



Semperoper
Dresden

Semperoper Dresden: »Mozart Days 2022« with award ceremony for Omer Meir Wellber

PRESS RELEASE



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The Semperoper presents Mozart's Da Ponte Trilogy at Easter/ Omer Meir Wellber to receive the »Rudi Häussler Prize« as part of the »Mozart Days 2022«

Dresden, 12 April 2022. With its »Mozart Days 2022«, the Semperoper is celebrating Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Da Ponte operas with a diverse programme of events over the Easter weekend. Under the baton of Omer Meir Wellber, Principal Guest Conductor of the Semperoper Dresden, the three operas »Don Giovanni«, »Le nozze di Figaro« and »Così fan tutte« will be performed as part of a special programme exploring the Mozart-Da Ponte partnership.

Wellber has already thrilled Dresden audiences with his interpretations of Mozart operas, in particular at the Semperoper's »Mozart Days« of 2016/17, as well as his outstanding performances on the harpsichord, fortepiano or accordion. The Israeli artist's personal experiences and growing affection for Mozart's music have even found their way into the books of the world-renowned conductor, whose interpretation of »Madama Butterfly« in the new Semperoper production has been warmly praised by critics.

Not only Mozart fans will enjoy the performances at the »Mozart Days 2022« by the Staatskapelle and a brilliant roster of singers, some of whom will be making their house and/or role debuts in the coming season. For example, bass-baritone Erwin Schrott will appear for the first time in the Semperoper's operatic programme.

The festival programme will feature a Matinee entitled »The man at my side – the adventurous life of Lorenzo Da Ponte« with arias and ensembles from operas by Mozart's contemporaries Antonio Salieri and Vicente Martín y Soler using texts by Lorenzo Da Ponte. The concert will be performed by members of the Semperoper ensemble. And our theoretical knowledge of the successful writing team Mozart/Da Ponte will be deepened by a lecture given by the Director of the Musicological Institute of Zurich University, Prof. Laurenz Lütteken, on »Enlightenment in Vienna. Mozart, Da Ponte and their times« as well as a symposium with Omer Meir Wellber, Semperoper ensemble member Lawson Anderson and the cultural editor of the *Münchener Abendzeitung*, Robert Braunmüller.

At the performance of »Don Giovanni« on 15 April 2022, Omer Meir Wellber – who continues to hold the title of Principal Guest Conductor of the Semperoper until the end of the 2021/22 season – will be awarded the Semperoper Foundation Prize in recognition of his artistic achievements and his close ties to Dresden's opera house.

In 2020, the Semperoper Foundation honoured the artist with its annual »Rudi Häussler Prize«, which is endowed with 10,000 euros. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, however, the award ceremony could not take place as planned during the opera gala. The Foundation, under its chairman, Prof. Rüdiger Grube, will now use the Semperoper's »Mozart Days 2022« as a suitable occasion to present this accolade to Omer Meir Wellber.

The programme of the **»Mozart Days 2022«** features the following operas:

»Don Giovanni« at 6 pm on 15 April 2022

Staging: Andreas Kriegenburg

With Anita Hartig, Tuuli Takala, Anke Voldung, Lawson Anderson, Lucas Meachem, Joel Prieto, Til-mann Rönnebeck and Erwin Schrott

»Le nozze di Figaro/ The Marriage of Figaro« at 7 pm on 16 April 2022

Staging: Johannes Erath

With Peter Mattei, Hila Baggio, Michal Doron, Katharina Flade, Julia Kleiter, Christiane Neumann, Stepanka Pucalkova, Mariya Taniguchi, Simeon Esper, Rupert Grössinger, Omar Montanari, Timothy Oliver and Erwin Schrott

»Così fan tutte« at 5 pm on 17 April 2022

Staging: Andreas Kriegenburg

With Heidi Stober, Cecilia Molinari, Katerina von Benningen, Ioan Hotea, Mario Cassi and Omar Montanari

The State Opera Chorus and the Staatskapelle Dresden will be directed by Omer Meir Wellber, Principal Guest Conductor of the Semperoper.

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All performances are made possible by *Medizinisches Labor Ostsachsen MVZ GbR*, the health partner of Saxon State Theatres.

The complete programme of the »Mozart Days 2022« can be found at semperoper.de/mozarttage-2022.

Tickets for all performances can be booked online or from our daytime box office in the Schinkelwache on Theaterplatz (T +49 (0)351 4911 705). For more details, please visit our website: semperoper.de.

Requests for review tickets (indicating the editorial assignment and expected publication dates) should be sent to: presse@semperoper.de.

Press material is available for download from our password-protected press pages at semperoper.de/press.

Semperoper Dresden

susanne.springer@semperoper.de, T +49 (0)351 4911 251 (Head of Communications and Marketing)

oliver.bernaud@semperoper.de, T +49 (0)351 4911 336 (Press Officer)

semperoper.de