

PRESS RELEASE

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STAATS OPER UNTER DEN LINDEN

Single tickets for Daniel Barenboim's FESTTAGE 2018 go on sale tomorrow! Returning to the Staatsoper Unter den Linden the 23rd FESTTAGE feature a new production of Verdi's »Falstaff«, a revival of Wagner's »Parsifal« and a concert program focusing on Mahler and Debussy

Single tickets for the 23rd FESTTAGE will be available as of tomorrow, **25th November from 10:00 am**. The festival under the artistic direction of **Daniel Barenboim** will take place from **24 March to 2 April 2018** returning to the Staatsoper Unter den Linden, where they were founded by Maestro Barenboim in 1996 and since then draw a large audience from all over the world to Berlin each year, as well as taking place in the Philharmonie Berlin. Five opera performances, two symphony concerts and a duo recital will be presented – all either conducted by Daniel Barenboim or featuring him as a piano soloist. The concert program presents the **Staatskapelle Berlin**, the **Wiener Philharmoniker** as guest orchestra as well as pianist **Martha Argerich**, singers **Anna Prohaska**, **Marianne Crebassa**, **Anna Lapkovskaja** and actress **Maria Furtwängler**. Tickets are available at www.staatsoper-berlin.de, by phone +49 (0)30 20 35 45 55 or e-mail tickets@staatsoper-berlin.de.

The **FESTTAGE premiere** on **25 March** will be a new production of Giuseppe Verdi's »Falstaff«, staged by Italian film and theatre director **Mario Martone** and with **Michael Volle** in the title role. The soloists further include **Simone Piazzola** (Ford), **Maria Agresta** (Mrs. Alice Ford), **Nadine Sierra** (Nannetta), **Francesco Demuro** (Fenton), **Daniela Barcellona** (Mrs. Quickly), **Katharina Kammerloher** (Mrs. Meg Page), **Jürgen Sacher** (Dr. Cajus), **Stephan Rügamer** (Bardolfo), and **Jan Martiník** (Pistola). Further performance dates: 28 March and 1 April. Richard Wagner's »Parsifal«, in the successful production by **Dmitri Tcherniakov**, will be performed again on 30 March and 2 April – among others with **Andreas Schager** in the title role, **Nina Stemme** as Kundry and **René Pape** as Gurnemanz. The Staatskapelle Berlin and the Staatsoperchor will appear in both opera productions.

The concert program focuses on Gustav Mahler and Claude Debussy, both pioneers of the modern era. The FESTTAGE will be opened on **24 March** by the **Wiener Philharmoniker** who are invited to Berlin for the fifth time running – this time they will be performing Mahler's Seventh Symphony. Marking the 100th anniversary of the death of Debussy, the **Staatskapelle Berlin** along with its Musical Director will dedicate a concert solely to the works of this composer (**29 March**). Next to his »Fantaisie« for piano and orchestra with Martha Argerich as a soloist, the program presents his monumental opus »Le Martyre de Saint Sébastien«, a 'Five-act mystery play' with a text written by Gabriele D'Annunzio. The ensemble features Anna Prohaska (soprano), Marianne Crebassa (mezzosoprano), Anna Lapkovskaja (alto) and Maria Furtwängler as the speaker as well as the Staatsoperchor.

On **31 March** the final FESTTAGE concert will be a **duo recital** dedicated to Debussy and performed by **Martha Argerich** and **Daniel Barenboim**. On this occasion his original piano compositions »Six épigraphes antiques«, »En blanc et noir«, »Lindaraja« and alternative versions of the orchestral works »Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune« and »La mer« for piano four-hands or for two pianos will be performed. The afternoon program will begin with Robert Schumann's »Six Studies in Canonic Form« op. 56, which Claude Debussy arranged for two pianos.