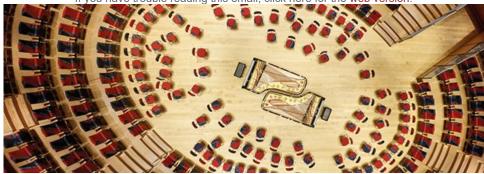
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Press Release | Berlin, December 21, 2020



Schubert Week with Thomas Hampson from January 18 to 24 Concerts, Workshops, Conversations, and Q&As live from the Pierre Boulez Saal

Thomas Hampson has once again invited renowned lied singers and the most promising talents of the younger generation, together with their piano partners, to dedicate an entire week to the world of the Schubert lied. Regardless of any as yet unknown pandemic-related restrictions, daily concerts, workshops, and conversations will be made available to listeners around the world as free live streams from January 18 to 24. There will be opportunities for the audience to interact with the artists in Q&A sessions following each concert. The digital format will also include extended behind-the-scenes content on the songs and poems as well as interviews with some of the artists. The 2021 Schubert Week is part of a multi-year project: each of Schubert's more than 600 songs is to be performed at least once at the Pierre Boulez Saal.

Baritone Thomas Hampson is one of the most respected musicians of our time and for more than three decades has appeared on all major stages and in the world's leading concert halls. Not only an acclaimed performer, he is also a passionate teacher and educator. In 2003 he established the Hampsong Foundation, which employs the art of song to promote intercultural dialogue and understanding. As in previous seasons, a two-day public workshop with students of the Lied Akademie of the Internationales Liedzentrum Heidelberg will be a central part of the Schubert Week. The young singers and pianists will present the results of their work in a concluding concert. To open the week, Hampson welcomes pianist Hartmut Höll and noted writer Friedrich Dieckmann for a conversation about Schubert and his time. Dieckmann has published books on Schubert, Schiller, Wagner, and Brecht as well as essays on the process of German reunification. Höll, who will also be heard in one of the Young Singers concerts, has been rector of the Karlruhe Musikhochschule since 2007.

Following her two appearances in the Young Singers series as part of past Schubert Weeks, Ema Nikolovska now returns to present an entire recital. The Canadian-Macedonian mezzo-soprano, who was named a BBC New Generation Artist in 2019, is joined by pianist Wolfram Rieger. Katharina Konradi makes her Pierre Boulez Saal debut in the week's final concert. Among other songs, the rising soprano—who made her Bayreuth Festival debut in 2019 and joined the ensemble of the Hamburg State Opera in the 2018–19 season—performs Schubert's Mignon Songs from Goethe's Wilhelm Meister, accompanied by her piano partner Eric Schneider. Swiss baritone Manuel Walser has appeared with the Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Dresden Staatskapelle, and at the Vienna Konzerthaus, among others. Joined by pianist Jonathan Ware, he is heard at the Pierre Boulez Saal for the first time as well. Thomas Hampson, together with his longtime collaborator Wolfram Rieger, contrasts Schubert's settings of Goethe, Seidl, and Heine with lesser-known works by some of the composers he drew inspiration from—and those who were inspired by him.

In cooperation with the Lied Akademie of the Internationales Liedzentrum Heidelberg and the Hampsong Foundation

Further information	
Schubert Week Wo	rkshop Digital Photo: © Peter Adamik
Thomas Hampson	Photo: © Jiyang Chen

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