *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

K

Series K is the fulfilment of a dream we shared with Jiří Bělohlávek: after two years of preparations, we are ushering in regular concerts of the Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra. This name does not stand for one particular ensemble; instead it represents a project in which the orchestra members will be performing in various chamber groups. In September, together with the conductor Jiří Rožeň and the oboist Jana Brožková, they will be performing works by Suk, Martinů, Kabeláč, and contemporary British composers. In December we can look forward to a Christmas programme put together by a specialist in the interpretation of Baroque music, the German violinist and conductor Reinhard Goebel. Under the leadership of Ondřej Vrabec, the Czech Philharmonic Winds will be playing romantic works for winds, and on the concluding evening, Josef Špaček will appear with the marvellous Spanish double bass player Uxía Martínez, and with their colleagues they will present a Schubert string quartet masterpiece orchestrated by Mahler.

The subscription concerts of series K are held on Saturdays or Sundays at 3 p.m. in the Dvořák Hall.

The prices of single tickets range from CZK 200 to 850. Subscription prices range from CZK 650 to 2,200.

Tickets are sold at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum and online at czechphilharmonic.cz. Reservations and information are available through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service.

September 2018

30 Sept. 2018 ___ Sunday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

James MacMillan
One durata

Lisa Robertson
Seabird Cities (2017)

Bohuslav Martinů
Concerto for Oboe and Small Orchestra, H 353

Josef Suk
Meditation on the Old Czech Chorale "Saint Wenceslas", Op. 35a

Miloslav Kabeláč
Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Op. 36 ("Camerata")

Jana Brožková *oboe*
Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra
Jiří Rožeň *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES K

December 2018

22 Dec. 2018 ___ Saturday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Johann Joachim Quantz
Pastorale in G Major

Pietro Antonio Locatelli
Concerto Grosso "Per il santissimo Natale", Op. 1, No. 8

Johann David Heinichen
Pastorale in A Major

Johann Sebastian Bach
"Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen", Motetto per ogni tempore, BWV 51

Arcangelo Corelli
Concerto "Per il santissimo Natale", Op. 6

Anton Fils
"Gaude, plaude, Jerusalem", Christmas aria

Pierre Gaviniès
Suite des Noëls français

Simona Šaturová *soprano*
Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra
Reinhard Goebel *conductor*

SUBSCRIPTION SERIES K

March 2019

31 March 2019 ___ Sunday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Richard Strauss
Serenade for Winds in E Flat Major, Op. 7

Charles Gounod
Petite Symphonie

Richard Strauss
Sonatina No. 1 in F Major for 16 Wind Instruments, Op. 135 ("Aus der Werkstatt eines Invaliden")

Czech Philharmonic Winds
Ondřej Vrabec *conductor*

April 2019

28 April 2019 ___ Sunday
3 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Ottorino Respighi
Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite No. 3

Giovanni Bottesini
Grand Duo Concertante for violin and double bass

Franz Schubert / arr. G. Mahler
String Quartet No. 14 in D Minor ("Death and the Maiden")

Uxía Martínez Botana
double bass
Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra
Josef Špaček *violin, artistic director of the project*

SPECIAL NON-SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS

For this country's jubilee year, the series of Special Concerts for our 123rd season will include a special Czech programme for the 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. The new chief conductor Semyon Bychkov will launch his Mahler plans on the programme of the Season's Opening Concerts. You can look forward to Baroque music at the special Christmas Concert. The programme for the New Year's Concert and the New Year's Eve Dress Rehearsal had not yet been announced when the season catalogue went to press, but you can undoubtedly once again expect superior performances of popular repertoire. The special concerts will also include the traditional Open Air Concert held in June in the lovely setting of Hradčany Square.

We wish to point out that Special Concerts begin at different times.

Tickets are sold at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum and online at czechphilharmonic.cz. Reservations and information are available through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service.

October 2018

03 Oct. 2018 ___ Wednesday
6 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Concert for the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of Czechoslovakia

Bedřich Smetana
The Bartered Bride, overture to the opera

Bedřich Smetana
Polka, Furiant, Skočná, dances from the opera The Bartered Bride

Bohuslav Martinů
Concerto for Two String Orchestras, Piano, and Timpani, H 271

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("From the New World")

Ivo Kahánek *piano*
Michael Kroutil *timpani*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

SPECIAL NON-SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS S

October 2018

10 Oct. 2018 ___ Wednesday
11 Oct. 2018 ___ Thursday

7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Opening Concerts of the Season

Gustav Mahler
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor ("Resurrection")

Christiane Karg *soprano*
Elisabeth Kulman *mezzo-soprano*
Prague Philharmonic Choir
Lukáš Vasilek *choirmaster*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

SPECIAL NON-SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS S

December 2018

22 Dec. 2018 ___ Saturday
7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Special Christmas Concert

Johann Joachim Quantz
Pastorale in G Major

Pietro Antonio Locatelli
Concerto Grosso "Per il santissimo Natale", Op. 1, No. 8

Johann David Heinichen
Pastorale in A Major

Johann Sebastian Bach
"Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen", Motetto per ogni tempore, BWV 51

Arcangelo Corelli
Concerto "Per il santissimo Natale", Op. 6

Anton Fils
"Gaude, plaude, Jerusalem", Christmas aria

Pierre Gaviniès
Suite des Noëls français

Simona Šaturová *soprano*
Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra
Reinhard Goebel *conductor*

December 2018

31 Dec. 2018 ___ Monday
11 a.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Special New Year's Eve Dress Rehearsal

Programme TBA

January 2019

01 Jan. 2019 ___ Tuesday
8 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

New Year's Concert

Programme TBA

June 2019

19 June 2019 ___ Wednesday
8:20 p.m. ___
Hradčanské náměstí

Open Air Concert of the Czech Philharmonic

Programme TBA

* free entry

Concerts for Other Presenters in Prague

07 September 2018 ___
Dvořák Hall, Rudolfinum
Dvořák Prague Festival

Antonín Dvořák
The Spectre's Bride, Op. 69

Kateřina Kněžíková *soprano*
Richard Samek *tenor*
Svatopluk Sem *baritone*
Czech Philharmonic Choir of Brno
Petr Fiala *choirmaster*
Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

15 September 2018 ___
Dvořák Hall, Rudolfinum
Dvořák Prague Festival

Antonín Dvořák
Saint Ludmila, Op. 71

Kateřina Kněžíková *soprano*
Alena Kropáčková *mezzo-soprano*
Richard Samek *tenor*
Jozef Benci *bass*
Prague Philharmonic Choir
Lukáš Vasilek *choirmaster*
Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

18 September 2018 ___
Dvořák Hall, Rudolfinum
Dvořák Prague Festival

Antonín Dvořák
Psalm 149, Op. 79

Franz Liszt
Piano Concerto No. 1 in E Flat Major, S 124

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 8 in G Major, Op. 88

Evgeny Kissin *piano*
Czech Philharmonic Choir of Brno
Petr Fiala *choirmaster*
Petr Altrichter *conductor*

31 May 2019 ___
Smetana Hall, Municipal House
Prague Spring

Program TBA

Javier Perianes *piano*
Louis Langrée *conductor*

Tours

During its 123rd season, the Czech Philharmonic will be playing a total of 34 concerts abroad, and it will be performing twice at the festival Smetana's Litomyšl. For most of the season, which is being held in the spirit of the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia, the new chief conductor and music director of the Czech Philharmonic, Semyon Bychkov, will be conducting the orchestra's concerts on tour. At the conclusion of the season, the orchestra will be appearing on tour with its principal guest conductors Jakub Hrůša and Tomáš Netopil as well as with Petr Altrichter and Thomas Dausgaard.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia, the shared state of the Czechs and Slovaks, the Czech Philharmonic will make a guest appearance in October in the Slovak capital at the Bratislava Music Festival with the Second Symphony by the Czech native Gustav Mahler. Beyond the borders of former Czechoslovakia, the orchestra will be commemorating the jubilee year of the country's independence twice – in the United Kingdom in a gala concert at the Duke's Hall (Royal Academy of Music) in London in cooperation with the Embassy of the Czech Republic and on the actual date of the anniversary, 28 October, in New York's Carnegie Hall, where it will again be performing Mahler's *Resurrection Symphony* together with the Prague Philharmonic Choir and the soloists Christiane Karg and Elisabeth Kulman.

The concert in Carnegie Hall will be part of the first big foreign tour with the orchestra's new chief conductor Semyon Bychkov. This will be the thirteenth trip by the Czech Philharmonic to the United States. It first toured there in 1965 with the conductor Václav Neumann. In the course of nearly a month and a half, it played 33 concerts, including two in Carnagie Hall, as it will do again this time. This year, the orchestra will appear at the Kennedy Center in Washington for the sixth time (it last played there in 1996), and at Davies Hall in San Francisco, where it has played only twice; the Czech Philharmonic will also appear at Symphony Hall in Chicago. The programme will feature music by Antonín Dvořák and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, and in Washington there will also be a performance of Luboš Fišer's *Double for Orchestra*. The soloists for the tour will be the cellist Alisa Weilerstein and the pianist Kirill Gerstein.

With three concerts, the Czech Philharmonic will be presenting itself at the Musikverein, the home of the Vienna Philharmonic. The orchestra has been a regular guest in Vienna since 2015, and more appearances are planned for 2019 and for the 2020/2021 season.

Czech repertoire will again be predominant on this forthcoming tour, but the Czech Philharmonic will also be playing Mahler's Second Symphony and a cello concerto by Camille Saint-Saëns. Immediately upon its return from Vienna, the orchestra will continue with recording Mahler's "Second" for the Decca label.

In early February 2019, the orchestra will be touring the leading concert halls of Germany and Belgium. Its first stops will be at the newly built Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg and at the Concertgebouw in Bruges. With Semyon Bychkov and the pianist Jan Lisiecki, the orchestra will be playing works by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Antonín Dvořák, and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

In May, the conductor Petr Altrichter will be accompanying the Czech Philharmonic on tour to China and Taiwan. With leading Czech soloists, they will be presenting Czech repertoire as well as the works of Johannes Brahms and Alexander Borodin. Concerts will take place in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and other important cities.

In June, the Czech Philharmonic will make its traditional visit to the German spa town Bad Kissingen. The Czech Philharmonic has already played at the festival Kissinger Sommer forty-five times. This time it has prepared two concerts, the first with the conductor Tomáš Netopil and the cellist Truls Mørk, and the second with the conductor Thomas Dausgaard and the pianist Leif Ove Andsnes.

Besides its foreign engagements, the Czech Philharmonic also performs each year at the Smetana's Litomyšl International Music Festival, for which it has been a partner orchestra since 2018. In June 2019, it will be presenting two programmes there under the baton of its principal guest conductor Jakub Hrůša. The first will include a solo appearance by the violinist Josef Špaček, and the second will present Dvořák's oratorio *Saint Ludmila*.

CZECH PHILHARMONIC

TOURS

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NOZOMI 43 19:25 Hakata carNo.1-3 16cars 7
KODAMA 751 19:30 Hakata carNo.1-3,7,8 8cars 7
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7
Souvenir

SLOVAKIA

12 Oct. 2018 ___ Bratislava Music Festival, Reduta, Bratislava, Slovakia

Gustav Mahler
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor
("Resurrection")

Christiane Karg *soprano*
Elisabeth Kulman *mezzo-soprano*
Prague Philharmonic Choir
Lukáš Vasilek *choirmaster*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

UNITED KINGDOM

24 Oct. 2018 ___ Duke's Hall, Royal Academy of Music, London, United Kingdom

Bedřich Smetana
The Bartered Bride, overture to the opera

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

27 Oct. 2018 ___ Carnegie Hall, New York NY

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

28 Oct. 2018 ___ Carnegie Hall, New York NY

Gustav Mahler
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor
("Resurrection")

Christiane Karg *soprano*
Elisabeth Kulman *mezzo-soprano*
Prague Philharmonic Choir
Lukáš Vasilek *choirmaster*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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29 Oct. 2018 ___ Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.

Luboš Fišer
Double for Orchestra

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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30 Oct. 2018 ___ Great Hall – Wharton Center, East Lansing MI

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95
("From the New World")

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

01 Nov. 2018 ___ Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor MI

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Francesca da Rimini, Symphonic Fantasy after Dante, Op. 32

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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02 Nov. 2018 ___ Krannert Center, Champaign IL

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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04 Nov. 2018 ___ Symphony Hall, Chicago IL

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95
("From the New World")

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

07 Nov. 2018 ___ Segerstrom Concert Hall, Costa Mesa CA

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Francesca da Rimini, Symphonic Fantasy after Dante, Op. 32

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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08 Nov. 2018 ___ Segerstrom Concert Hall, Costa Mesa CA

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 1 in B Flat Minor, Op. 23

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70

Kirill Gerstein *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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10 Nov. 2018 ___ Bing Concert Hall, Stanford CA

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 1 in B Flat Minor, Op. 23

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95
("From the New World")

Kirill Gerstein *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

11 Nov. 2018 ___ Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco CA

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Op. 70

Alisa Weilerstein *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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12 Nov. 2018 ___ Mondavi Center, Davis CA

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 1 in B Flat Minor, Op. 23

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Francesca da Rimini, Symphonic Fantasy after Dante, Op. 32

Kirill Gerstein *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

AUSTRIA

24 Nov. 2018 ___ Musikverein, Vienna, Austria

Luboš Fišer
Double for Orchestra

Bedřich Smetana
The Bartered Bride, overture to the opera

Bedřich Smetana
The Bartered Bride, Polka, Furiant, Skočná, dances from the opera

Camille Saint-Saëns
Cello Concerto No. 1 in A Minor, Op. 33

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("From the New World")

Gautier Capuçon *cello*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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26 Nov. 2018 ___ Musikverein, Vienna, Austria

27 Nov. 2018 ___ Musikverein, Vienna, Austria

Gustav Mahler
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor ("Resurrection")

Christiane Karg *soprano*
Elisabeth Kulman *mezzo-soprano*
Wiener Singverein
Johannes Prinz *choirmaster*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

BELGIUM AND GERMANY

01 Feb. 2019 ___ Philharmonie Essen, Essen, Germany

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("From the New World")

Jan Lisiecki *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

02 Feb. 2019 ___ Concertgebouw Brugge, Bruges, Belgium

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Symphony No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 13 ("Winter Dreams")

Antonín Dvořák
Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("From the New World")

Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

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04 Feb. 2019 ___ Elbphilharmonie, Hamburg, Germany

05 Feb. 2019 ___ Alte Oper, Frankfurt, Germany

06 Feb. 2019 ___ Tonhalle, Düsseldorf, Germany

07 Feb. 2019 ___ Meistersingerhalle, Nuremberg, Germany

08 Feb. 2019 ___ Hannover Congress Centrum, Hannover, Germany

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Symphony No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 13 ("Winter Dreams")

Jan Lisiecki *piano*
Semyon Bychkov *conductor*

CHINA AND TAIWAN

08 May – 23 May 2019 ___ Venues TBA

Josef Špaček *violin*
Petr Altrichter *conductor*

CZECH REPUBLIC

13 June 2019 ___ Smetana's Litomyšl, Litomyšl Castle, Litomyšl, Czech Republic

Bedřich Smetana
Prague Carnival, introduction and polonaise

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

Antonín Dvořák
Carnival, Op. 92, concert overture

Leoš Janáček
Taras Bulba, rhapsody for orchestra

Josef Špaček *violin*
Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

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14 June 2019 ___ Smetana's Litomyšl, Litomyšl Castle, Litomyšl, Czech Republic

Antonín Dvořák
Saint Ludmila, Op. 71

Kateřina Kněžíková *soprano*
Alena Kropáčková *mezzo-soprano*
Richard Samek *tenor*
Jozef Benci *bass*
Czech Philharmonic Choir of Brno
Petr Fiala *choirmaster*
Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

TOURS

GERMANY

05 July 2019 ___ Kissinger Sommer,
Max-Littmann-Saal,
Bad Kissingen, Germany

Josef Mysliveček
TBA

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Piano Concerto No. 20 in D Minor, K 466

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Symphony No. 38 in D Major, K 504
("Prague")

Leif Ove Andsnes *piano*
Thomas Dausgaard *conductor*

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06 July 2019 ___ Kissinger Sommer,
Max-Littmann-Saal,
Bad Kissingen, Germany

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Antonín Dvořák
In Nature's Realm, Op. 91, Othello, Op. 93,
Carnival, Op. 92, cycle of concert overtures

Truls Mørk *cello*
Tomáš Netopil *conductor*

Broadcasts and Recordings

The 2018/2019 season will bring an important breakthrough for the Czech Philharmonic in the field of recording projects thanks to the launch of the major strategic project of a digital concert hall. This will allow the Czech Philharmonic to record and broadcast educational concerts and projects to schools, as well as to make its concerts available digitally to the public all around the world. The digital concert hall will permit the making of recordings with the best video and audio quality thanks to the participation of top directors, cameramen, audio engineers, and lighting experts.

In the area of audio recordings, in its 123rd season the Czech Philharmonic will complete its cycle of the symphonic works of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky for the Decca label with Symphonies Nos. 1 and 2 and Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 3. At the same time, it will be launching a new chapter in its collaboration with that publisher – the orchestra's new chief conductor Semyon Bychkov will begin recording the symphonies of Gustav Mahler. The series of recordings of Antonín Dvořák's sacred music will reach its climax with the Stabat Mater under the baton of Jakub Hrůša.

The Czech Philharmonic will be making the final audio-video recording from its series of symphonies by Bohuslava Martinů in co-production with Czech Television and the German company Unitel.

There will be continuing cooperation with Czech Television and Czech Radio on recordings and live concert broadcasts.

EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

A feeling for harmony, togetherness, concord, and understanding. Music is a wonderful teacher for all of this. In today's rather disharmonious world, we should be listening to as much music as possible. In its 123rd season, the Czech Philharmonic is offering hundreds of educational programmes – music workshops, concerts, and lectures – to all with ears ready to hear.

"Everything he did, he did out of love; he made all of his decisions in the way he thought would be best. When we were tuning up, we didn't tune just our instruments. We were tuning our hearts. So everyone's heart would be beating the same. After all, music is best played from the heart. And he was the one who had the tuning fork for that." These lovely words were written by one of the youg musicians of the Joint Orchestra of the Czech Philharmonic and the Elementary Schools of the Arts shortly after Jiří Bělohlávek's death. We planned last season with him, but our 123rd season has been planned without him. This impacted not only all of our concerts and tours, but also our educational activities. Jiří Bělohlávek also engaged himself to an extraordinary degree in those programmes: in concerts with the narrator Marek Eben, in working with young music from Elementary Schools of the Arts, and also with the Romani choir Čhavorenge. And of course, unforgettably as the chief sorcerer Bělokněžník, who once said about music: "…our music can be understood by anyone who tries and really listens. And by all who pay attention and concentrate more on others than on themselves." We will be trying with all of our might to carry on with our educational programmes in the spirit of these principles of the head sorcerer. Semyon Bychkov, the new chief conductor of the Czech Philharmonic, will be following up directly on Jiří Bělohlávek's legacy, saying that music education – and, of course, education as such – is one of the key topics in today's world. And he wants to give all-around support to education from his position.

What began last season as an experiment has caught on remarkably and taken on a life of its own. I'm thinking of the project Music at Schools, which supports school music teachers – the encounters with them, the sharing of ideas and inspiration, and the search for the best ways to awaken love for music. With any luck, besides the regular events at the Rudolfinum, gatherings will also begin to take place at venues outside of Prague, and we believe that this will give rise to a noteworthy supporting network for music and culture in general.

In the 123rd season of the Czech Philharmonic, we will continue our popular, playful music workshops and concerts at the Rudolfinum for schoolchildren and students. A "Little Orffestra" is planned for the youngest, and those who are a bit older can look forward to our "Musical Culinarium" or the concert series "If You're Afraid, You Can't Join the Band". There is already plenty of excitement about "Pirates at the Rudolfinum", a new programme with ideas from Klára Boudalová. Alice Nellis's programmes with the actors Pavel Liška, Martha Issová, and Marek Eben will be continuing. In the concert series "Four Steps to the New World", we will turn our attention to great symphonies: Beethoven's Fifth and the New World Symphony. A big concert in April 2019 will be the climax of one of our long-term musical projects for Romani children from the Chrudim and Vysoké Mýto regions. And where will Romano drom with Ida Kelarová take us? Let's not spoil the surprise, but it will be a powerful experience, as always. And as always, music will help with this. One of the young musicians from the Elementary Schools of the Arts described last year's event beautifully: "So many different people simply get together, sit down at their desks, and as soon as the first bar of music begins, they all start to understand each other. It's as if an enormous conversation is suddenly heard among people who do not know each other. (…) I'm incredibly fascinated by this ability of music, which I discovered here: the ability to connect and unite people."

On behalf of the Czech Philharmonic Education Team
Petr Kadlec

EA – Subscription Series for Parents with Children

CZECH PHILHARMONIC – THE SERIAL – IF YOU'RE AFRAID, YOU CAN'T JOIN THE BAND

Music is a team sport. Just like a football player cannot score all by himself, one violinist all alone cannot do very much. But how does a musical team really work? Who is playing with whom and against whom? And what if there are as many musicians as in a whole orchestra? Discover with us the secrets of various musical teams with the best of the best – the Czech musical national team – the musicians of the Czech Philharmonic and their guests. **Klára Boudalová** will be hosting all of the concerts in the Dvořák Hall.

EA1 ___ District Championship with Cimbalom Music of the Czech Philharmonic
20 Oct. 2018 ___ Saturday ___ 10:30 a.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

How is music played in Czech villages, and what does a folk music team sound like? What is the terminology in a folk music ensemble?

EA2 __ On Angelic Strings
16 Dec. 2018 __ Sunday __ 10:30 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

180 kilograms – that is the string tension a violin has to withstand. We will be facing even greater tension: there will be more strings. On a harp. We'll prove that even with such tension, one can play angelic Christmas music. On violin, viola, cello, and harp! With the Rudolphin Ensemble Prague and Jana Boušková.

EA3 __ In the Chamber with the Chamber Ensemble
13 Jan. 2019 __ Sunday __ 10:30 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Where else should chamber music be played? We'll be taking you to a private room (chambre séparée) for a musical serenade like in the days of the rich bourgeoisie. We'll play music for eating, drinking, and dancing.

EA4 __ In the Depths with the Czech Philharmonic Low Brass
03 March 2019 __ Sunday __ 10:30 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Let's discover the depths of the musical ocean and find out why a tuba looks like the world's biggest snorkel. How much air do trombonists need? How big must their lungs be? And what must one do when one begins to sink in one's musical part?

EA5 __ In the Fire with the Escualo Quintet
14 April 2019 __ Sunday __ 10:30 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Our musical training is slowly coming to a boil. With the exuberant music of the Argentine tango, we discover a little musical exoticism and find out what is necessary for musicians in the band to tame each other.

EA6 __ Orchestral Academy of the Czech Philharmonic
23 June 2019 __ Sunday __ 10:30 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

And now comes the conclusion. The whole orchestra. And a conductor, of course. How will the musicians deal with a tough trainer, and what can happen to a top musician while performing? And what if someone is a soloist and doesn't play for a team? Is that a good thing or bad?

Ondřej Vrabec *conductor*

EB – Subscription Series of Concerts for Schools

THE ORCHESTRA IN PIECES – IF YOU'RE AFRAID, YOU CAN'T JOIN THE BAND

Music is a team sport. Just like a football player cannot score all by himself, one violinist all alone cannot do very much. But how does a musical team really work? Who is playing with whom and against whom? And what if there are as many musicians as in a whole orchestra? Discover with us the secrets of various musical teams with the best of the best – the Czech musical national team – the musicians of the Czech Philharmonic and their guests. **Klára Boudalová** will be hosting all of the concerts in the Dvořák Hall.

EB1 __ District Championship with Cimbalom Music of the Czech Philharmonic
25 Sept. 2018 __ Tuesday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

How is music played in Czech villages, and what does a folk music team sound like? What is the terminology in a folk music ensemble?

EB2 __ On Angelic Strings
10 Dec. 2018 __ Monday __ 09 and 11 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

180 kilograms – that is the string tension a violin has to withstand. We will be facing even greater tension: there will be more strings. On a harp. We'll prove that even with such tension, one can play angelic Christmas music. On violin, viola, cello, and harp! With the Rudolphin Ensemble Prague and Jana Boušková.

EB3 __ In the Chamber with the Chamber Ensemble
11 Jan. 2019 __ Friday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Where else should chamber music be played? We'll be taking you to a private room (chambre séparée) for a musical serenade like in the days of the rich bourgeoisie. We'll play music for eating, drinking, and dancing.

EB4 __ In the Depths with the Czech Philharmonic Low Brass
01 March 2019 __ Friday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Let's discover the depths of the musical ocean and find out why a tuba looks like the world's biggest snorkel. How much air do trombonists need? How big must their lungs be? And what must one do when one begins to sink in one's musical part?

EB5 __ In the Fire with the Escualo Quintet
15 April 2019 __ Monday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Our musical training is slowly coming to a boil. With the exuberant music of the Argentine tango, we discover a little musical exoticism and find out what is necessary for musicians in the band to tame each other.

EB6 __ Orchestral Academy of the Czech Philharmonic
14 June 2019 __ Friday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

And now comes the conclusion. The whole orchestra. And a conductor, of course. How will the musicians deal with a tough trainer, and what can happen to a top musician while performing? And what if someone is a soloist and doesn't play for a team? Is that a good thing or bad?

Ondřej Vrabec *conductor*

EC – Subscription Series of Concerts for Schools

FOUR STEPS TO THE NEW WORLD
From Beethoven's Fifth to the New World Symphony

Concerts for students. Interesting facts and mysteries of the great works of famous composers. This time the topic is the symphony, a Greek word (συμφωνία) that means "sounding together". Audio and video examples will be used, along with an accompanying brochure.

Czech Student Philharmonic
(Czech Philharmonic players, Czech Philharmonic Orchestral Academy members, music school students)
Marko Ivanović *conductor*
Petr Kadlec *guide*

EC1 __ Beethoven's Fifth Symphony
02, 04, and 05 Oct. 2018 __ Tuesday, Thursday, Friday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

There is always hope. Even in the most difficult, darkest, most desperate situations. Beethoven wrote his Fifth Symphony at the time when he had begun to go deaf, something that seemed to him – as a successful pianist and composer just over thirty years old – like the end of his life and musical career. The symphony depicts a long journey (Beethoven thought about it and wrote it over several years), in the course of which a person struggles with fate and does not allow himself to be broken. We can understand the symphony's message to mean that **fate is not unchangeable, and above all, it has no power over a person.**

EC2 __ Janáček's Sinfonietta
26, 28, and 30 Nov. 2018 __ Monday, Wednesday, Friday __ 10 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

"There's been enough for me to put down my pen – once I finish work on my pretty Sinfonietta with its fanfares! I can remember the fanfares in Písek! That was nice, back then." The inspiration for one of the most beautiful symphonic compositions of the twentieth century was in fact a wind band that Janáček heard somewhere in southern Bohemia. But the power with which the whole work is charged is not that of wind band music. It is captured by the composer's words spoken in England shortly after he finished the Sinfonietta. "I come with the young spirit of our homeland, with young music. **I'm not the sort of person who likes to look back; I prefer to look ahead.** I know that we must grow, and I do not see this growth in pain, in recollections of suffering and repression. Let us cast this off! We are a nation that has a place of importance in the world! We are the heart of Europe! And in Europe, this heart must be felt!"

EC3 ___ Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony
14, 18, and 25 Jan. 2019 ___ Monday, Friday, Friday ___ 10 a.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

In late January 1936 an unsigned article appeared in the Soviet newspaper Pravda with the title Muddle instead of Music. It described Shostakovich's music as being against the Soviet people. There is speculation that Stalin wrote it himself. This was something like a death sentence. During the years that followed, the composer was living in constant fear that he would be arrested and either be sent to the Gulag or be shot (at that time, Stalin's terror had led to the imprisonment or death of many of the composer's relatives and friends). Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony was premiered in 1937. The critics took the work as the composer's reaction to "just criticism". But isn't this composition about something completely different?

EC4 ___ Dvořák's New World Symphony
07, 09, and 10 May 2019 ___ Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ___ 10 a.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

Dvořák was terribly worried about whether moving to the United States of America, where he was the director of the National Conservatory in New York from 1892 to 1895, might cost him his inspiration – whether he would be able to write music at all or would lose the source of his musical ideas being so far from Bohemia. The New World Symphony – as the first work he composed in America – showed that he had no need to worry. But throughout the work, we find traces of this tension and struggle. We also find something characteristic of Dvořák in the piece, and one of the critics at the premiere of the symphony "From the New World" captured it beautifully: He has a dark complexion, dark hair, thin in front. His short, dark beard is beginning to turn grey. The large dark eyes are steady. His face is honest and friendly and its expression reveals an open and guileless nature – **but sometimes his gaze seems to turn somewhere far away…**"

EM – Individual Concerts for the General Public

EM1 ___ Beethoven's Fifth Symphony
04 Oct. 2018 ___ Thursday ___ 7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

There is always hope. Even in the most difficult, darkest, most desperate situations. Beethoven wrote his Fifth Symphony at the time when he had begun to go deaf, something that seemed to him – as a successful pianist and composer just over thirty years old – like the end of his life and musical career. The symphony depicts a long journey (Beethoven thought about it and wrote it over several years), in the course of which a person struggles with fate and does not allow himself to be broken. We can understand the symphony's message to mean that **fate is not unchangeable, and above all, it has no power over a person.**

Czech Student Philharmonic
(Czech Philharmonic players, Czech Philharmonic Orchestral Academy members, music school students)
Marko Ivanović *conductor*
Petr Kadlec *guide*

EM2 ___ Janáček's Sinfonietta
28 Nov. 2018 ___ Wednesday ___ 7:30 p.m. ___ Dvořák Hall

"There's been enough for me to put down my pen – once I finish work on my pretty Sinfonietta with its fanfares! I can remember the fanfares in Písek! That was nice, back then." The inspiration for one of the most beautiful symphonic compositions of the twentieth century was in fact a wind band that Janáček heard somewhere in southern Bohemia. But the power with which the whole work is charged is not that of wind band music. It is captured by the composer's words spoken in England shortly after he finished the Sinfonietta. "I come with the young spirit of our homeland, with young music. **I'm not the sort of person who likes to look back; I prefer to look ahead.** I know that we must grow, and I do not see this growth in pain, in recollections of suffering and repression. Let us cast this off! We are a nation that has a place of importance in the world! We are the heart of Europe! And in Europe, this heart must be felt!"

EM3 __ Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony
14 Jan. 2019 __ Monday __ 7:30 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

In late January 1936 an unsigned article appeared in the Soviet newspaper Pravda with the title Muddle instead of Music. It described Shostakovich's music as being against the Soviet people. There is speculation that Stalin wrote it himself. This was something like a death sentence. During the years that followed, the composer was living in constant fear that he would be arrested and either be sent to the Gulag or be shot (at that time, Stalin's terror had led to the imprisonment or death of many of the composer's relatives and friends). Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony was premiered in 1937. The critics took the work as the composer's reaction to "just criticism". **But isn't this composition about something completely different?**

EM4 __ Šun Devloro
08 April 2019 __ Monday __ 7:30 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Concluding concert of the three-year project European Orchestra Laboratory II (with support from the EU programme Creative Europe) and simultaneously a gala concert for International Romani Day. The programme includes traditional and contemporary Romani music. In cooperation with the non-profit organisation MIRET.

Čhavorenge *children's choir*
Children and student vocalists (Romani and others) from all around the Czech Republic
Ida Kelarová *choirmaster, vocals*
Desiderius Dužda *guitar, vocals*
Czech Student Philharmonic
(Czech Philharmonic players, Czech Philharmonic Orchestral Academy members, music school students)
Marko Ivanović *conductor*

EM5 __ An Orchestra Rehearsal
24 and 25 April 2019 __ Wednesday and Thursday __ 7:30 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Marek Eben will be the listener's guide to the musical galaxies. What does a composer put into music, and what do the players and the conductors add? Is the score sacred, or can compositions be adapted somehow? And how does one get an orchestra to play the music just as the conductor imagines it? We invite you to the premiere of a fun, and informative programme by Alice Nellis for everyone who wants to know more about music!

Czech Philharmonic
Petr Altrichter *conductor*
Marek Eben *moderator*
Alice Nellis *author and director*

EM6 __ Dvořák's New World Symphony
09 May 2019 __ Thursday __ 7:30 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Dvořák was terribly worried about whether moving to the United States of America, where he was the director of the National Conservatory in New York from 1892 to 1895, might cost him his inspiration – whether he would be able to write music at all or would lose the source of his musical ideas being so far from Bohemia. The New World Symphony – as the first work he composed in America – showed that he had no need to worry. But throughout the work, we find traces of this tension and struggle. We also find something characteristic of Dvořák in the piece, and one of the critics at the premiere of the symphony "From the New World" captured it beautifully: He has a dark complexion, dark hair, thin in front. His short, dark beard is beginning to turn grey. The large dark eyes are steady. His face is honest and friendly and its expression reveals an open and guileless nature – **but sometimes his gaze seems to turn somewhere far away…**"

ANTONIN
VORÁK

EM7 __ Concert of the Joint Orchestra of the Czech Philharmonic and Elementary Schools of the Arts
16 June 2019 __ Sunday __ 7:30 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Public dress rehearsal
16 June 2019 __ Sunday __ 11 a.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Talented pupils from elementary schools of the arts all around the Czech Republic will be getting together for the sixth time in a joint orchestra, where musicians of the Czech Philharmonic will provide artistic leadership and will also make music together with them.

Johannes Brahms
Academic Festival Ouverture, Op. 80

Antonín Dvořák
The Water Goblin, Op. 107

Bedřich Smetana
The Moldau

Joint Orchestra of the Czech Philharmonic and Elementary Schools of the Arts
Petr Altrichter *conductor*

E – Individual Concerts for Parents with Children

E1 __ The Labèque Sisters – A Rendez Vous for Four Hands
03 Nov. 2018 __ Saturday __ 3 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

The music of Leonard Bernstein (West Side Story), George Gershwin (Preludes), and Philip Glass, and plenty of magic – never before seen or heard – for four hands and two keyboards performed by the world's most famous piano duo: Katia and Marielle Labèque from France. Petr Kadlec will be the moderator for this special concert.

Katia and Marielle Labèque *pianos*
Petr Kadlec *guide*

E2 __ Penguins at the Rudolfinum
18 Nov. 2018 __ Sunday __ 2 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Because of their tailcoats, orchestra musicians somewhat resemble penguins, especially when seen with the eyes of children. For the seventh time, the actor Pavel Liška will be examining the world of orchestral musicians and their music. And naturally, there will be a curious and enthusiastic audience of children. Together, they have already discovered what different kinds of music sound like, what a conductor is needed for, and why one does not talk at concerts. But they have also been able to experience what it is like to conduct an orchestra, to sing "Let's Rejoice and Be Merry" from The Bartered Bride accompanied by an orchestra, to create the newest music together with the musicians of the Philharmonic, or to witness a performance by a blind pianist. You are invited to a new, entertaining, and educational programme by Alice Nellis for parents with children!

Czech Student Philharmonic
Vojtěch Jouza *conductor*
Pavel Liška *moderator*
Alice Nellis *author and director*

E3 __ Bethlehem at the Rudolfinum with a Manger Scene Concert of the Czech Philharmonic
01 Dec. 2018 __ Saturday __ 2 and 4 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Auxiliary music and art workshops
01 Dec. 2018 __ Saturday __ 12:30–1:40 p.m. and 5:20–6:30 p.m.

Hey there! Have you heard the news? Jesus was born in a stall in Bethlehem! But it's a terribly long way to Bethlehem, and the road leading there takes many twists and turns. Come along with us to follow the star in a tale full of shepherds, musicians, kings, and even donkeys, camels, and sheep! Maybe we will manage to arrive at the manger on time!

Czech Bethlehem Philharmonic Sheep
Vojtěch Jouza *Shepherd*
Pavel Tesař *Watchman*
Klára Boudalová *author*

EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

E4 __ Aliens at the Rudolfinum with an Outer Space Philharmonic Concert
30 March 2019 __ Saturday __
2 and 4 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Auxiliary music and art workshops
30 March 2019 __ Saturday __ 12:30–1:40 p.m. and 5:20–6:30 p.m.

Ten, nine, eight… two, one, ignition! Blastoff! You are invited on an excursion beyond the borders of our galaxy, to places where no human has ever gone before! There are aliens living among the stars on a mysterious planet. But what if their world is having problems? Will you help them?

Czech Cosmic Philharmonic
Pavel Tesař *Mission Commander*
Marko Ivanović *UFO Leader*
Klára Boudalová *UFO author*

E5 __ Pirates in the Rudolfinum with a concert on a sailing ship
08 June 2019 __ Saturday __
2 and 4 p.m. __ Dvořák Hall

Auxiliary music and art workshops
08 June 2019 __ Saturday __ 12:30–1:40 p.m. and 5:20–6:30 p.m.

The pirates have set out in search of treasure led by their commander Captain Hlukovous. But what if they run into trouble on their voyage on the waves of the stormy seas? This fairy tale about looking for and perhaps even finding the most beautiful treasure is interspersed with the music of great composers and pirate songs. And maybe there will even be a parrot!

Czech Philharmonic Crew
Chorus of Lifeguards
Pavel Tesař *First Officer*
Marko Ivanović *Captain Hlukovous*
Klára Boudalová *author*

Master Classes

Master classes with superb soloists from the Czech Philharmonic (among others). Open to all students, including those at music schools and elementary schools of the arts as well as to the general public.

30 Sept. 2018 __ Sunday __ 9–11 a.m.
Robert Kozánek *trombon*
In collaboration with Prague–Bone–Fest

19 Oct. 2018 __ Friday __ 10 a.m.–12 noon
Francesco Tristano *piano*
In collaboration with Prague Music Performance

28 Feb. 2019 __ Thursday __ 10 a.m.–12 noon
Josef Špaček *violin*

22 March 2019 __ Friday __ 2–4 p.m.
Jiří Vodička *violin*

12 April 2019 __ Friday __ 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Nikolai Lugansky *piano*

For those desiring to work directly under the guidance of the artists, active participation in a music study programme at some level is required. Active course participants are chosen on the basis of their résumés, proposed repertoire, and teachers' recommendations. If you wish to be an active participant at a master class, complete the on-line registration form at czechphilharmonic.cz. If a large number of applications is received, there will be a preliminary screening or play-through.

Students not participating in the master classes may attend free of charge (a free ticket must be picked up in advance at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office; not available online). The price of admission for the general public is CZK 250. Tickets are sold at the ticket office in the Rudolfinum or online at czechphilharmonic.cz. Make reservations online or by contacting customer service at info@czechphilharmonic.cz

E – Romano drom 2018

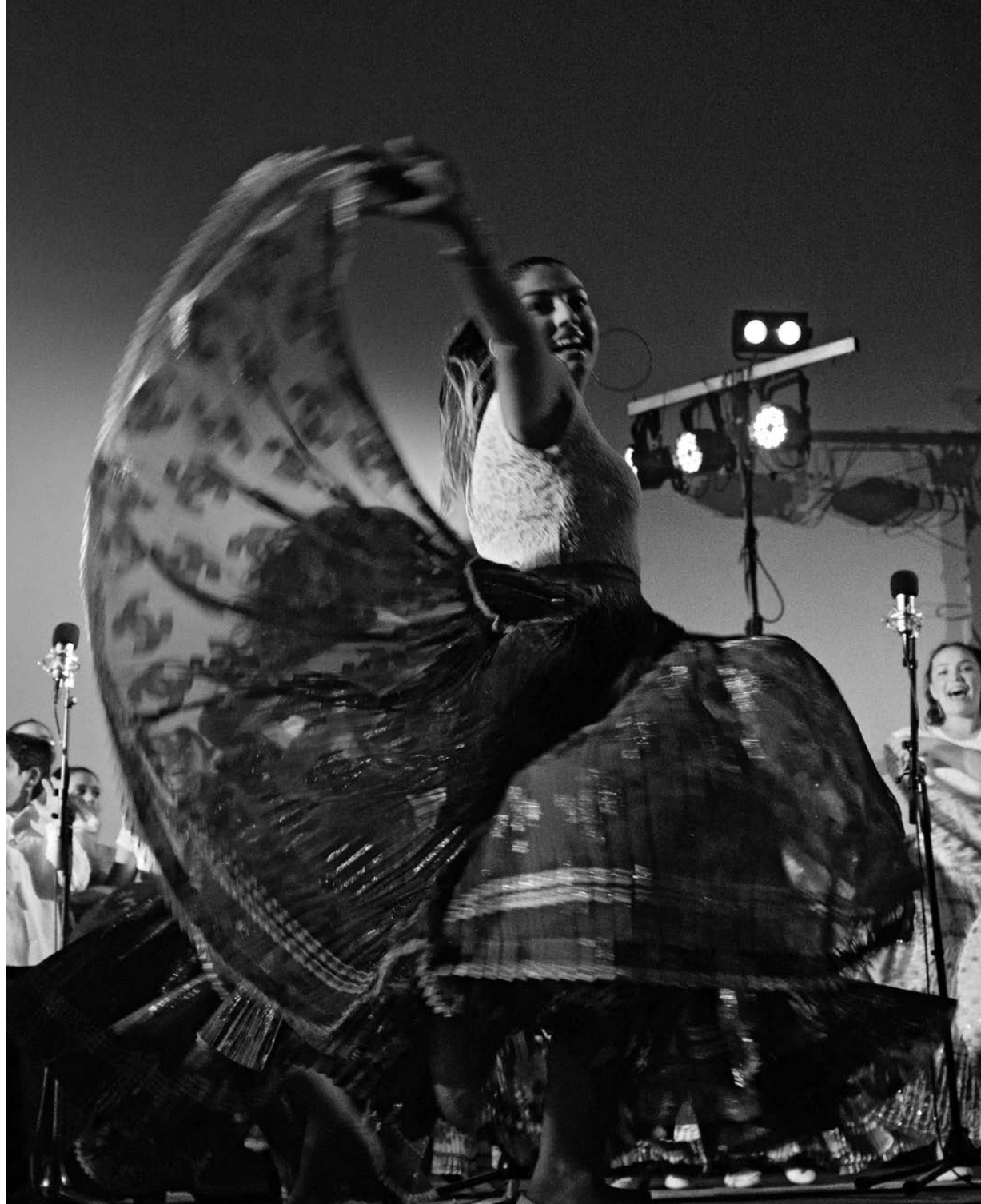
"Romani children lack the feeling that they are welcome in society. Their escape route from the vicious circle of settlements and ghettos to a world where something is expected of them, where they can believe in themselves and achieve something is one of the hardest journeys. Although the energy that we are investing in these children does not pay off immediately, I believe that there is hope for change. Čhavorenge Children's Choir is a way of motivating children so they won't give up their dreams and goals and will pursue a fulfilling life. I'm glad the Czech Philharmonic is going down the thorny path of education with us for a fifth year, but I realize that the journey toward understanding may take several more generations; in fact, it never ends."

Ida Kelarová

The cooperation between the Czech Philharmonic, Ida Kelarová, and the Čhavorenge Children's Choir will be continuing for a fifth year, supporting talented Romani children and youth in more than just their musical paths. The project has resulted in nearly forty concerts in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, including an appearance at an outdoor concert of the Czech Philharmonic on Hradčany Square under the baton of Jiří Bělohlávek, numerous workshops, and above all, the influence over the lives of dozens of Romani children and young people. They find a relationship to their own culture, experience real self-awareness, and discover other life's journeys from those that are set out before them by the negative external circumstances they often face. There is a strong emphasis on leading the children to develop their awareness of the law and of legality of action in cooperation with the team Street Law from the Charles University Faculty of Law.

After two summer visits to eastern Slovakia in 2014 and 2015, Romano drom moved to the Šluknov, Nový Bor, and Děčín regions in August 2016, then it came to the Vsetín region in the summer of 2017. At the summer school of the arts, Čhavorenge then recorded a CD in cooperation with the Czech Philharmonic under the direction of Marko Ivanović, to be issued by Supraphon in the spring of 2018.

In 2018, the Romano drom summer programme will be taking place in Romania, where children and young people will be learning about the local community and their culture. There will be two big concerts at the most beautiful hall in Bucharest – the Athenaeum – and in the town Sinaia as part of the local festival named after George Enescu. Concerts are also being arranged in Slovak cities and in Belfast, Northern Ireland.



Information about Tickets

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TICKET OFFICES

Czech Philharmonic Customer Service
phone: +420 227 059 227
e-mail: info@czechphilharmonic.cz

Customer Service provides all information about tickets available at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office at the Rudolfinum (for concerts of the Czech Philharmonic, the Czech Chamber Music Society, and selected external concert organisers). They can answer your questions concerning the programmes of concerts of the Czech Philharmonic and the Czech Chamber Music Society, help you select concerts, and handle your reservations, orders, or payments made by wire transfer.

Customer Service business hours

workdays: 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
(July, August: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.)

open on the day of a Czech Philharmonic concert until the concert begins

Ticket office

The ticket office sells tickets to concerts of the Czech Philharmonic, the Czech Chamber Music Society, and selected external concert organisers.

The ticket office is inside the Rudolfinum. Please use the entrance from the street ul. 17. listopadu (barrier-free access).

At the ticket office, you can pay in cash or with a credit card.

The ticket office accepts the following vouchers: Sodexo (Flexi Pass, Relax Pass, Fokus Pass), Cheque Déjeuner (Unišek, Unišek+, Cadhoc), and Ticket Benefits (Multi, Sport&Kultura)

Ticket office business hours

workdays: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
(July, August: 10 a.m.–3 p.m.)

— open on the day of a Czech Philharmonic or Czech Chamber Music Society concert until the concert begins

— open for morning concerts on any day 1 hour before the concert begins

— open for afternoon concerts on weekends and holidays 2 hours before the concert begins

STICKETS TO CZECH PHILHARMONIC SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS

With a single purchase, you get tickets to all concerts of the selected Czech Philharmonic series.

Subscription tickets offer the following benefits:

— Subscription ticket prices are discounted by 25–40% for concerts of the chosen series in comparison with the regular price of tickets sold separately.

— Subscribers are entitled to a 20% discount to other Czech Philharmonic Czech Chamber Music Society concerts.

— Subscription tickets guarantee you will always get the same seat in the hall for all concerts in the series.

— A subscription ticket is transferrable – if you cannot attend a concert, you can led your subscription to someone else.

— You can receive a partial refund for subscription concerts you are unable to attend by contacting Customer Service or going directly to the ticket office at the Rudolfinum. You will receive a discount coupon worth 40% of the value of the cancelled concerts in proportion to the total price of the subscription.

— We will automatically send you the programme catalogue for the following season.

Sale of Subscriptions

The sale of subscriptions to the 2018/2019 season begins on Monday, 09 April 2018 at 10 a.m. The sale of subscriptions ends on the day of the first concert of the chosen subscription series. Thereafter, only individual tickets will be sold. You can purchase subscriptions:

— at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum

— online at czechphilharmonic.cz in the section Koncerty/Koncertní řady (Concerts/Concert Series)

Subscription reservations:

— online at czechphilharmonic.cz in the section Koncerty/Koncertní řady (Concerts/Concert Series)

— through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service

Seat Reservations for Existing Subscribers

The seats of subscribers from previous concert seasons are reserved for the new season until 31 May 2018.

BONUS PROGRAMME

By presenting a valid subscription ticket, you can get the following benefits:

— **Czech Philharmonic**, 20% discount for Czech Philharmonic and Czech Chamber Music Society concerts at the Rudolfinum

— **Galerie Rudolfinum**, 35% discount for all gallery exhibitions; galerierudolfinum.cz

— **Cafe Rudolfinum**, with your coffee, choose a FREE dessert from the daily offering (only on the day of the given subscription concert)

— **National Theatre**, 30% discount for performances presented by the National Theatre (for one subscription a maximum of two tickets to one performance)

— **Prague Philharmonic Choir**, tickets to all of the choir's own concerts at the discounted price of CZK 100

— **Dvořák Prague Festival**, 10% discount for concerts of the Dvořák Prague Festival (for one subscription a maximum of two tickets)

— **The Met: Live in HD**, CZK 50 discount off the full ticket price for The Met: Live in HD in the 2018/2019 season, redeemable at the cinemas Aero, Světozor, and Bio Oko in Prague (buy up to two discounted tickets for one performance; the number of performances is unlimited; see the performance schedule at www.metopera.cz)

— **e-Harmonie**, with each purchased subscription, get a free access code for a quarterly subscription to the Czech music journal e-Harmonie

— **CDs at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum**, 10% discount (on the Supraphon and Decca Classic labels)

— **Parking in the Rudolfinum garage**, 1 hour free with a minimum of 2 hours during each subscription concert (vouchers on request at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum while supplies last – the number of vouchers is limited, and vouchers do not guarantee available parking spaces)

TICKETS TO INDIVIDUAL CONCERTS

Ticket sales for special, Advent, and non-subscription educational concerts for the 2018/2019 season begin on Monday, 09 April 2018 at 10 a.m.

Sales of individual tickets to concerts from 2018/2019 subscription series begin on Monday, 04 June 2018 at 10 a.m. Tickets can be purchased directly at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum or online at czechphilharmonic.cz.

Ticket reservations can be made online at czechphilharmonic.cz in the section Koncerty/ Program (Concerts/Programme) or through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service.

Please contact Customer Service for group orders. Orders for admission to educational concerts for school groups are handled by the education department (phone: 227 059 222, edu@czechphilharmonic.cz).

Wheelchair places are also available online, but these are only spaces for a wheelchair, not seats.

TICKETS TO PUBLIC DRESS REHEARSALS

Public dress rehearsals are intended both for individuals and for schools and organised groups. Customer Service accepts bulk orders (min. 10, max. 40 persons) continuously from the distribution of order forms during March until no available seating remains. Seats will be assigned in the order in which orders are received.

If you have submitted a group order for a dress rehearsal during the 2017/2018 concert season, an order confirmation will automatically be sent during March to the contact address you provided. Otherwise, please contact Czech Philharmonic Customer Service. Advance sales of tickets to individuals **for all public dress rehearsals for the entire 2018/2019** season will begin on Monday, 17 September 2018 at 10 a.m. both at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum and online at czechphilharmonic.cz in the section Koncerty/ Program (Concerts/Programme). Earlier orders will not be honoured. PLEASE GIVE PREFERENCE TO PURCHASING TICKETS ONLINE RATHER THAN GOING TO THE TICKET OFFICE. Reservations are handled by Czech Philharmonic Customer Service and **only by e-mail: info@czechphilharmonic.cz**. For reasons of capacity, telephone reservations are not possible. In view of the great amount of interest, advance sales are limited to **a maximum of four tickets per person** for a particular public dress rehearsal.

Tickets that are not picked up will always be sold on the 15th day of the month preceding the dress rehearsal in question, beginning at 10 a.m.

EXCHANGING AND RETURNING TICKETS

Purchased tickets cannot be returned for a refund. You may exchange tickets for tickets of an equal or greater value, but no later than 15 days before the concert. A handling fee of CZK 50 will be charged for the exchange of each ticket. E-tickets purchased on line cannot be exchanged or returned.

More information is found in the general terms and conditions available at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum or on line at czechphilharmonic.cz.

GIFT VOUCHERS

Would you like to give someone a ticket to a Czech Philharmonic concert, but you can't decide which one to choose? Give them a gift voucher worth CZK 500 or 1,000 that is valid until 30 June 2019. Gift vouchers can be purchased at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office in the Rudolfinum, or they can be ordered through Czech Philharmonic Customer Service with payment by wire transfer. None of the discounts are applicable to the purchase of gift vouchers. Gift vouchers can be used to purchase tickets to concerts of the Czech Philharmonic or the Czech Chamber Music Society of equal or greater value (with payment of the balance) than the value of the gift certificate either at the Czech Philharmonic ticket office or online at czechphilharmonic.cz.

DISCOUNTS

Czech Philharmonic subscribers
– 20% discount on the purchase of individual tickets to concerts presented by the Czech Philharmonic and the Czech Chamber Music Society.

Disabled with ZTP or ZTP/P IDs
– 50% discount on the purchase of individual tickets and subscriptions to concerts presented by the Czech Philharmonic and the Czech Chamber Music Society except for the subscription series Tuning Together. The same conditions also apply for the person accompanying a ZTP/P cardholder. The discount does not apply to standing room or to seating in front of the organ (empora).

Students up to age 26 and children up to age 15 – 50% discount on the purchase of individual tickets to concerts of the Czech Philharmonic and the Czech Chamber Music Society. The student discount does not apply to educational concerts except for An Orchestra Rehearsal, evening presentations of Four Steps to the New World, and the special educational concerts on 08 April 2019 and 16 June 2019. The discount does not apply to standing room at any concerts.

Seniors over age 65 – 50% discount on the purchase of individual tickets to the following concerts presented by the Czech Philharmonic: Advent concerts, special concerts, and public dress rehearsals of the Czech Philharmonic. The discount does not apply to subscription series concerts, including concerts of the Czech Chamber Music Society or to Educational Programmes except for An Orchestra Rehearsal, evening presentations of Four Steps to the New World, and the special educational concerts on 08 April 2019 and 16 June 2019. The discount does not apply to standing room or to seating in front of the organ (empora).

Czech Radio Vltava Club
20% discount for club members to concerts presented by the Czech Philharmonic at the Rudolfinum.

Česká spořitelna
10% discount on the purchase of individual tickets and 5% discount on subscription purchases for Česká spořitelny clients and employees except for the subscription series Tuning Together (upon presenting a ČS payment card or employee ID).

Limitations

— Discounts cannot be combined.

— Discounts will be honoured upon presentation of valid documentation proving entitlement to the discount.

— Discounts do not apply to selected special concerts and concerts presented by external organisers.

— Discounts do not apply to gift voucher purchases.

For a complete, up-to-date overview of discounts and their conditions for the 2018/2019 season, contact Czech Philharmonic Customer Service or visit the orchestra's website at czechphilharmonic.cz.

Transportation and Access to the Rudolfinum

Metro: line A, station: Staroměstská
Tram: nos. 2, 17, 18, stop: Staroměstská
Bus: nos. 207, 194, stop: Staroměstská
Individual transportation: parking is available in underground garages on the square náměstí Jana Palacha,
phone: +420 222 328 687 (the garages are not part of the Rudolfinum building).

The Rudolfinum opens one hour before the concert begins and for Preludes to evening subscription concerts at 6 p.m.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE, ACCESS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Wheelchair seating is available at the ends of the first row of the parterre in the Dvořák Hall and the Suk Hall.

Handicapped access (elevator) to the Dvořák Hall is located by the ticket office (from the street 17. listopadu). It is always open one hour before a concert and before Preludes to evening subscription concerts at 6 p.m.. An indoor staircase with a rail also leads from the area of the ticket office. There is also access to the elevator from the underground garage. For handicapped access to the Suk Hall, use the personnel entrance from the street Alšovo nábřeží (beside the entrance to the Rudolfinum Gallery). The visually impaired are permitted to enter the hall with a guide dog. In case of difficulties with exiting by the staircase to the balcony, please ask our personnel for assistance.

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INTRODUCING

Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic

In the Czech Republic, we are more accustomed to making donations to charitable projects, but it turns out that even established cultural institutions fostering Czech excellence need some support, which comes not only from the state and corporate donors, but also from private patrons. We are very pleased that following the example of the leading foreign orchestras, the first patrons have now come forward to support the Czech Philharmonic.

We are delighted with the developing Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic, which was founded at the start of the orchestra's 121st season as a community of lovers, friends, and supporters of music who want to take part in the further development of the Czech national orchestra both from an intellectual and a material standpoint. The club does not aspire to be elitist. To the contrary, it is an outgrowth of the conception of the Czech Philharmonic as a national treasure, and it values every contribution regardless of the amount.

Funds collected from private donors help with development of the following areas:

— keeping programme quality at a world-class level

— supporting the rising generations of promising artists

— purchasing and financing rare musical instruments

— recording the Czech classics and major works of the world's musical literature on prestigious record labels

— expanding the repertoire to include not only the worldwide repertoire, but also the works of young composers, because we are aware of our indispensible role in promoting contemporary music and in educating audiences

— developing educational programmes that we understand not only as an investment in the future concert public, but also as an opportunity for the younger generation to participate in our cultural heritage and to develop its cultural awareness

— tours to prestigious concert halls connected with the promotion of Czech music

— live broadcasts of concerts and educational programmes

— care for the orchestra's home, the Rudolfinum.

The Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic has four membership levels named after musical terms indicating varying degrees of loudness of music – *piano, mezzoforte, forte, and fortissimo* – representing levels of provided support and member benefits.

For more information and a description of the individual membership categories, visit our website: www.czechphilharmonic.cz

If you are interested in joining the Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmoni, please contact us by telephone: +420 778 750 057 or by e-mail: klub@ceskafilharmonie.cz

"When I read about the founding of the Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic, I was very pleased. Finally, here was an opportunity to express my personal appreciation of this amazing institution and to repay at least a bit of the debt I owe for the joy the orchestra has given me over the years. It is moving to recall the great many beautiful experiences and the long series of happy moments that have accompanied me during the better and worse periods of my life. Especially during difficult times, the concerts have been moments when all of my troubles receded into the background.

There are not many countries where culture and the arts are such a powerful bond of identification as is the case here in the Czech Republic. This can be seen in the changing times of the nation's history, in which culture has played a major role many times, and this is indicative of the quality of the culture, which stands out in international comparisons. Especially in contacts with foreign lands, Czech music has always represented a kind of go-between, with the aid of which mutual understanding has always been possible.

I know that everyone needs visions and ideals, and everyone desires to be associated with something more important than him- or herself. The Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic offers me the opportunity of taking part in something of the kind."

Marcela Ullmannová
Dynamic Club member

Partners of the Czech Philharmonic

We greatly appreciate everyone who has chosen to support music and the arts in general, and our joy is all the greater over those who support the Czech Philharmonic.

The orchestra is entering its 123rd concert season with a number of surprises: new concert series C and K and projects to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia, which we are preparing together with our partners. We extend our sincere thanks to all of our partners who recognise that the Czech Philharmonic is also at home among the exceptional musical ensembles of the world. We are grateful to our General Partner, the bank Česká spořitelna, and to our Traditional Partner, Škoda auto. Our cooperation with both brands continues to deepen. Together with our General Partner, we are preparing an unorthodox audiovisual installation titled Má vlast (My Country), which you will be able to encounter not only in Prague, but also in other Czech cities. We also with to thank J&T Bank for supporting the concertmaster Josef Špaček, Mr. Tom Schrecker for supporting the cello concertmaster Václav Petr, the Arthouse Hejtmánek auction house for supporting the associate concertmaster Irena Jakubcová, and Ms. Ivana Juráňová for supporting our collaboration with Semyon Bychkov. We welcome the new partners that have joined our ranks: the companies FINEP and Arcona Capital Czech Republic, which have decided to share in our successes and become a part of the Czech Philharmonic family. We are grateful to the new members of the Dynamic Club of the Czech Philharmonic – there are now nearly forty of them.

Thanks to your support, we can invite the top conductors and soloists to collaborate with us. Many of you have decided to support our work with young talents. We owe a debt of thanks to the companies PPF and J&T, which have lent our musicians rare string instruments that stand out for the beauty of their sound. Together with the AGROFERT Foundation, we have launched the project Music for Schools with the goal of creating new teaching materials for pupils at elementary and secondary schools, and we greatly appreciate this support as well. Thanks to our General Media Partner Czech Television, a number of unique recordings of our concerts will be made to preserve the atmosphere of evenings in Dvořák Hall for future generations. In particular, the Chief Media Partner, the company MAFRA, and also Czech Radio and our media partners in the musical press support the reputation of the Czech Philharmonic and the dissemination of information about its events. Those partners are also deserving of our thanks.

Management of the Czech Philharmonic

Dear Music Fans,

I'm very pleased that the connection between the bank Česká spořitelna and the Czech Philharmonic is growing firmer each season. Last season, we crowned our closer cooperation and combined efforts with an attempt to bring music to new, mostly young listeners with the unique multimedia travelling project *Má vlast* (My Country). Therefore, along with you I am looking forward not only to the evening concerts at the historic Rudolfinum, but also to the other daring artistic events that the 123rd season has to offer.

I hope your musical experiences bring you inspiration.

Tomáš Salomon
Chairman of the Board of Directors of Česká spořitelna

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Established by the Ministry of Culture
of the Czech Republic
Company ID: 00023264

2018/2019 Programme Catalogue
published by the Czech Philharmonic

Concept and graphic design
Marek Pistora / Studio Najbrt

Photography
Marco Borggreve, Petra Hajská, Petr Kadlec,
Umberto Nicoletti, Pavel Hejný
photographic archives of the Czech Philharmonic

Typesetting / DTP
Aleš Münzberger / Studio Najbrt

Translation
Mark Newkirk

Editor
Hana Boldišová

Printing
Minimax Studio

We reserve the right to change the programmes and performers.

The making of audio and video recordings without the permission of the Czech Philharmonic is forbidden at all concerts.

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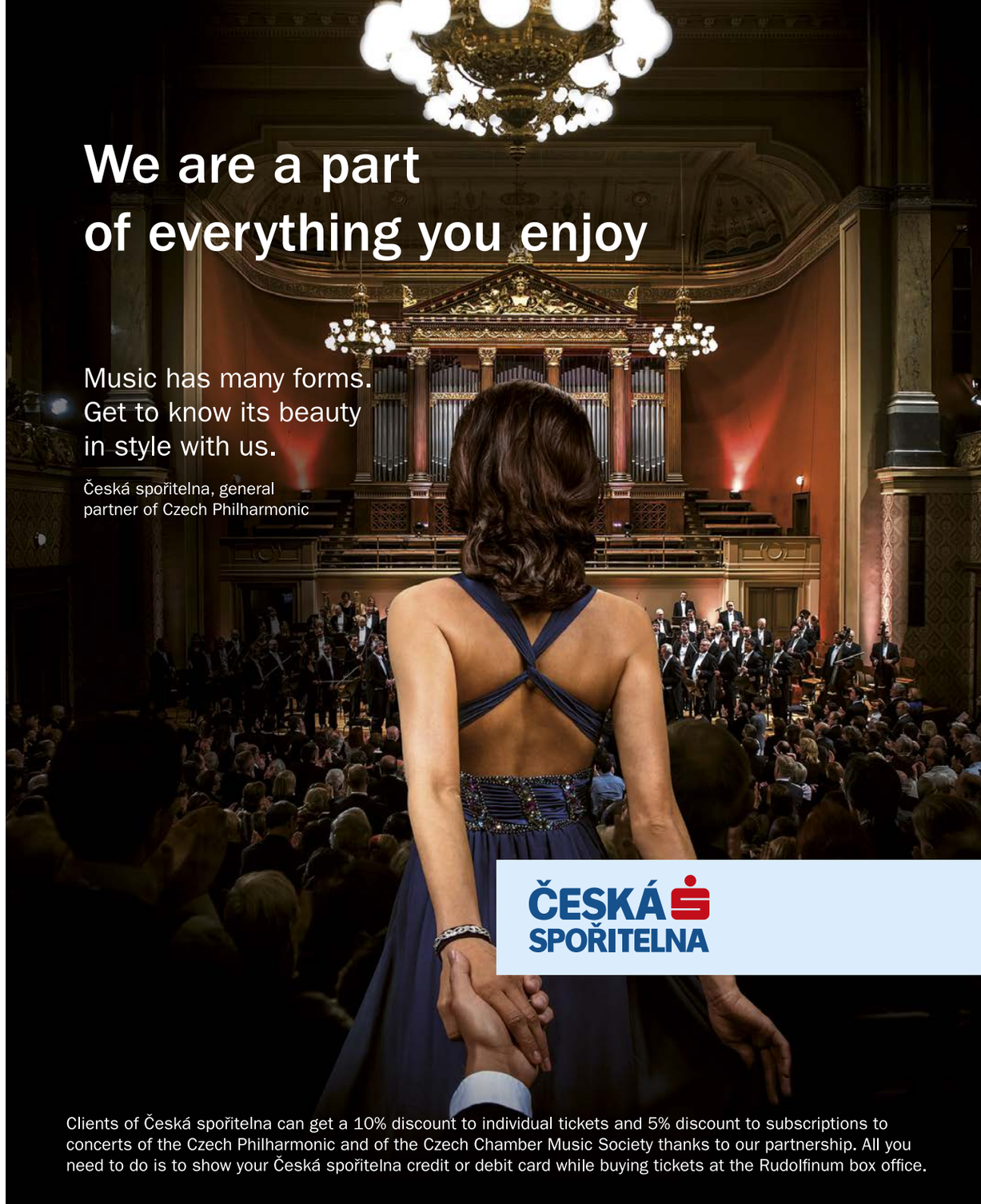

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Violoncello purchased by PPF Group for the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra,
Jean-Baptist Vuillaume, 1844.

THANKS TO HARMONY.

What you can imagine will become a reality. And the fact that you cannot see some things does not mean that they do not exist. For example opportunities. You can just change the perspective and create new possibilities. Or you can talk to someone who is able to look at things differently. We have been investing in our visions for 20 years and supporting others in their dreams. Whether clients or musicians. And we learn from them how to improve harmony or create a new opportunity.

Thanks to clients. Thanks to the revenues.

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Patrik HÁBL: CHINESE LANDSCAPE I, 2013, 370×212 cm

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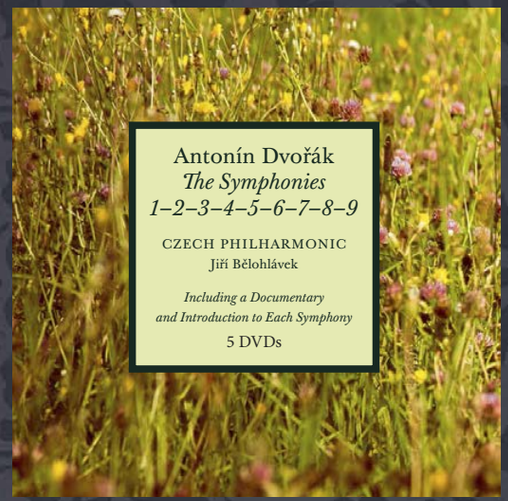
RUDOLFINUM GUIDED TOURS

Would you like a behind-the-scenes look at the building and learn something about its history and about its present-day operations?

Come on a pilgrimage through the Rudolfinum with an employee of the Czech Philharmonic as your guide.

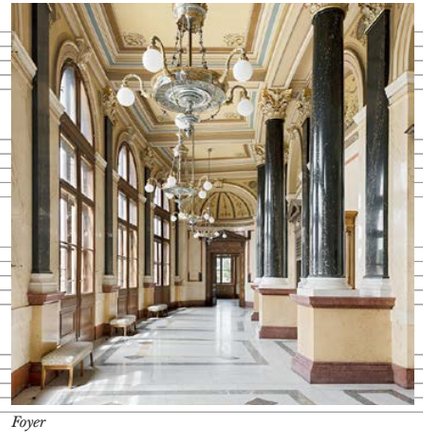
A tour needs to be booked beforehand by e-mail: info@czechphilharmonic.cz or over the phone: +420 778 468 023



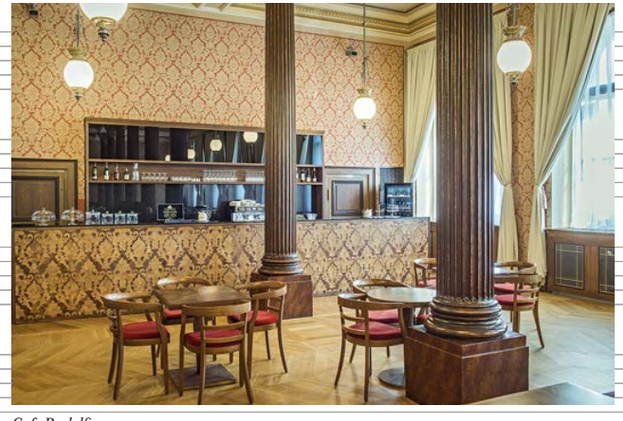
Czech Philharmonic

Dvořák Hall

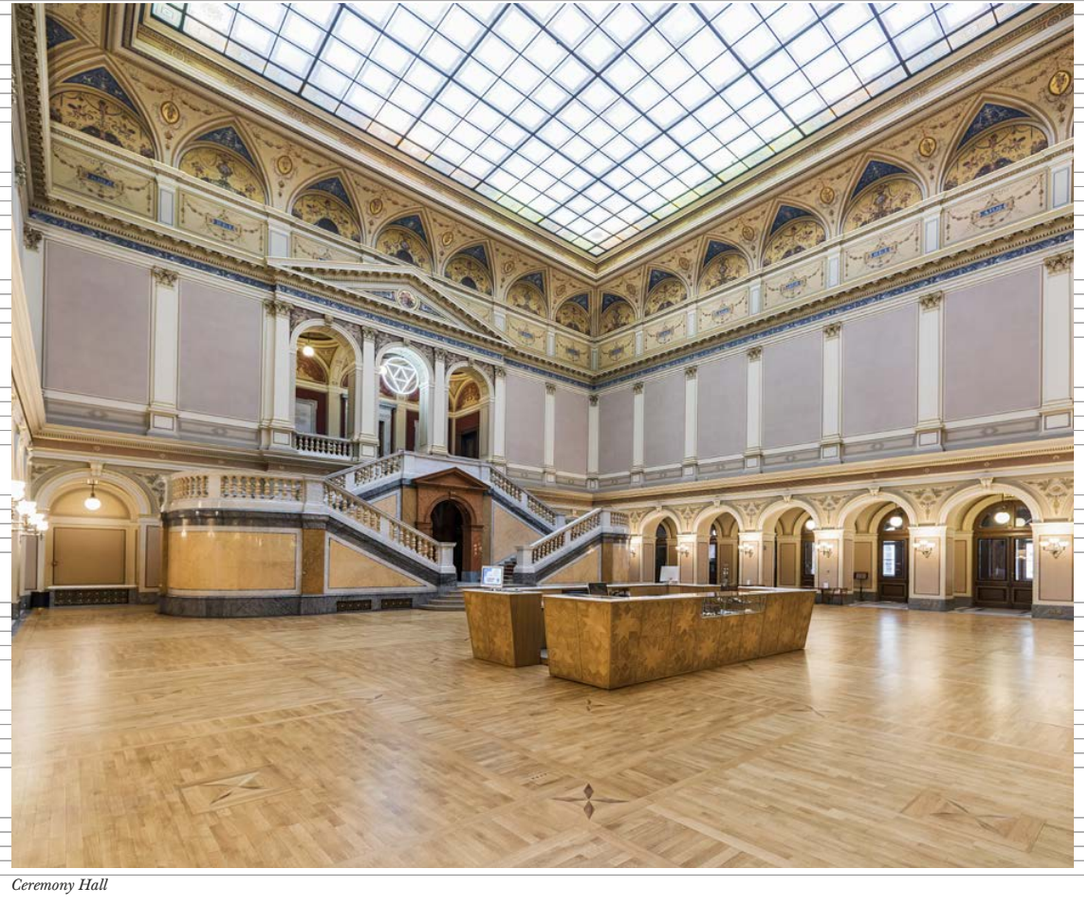
Presidential Lounge



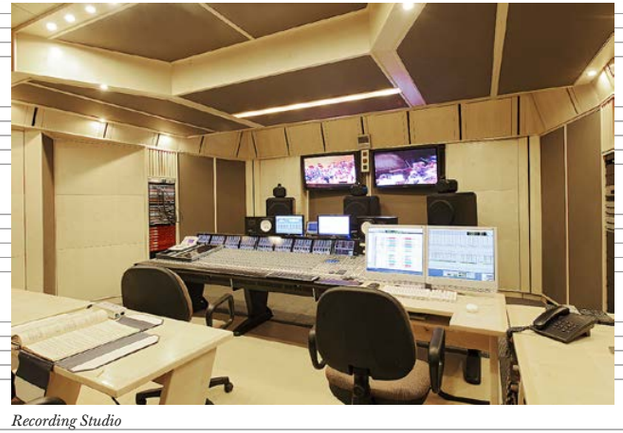
Foyer



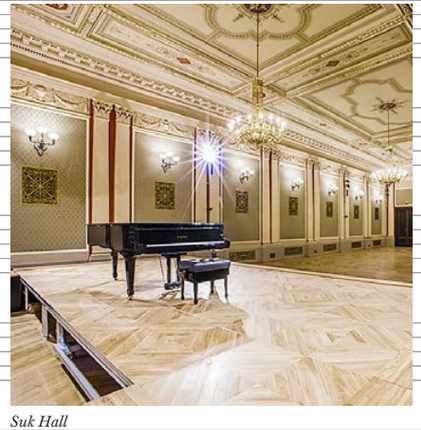
Cafe Rudolfinum



Ceremony Hall



Recording Studio



Suk Hall

RUDOLFINUM

Rudolfinum interiors
Ideal for organising various social functions or private gatherings

Cafe Rudolfinum
Open from Tuesday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Entrance from the Rudolfinum Gallery

Recording Studio
State-of- the-art technology offers recording, editing, mixing, mastering and more

RUDOLFINUM.CZ

30 Sept. 2018	**James MacMillan, Lisa Robertson, Bohuslav Martinů, Josef Suk, Miloslav Kabeláč Jana Brožková** *oboe,* **Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, Jiří Rožeň** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
03 Oct. 2018	**CONCERT FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA Bedřich Smetana, Bohuslav Martinů, Antonín Dvořák Ivo Kahánek** *piano,* **Michael Kroutil** *timpani,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
10 Oct. 2018 11 Oct. 2018	**OPENING CONCERT OF THE SEASON Gustav Mahler Christiane Karg** *soprano,* **Elisabeth Kulman** *mezzo-soprano,* **Prague Philharmonic Choir, Lukáš Vasilek** *choirmaster,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
12 Oct. 2018	**Gustav Mahler Christiane Karg** *soprano,* **Elisabeth Kulman** *mezzo-soprano,* **Prague Philharmonic Choir, Lukáš Vasilek** *choirmaster,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Bratislava, SK
17 Oct. 2018 18 Oct. 2018 19 Oct. 2018	**Luciano Berio, Antonín Dvořák London Voices, Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
24 Oct. 2018	**Bedřich Smetana, Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	London, UK
27 Oct. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	New York, NY
28 Oct. 2018	**Gustav Mahler Christiane Karg** *soprano,* **Elisabeth Kulman** *mezzo-soprano,* **Prague Philharmonic Choir, Lukáš Vasilek** *choirmaster,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	New York, NY
29 Oct. 2018	**Luboš Fišer, Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Washington, D.C.
30 Oct. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	East Lansing, MI
01 Nov. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Ann Arbor, MI
02 Nov. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Champaign, IL
03 Nov. 2018	**THE LABEQUE SISTERS – A RENDEZ VOUS FOR FOUR HANDS George Gershwin, Philip Glass, Leonard Bernstein Katia a Marielle Labèque** *pianos,* **Petr Kadlec** *guide*	Prague, CZ
04 Nov. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Chicago, IL
07 Nov. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Costa Mesa, CA
08 Nov. 2018	**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Antonín Dvořák Kirill Gerstein** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Costa Mesa, CA
10 Nov. 2018	**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Antonín Dvořák Kirill Gerstein** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Stanford, CA
11 Nov. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák Alisa Weilerstein** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	San Francisco, CA
12 Nov. 2018	**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Kirill Gerstein** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Davis, CA
18 Nov. 2018	**PENGUINS AT THE RUDOLFINUM Vojtěch Jouza** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
24 Nov. 2018	**Luboš Fišer, Bedřich Smetana, Camille Saint-Saëns, Antonín Dvořák Gautier Capuçon** *cello,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Vienna, AT

26 Nov. 2018 27 Nov. 2018	**Gustav Mahler Christiane Karg** *soprano,* **Elisabeth Kulman** *mezzo-soprano,* **Prague Philharmonic Choir, Lukáš Vasilek** *choirmaster,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Vienna, AT
01 Dec. 2018	**BETHLEHEM AT THE RUDOLFINUM Vojtěch Jouza** *conductor*	Vienna, AT
13 Dec. 2018 14 Dec. 2018 15 Dec. 2018	**Franz Schubert, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Joseph Haydn Giovanni Antonini** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
19 Dec. 2018 20 Dec. 2018 21 Dec. 2018	**Antonín Dvořák, Jiří Gemrot, Bohuslav Martinů, Arthur Honegger Frank Peter Zimmermann** *violin,* **Kateřina Kněžíková** *soprano,* **Jan Martiník** *bass,* **Prague Philharmonic Choir,** **Lukáš Vasilek** *choirmaster,* **Severáček (Liberec Children's Choir), Silvie Pálková** *choirmaster,* **Jakub Hrůša** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
22 Dec. 2018	**Johann Joachim Quantz, Pietro Antonio Locatelli, Johann David Heinichen, Johann Sebastian Bach, Arcangelo Corelli, Anton Fils, Pierre Gaviniès Simona Šaturová** *soprano,* **Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, Reinhard Goebel** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
31 Dec. 2018	**SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S EVE DRESS REHEARSAL**	Prague, CZ
01 Jan. 2019	**NEW YEAR'S CONCERT**	Prague, CZ
09 Jan. 2019 10 Jan. 2019 11 Jan. 2019	**Detlev Glanert, Igor Stravinsky, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Josef Špaček** *violin,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
17 Jan. 2019 18 Jan. 2019 19 Jan. 2019	**Arvo Pärt, Franz Schubert, Witold Lutosławski, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Nicola Proksch** *soprano,* **Marie Henriette Reinhold** *mezzo-soprano,* **Patrick Grahl** *tenor,* **Jan Martiník** *bass,* **Petr Štěpánek** *recitation,* **Prague Philharmonic Choir, Lukáš Vasilek** *choirmaster,* **Schola Gregoriana Pragensis, David Eben** *artistic director,* **Manfred Honeck** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
23 Jan. 2019 24 Jan. 2019 25 Jan. 2019	**Viktor Kalabis, Antonín Dvořák, Bohuslav Martinů Pierre-Laurent Aimard** *piano,* **Jakub Hrůša** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
01 Feb. 2019	**Sergei Rachmaninoff, Antonín Dvořák Jan Lisiecki** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Essen, DE
02 Feb. 2019	**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Antonín Dvořák Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Bruges, BE
04 Feb. 2019	**Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Jan Lisiecki** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Hamburg, DE
05 Feb. 2019	**Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Jan Lisiecki** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Frankfurt, DE
06 Feb. 2019	**Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Jan Lisiecki** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Düsseldorf, DE
07 Feb. 2019	**Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Jan Lisiecki** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Nuremberg, DE
08 Feb. 2019	**Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Jan Lisiecki** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Hannover, DE
13 Feb. 2019 14 Feb. 2019 15 Feb. 2019	**Leoš Janáček, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Franz Schubert Kirill Gerstein** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ

20 Feb. 2019 **21 Feb. 2019** **22 Feb. 2019**	**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky** **Kirill Gerstein** *piano,* **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
27 Feb. 2019 **28 Feb. 2019** **01 March 2019**	**Antonín Dvořák,** **Gustav Mahler** **Magdalena Kožená** *mezzo-soprano,* **Simon O'Neill** *tenor,* **Simon Rattle** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
14 March **15 March** **16 March 2019**	**Igor Stravinsky,** **Sergei Prokofiev,** **Joseph Haydn,** **Bohuslav Martinů** **Jiří Vodička** *violin,* **David Robertson** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
27 March **28 March** **29 March 2019**	**Esa-Pekka Salonen,** **Sergei Prokofiev** **Truls Mørk** *cello,* **Ben Gernon** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
30 March 2019	**ALIENS AT THE RUDOLFINUM** **Marko Ivanović** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
31 March 2019	**Richard Strauss,** **Charles Gounod** **Czech Philharmonic Winds,** **Ondřej Vrabec** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
03 April **04 April** **05 April 2019**	**Gustav Mahler** **Semyon Bychkov** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
11 April **12 April** **13 April 2019**	**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart,** **Ludwig van Beethoven,** **Joseph Haydn** **Nikolai Lugansky** *piano,* **Tomáš Netopil** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
24 April **25 April 2019**	**AN ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL** **Marek Eben** *moderator,* **Petr Altrichter** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
28 April 2019	**Ottorino Respighi, Giovanni Bottesini, Franz Schubert / arr. Gustav Mahler** **Uxía Martínez Botana** *double bass,* **Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra,** **Josef Špaček** *violin, artistic director of the project*	Prague, CZ
01 May 2019 **02 May 2019** **03 May 2019**	**Antonín Dvořák, Leoš Janáček, Johannes Brahms, Alexander Porfiryevich Borodin** **Petr Altrichter** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
08–23 May 2019	**CHINA TOUR** **Bedřich Smetana,** **Antonín Dvořák,** **Johannes Brahms** **Josef Špaček** *violin,* **Petr Altrichter** *conductor*	China (location to be confirmed)
05 June **06 June** **07 June 2019**	**Camille Saint-Saëns,** **Anton Bruckner** **Joshua Bell** *violin,* **Christoph Eschenbach** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
08 June 2019	**PIRATES IN THE RUDOLFINUM** **Marko Ivanović** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
13 June 2019	**Bedřich Smetana, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Antonín Dvořák, Leoš Janáček** **Josef Špaček** *violin,* **Jakub Hrůša** *conductor*	Litomyšl, CZ
14 June 2019	**Antonín Dvořák** **Kateřina Kněžíková** *soprano,* **Alena Kropáčková** *mezzo-soprano,* **Richard Samek** *tenor,* **Josef Benci** *bass,* **Czech Philharmonic Choir of Brno, Jakub Hrůša** *conductor*	Litomyšl, CZ
19 June 2019	**OPEN AIR CONCERT OF THE CZECH PHILHARMONIC**	Prague, CZ
26 June **27 June** **28 June 2019**	**Franz Schubert,** **Richard Strauss** **Franz Welser-Möst** *conductor*	Prague, CZ
05 July 2019	**Josef Mysliveček, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** **Leif Ove Andsnes** *piano,* **Thomas Dausgaard** *dirigent*	Bad Kissingen, GE
06 July 2019	**Antonín Dvořák** **Truls Mørk** *violoncello,* **Tomáš Netopil** *dirigent*	Bad Kissingen, GE