

## **PRESS KIT**

**for the Opening Press Conference of the 2023 HANDEL FESTIVAL**

**Music in authentic venues  
in the city of George Frideric Handel's birth  
Halle an der Saale**

**Friday, 26 May 2023, 2pm  
in the Chamber Music Hall of Handel House**

### **Participants**

**Egbert Geier**, Mayor of the City of Halle an der Saale

**Dr. Sebastian Putz**, State Secretary for Culture of the State of Saxony-Anhalt, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Handel House Foundation

**Walter Sutcliffe**, Artistic Director of Halle Opera

**Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hirschmann**, Professor of Historical Musicology at Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg & President of the Georg-Friedrich-Händel-Gesellschaft e.V.

**Dr Bernd Feuchtner**, Interim Director of the Handel Festival until 2025

### **Presentation of the interim director**

**Dr. Judith Marquardt**, Councillor of the City of Halle - Culture and Sport & Member of the Board of Trustees of the Handel House Foundation

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**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## **Inserts:**

Press release by Lotto-Toto GmbH Sachsen-Anhalt

Press release by Stadtwerke Halle GmbH

Accreditation formular

## **Welcoming address by Dr. Sebastian Putz**

State Secretary for Culture and Vice-President of the Handel House  
Foundation Board of Trustees

I wish you a warm welcome to this year's Handel Festival. After the anniversary year of 2022 a new century is beginning for this tradition-steeped festival, which celebrates the music and legacy of the famous Baroque composer, George Frideric Handel.

Disputes can be a source of creative power, as the musical locking of horns between Handel and the Italian composer, Giovanni Bononcini, once proved. Over several seasons, the two rivals at the King's Theatre spurred one another to peak performance, each surpassing the other in their composing. The English man of letters John Byrom immortalised this contest: "Strange all this Difference should be / 'Twixt Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee". The music-loving London audiences were delighted with the resulting masterpieces, and centuries later we can be too.

Few composers have influenced their time and posterity as decisively as Handel. Musically, he was a master of all the current genres of his time. To this day, his operas, oratorios and numerous sacred and secular works still form part of the repertoire of the major concert venues.

One of the most appropriate places for performances of works by the cosmopolitan Handel is without any doubt the city of his birth, Halle. Every year, thousands of music-lovers from all over the world come here to enjoy his works in original venues. This year, the main programme is complemented by numerous accompanying events at several venues around the city. I warmly invite you to take this opportunity to discover the fascinating world of Baroque music.

But my thanks are due to the festival's patrons, sponsors and partners. I wish the 2023 Handel Festival every success and a fantastic response.

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## **Welcoming address by Egbert Geier**

Mayor of the City of Halle an der Saale

This year, Saxony-Anhalt's greatest music festival has an original and, at first glance, cryptic title. *Opera: Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee* refers to an epigram by the poet John Byrom: with the terms "tweedle-dum" and "tweedle-dee", this contemporary of George Frideric Handel's was satirising the question of whether Handel or his rival, Giovanni Bononcini, was the greater composer. Admittedly, history has provided the unambiguous answer. But those who know the organisers of the Handel Festival by now will also realise that starting from this historical quarrel, illuminating connections with the present are certainly going to be made.

And with regard to the present, we can also say that today's conflicts have incomparably greater repercussions. Indeed, this year's Handel Festival is taking place in very troubled times. Covid seems to have been overcome, but we find ourselves confronted with new crises. It is – sadly – more than probable that attendance of any of the festival concerts will fall in a period when war continues to rage on European soil.

Yet precisely at times like these, culture – and consequently music – is an expression of intellectual freedom. It is a no less legitimate means of uplifting the spirit; a way of enjoying carefree moments in dark times. In this respect, visitors to this year's festival once again are spoiled for choice: 70 main events including six operas and no fewer than 35 concerts feature on the programme. For seventeen days, the city of Halle an der Saale will be a meeting point for international stars of Baroque music.

And so I wish all of you, inhabitants of Halle and visitors alike, a harmonious, exhilarating and inspiring festival time. Welcome!

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## **2023 Handel Festival – Opera: *Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee* from 26 May to 11 June 2023**

From 26 May to 11 June 2023 in the city of George Frideric Handel's birth, the Handel Festival will be celebrating every facet of Baroque music with a sparkling array of events ranging from grand opera, solemn oratorios and prestigious gala concerts through to cross-genre formats. The title of the 2023 Handel Festival is *Opera: Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee*. And this is reflected in the programme, which includes a total of six opera productions.

The festival will open with a new production of the opera *Serse* (HWV 40), which begins with Handel's famous first aria, *Ombra mai fu*. Numerous other operas, oratorios and concerts will make this 17-day festival a highpoint for early music fans. Enriching the festival programme are numerous events featuring other genres of music and new concert formats that call musical boundaries into question and take visitors on musical voyages of discovery. Following the anniversary year of 2022, which celebrated "100 Years of the Handel Festival in Halle", numerous well-known stars of the Baroque scene, including quite a few past Handel Prize laureates, will be tuning up for the start of a new century of the Handel Festival.

During the festival, this year's Handel Prize will be awarded to the mezzo-soprano Anna Bonitatibus, who has performed the great classics of concert and opera repertoire with unflagging passion for some 30 years. Born in southern Italy, the singer has been regarded as an outstanding interpreter of Baroque opera and of Handel's music in particular since her first recording of Vivaldi's opera *La Griselda* in 1992.

Advance ticket sales for all the festival events will start on 29 November 2022.

With 70 main events and numerous accompanying events in 17 venues in and around Halle, the tradition-steeped Handel Festival once again guarantees an excellent and varied programme in 2023.

For example, awaiting audiences are yet another new operatic production, *Alessandro Severo* (HWV A13), a pasticcio put together by Handel and, with the late version of *Rinaldo* (HWV 7b), an opera that was a huge success for Handel in London in 1711 and 1731 – both will be performed in the historic Goethe Theatre in Bad Lauchstädt. The opera *Orlando* (HWV 31), a reprise from the 2022 Handel Festival directed by Halle Opera's artistic director, the British-born Walter Sutcliffe, as well as the concert performance of the opera *Lotario* (HWV26) will take place at Halle Opera, while Handel's *Giulio Cesare in Egitto* (HWV 17) can be seen at Leipzig Opera.

Internationally renowned stars of Baroque music can also be heard in the 2023 gala concerts. Just a selection of them shows the prestigious range: from the soprano voices of Anna Prohaska, Julia Lezhneva and Veronica Cangemi to the mezzo-sopranos Anna Bonitatibus and Laila Salome Fischer; from the countertenors Raffaele Pe, Jakub Józef Orliński and Xavier Sabata to tenor Julian Prégardien and baritone Sergio Foresti – at the Handel Festival every register is represented by masters of their art. On the conductor's podium, audiences will have the chance to see internationally known experts of Baroque music, including Jana Semerádová, Alessandro di Marchi,

**Media contact:**Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

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Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416

Email:

[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

Federico Maria Sardelli, Attilio Cremonesi, Rubén Dubrovsky and Handel Prize laureates Wolfgang Katschner and Andrea Marcon.

Visitors are guaranteed a truly Baroque experience thanks to the historically informed performance practice of renowned period instrument ensembles who will be accompanying both well-known and rising musicians in Halle. The Handel Festival's international network of contacts has spawned numerous joint productions, such as that with the Innsbruck Festival of Early Music: *Il Messia* is the spectacular new production of a virtually unknown Italian version of Handel's famous oratorio. Further joint productions include ones with Collegium Marianum from Prague, the London Handel Festival, the Klangvokal Music Festival from Dortmund and our friends from the Göttingen International Handel Festival. Besides the Handel Festival Orchestra and Staatskapelle Halle, other renowned ensembles from all over Europe will be guests at the 2023 Handel Festival, including Modo Antiquo from Florence, the Brussels-based New Baroque Times, the {oh!} Orkiestra Historyczna from Katowice, Capella Cracoviensis from Cracow, and the German ensembles Concerto Köln and Lautten Compagney from Berlin.

Another central theme in next year's programme will again be the interaction between early music and musical genres beyond Baroque. This kind of bridge-building between genres is already evident in the very name of the popular symphonic rock concert, *Bridges to Classics*, in which Staatskapelle Halle meets a famous star guest from rock music. Other artistic border-crossings include an encounter between Baroque and jazz music and, part of the programme since 2018, the Poetry Slam.

In 2023 the City of Halle Handel Prize awarded by the Handel House Foundation will go to the Italian mezzo-soprano **Anna Bonitatibus**. With this award, the Handel House Foundation Board of Trustees will be honouring the boundless enthusiasm with which she has interpreted Handel's music for many years and her passionate commitment that has led to the performance of even less well-known works.

The 2023 International Academic Conference is entitled *The Politics of Opera – Handel's Opera Academies 1719–1737*. This will discuss the politico-cultural and social negotiating processes at every level of Handel's London operatic productions.

The annual exhibition *Fireworks and Halle-lujah – 100 Years of the Handel Festival in Halle*, which opened on 23 February 2022 under the patronage of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, looks back at the eventful history of the Handel Festival in Halle, of which, even back in 1922, the Fireworks Music and the Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah* were an obligatory part. The centenary exhibition continues in 2023, during which the miniature opera theatre featuring the opera *Orlando*, the two new productions in the Handel Junior film series and children's audio play can still be enjoyed. A new feature, however, starting on Handel's birthday on 23 February, will be a special display of educational content from the museum in the two top-floor rooms of Handel House.

Artistic Director Clemens Birnbaum is looking forward to the festival: "The 2023 festival programme is a seamless continuation of the magnificent anniversary festival.



In it, we've set Handel's music theatre works at the forefront. We want to remind people that the composer had repeated difficulties in London and was forced to act to ensure that his Italian operas were well-received by the audiences. After the Covid pandemic and in view of the economic and energy crisis, opera houses, theatres and not least international festivals are also facing huge challenges. Despite this, the Handel Festival can look ahead with confidence thanks to the support of the City of Halle, the State of Saxony-Anhalt and the federal government, as well as that of private patrons and sponsors. By way of example I would like to mention in particular Lotto Sachsen-Anhalt, Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung and Saalesparkasse."

**Media contact:**

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Press and PR Work Officer

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The mayor, Egbert Geier, is looking keenly ahead to the festival: "*Opera: Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee* – the title of the 2023 festival is fun, informal and bold and should attract more than just the usual opera lovers to the performances. It holds excitement, promises the unexpected and should inspire new visitors to approach Handel's music. I am firmly convinced that a year after the successful anniversary festival, we will once again be doing honour to 'our' Handel with one of the greatest music festivals in the country and thrilling visitors from all over the world."

Dr. Jürgen Fox, Chairman of the Saalesparkasse Executive Board, underscores this: "The Handel Festival marks the highpoint of the region's cultural year and each time round enthuses a highly interested audience. We are delighted to be able to pursue our longstanding partnership again this year and, together with Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung, to go on actively contributing to the success of the Halle Handel Festival."

## **New: New features and visitor information**

The 2023 Handel Festival **Visitors' Office** in Handel House is open daily from 24 May to 11 June, from 10am to 6pm.

Visitors to the Handel Festival still have a good chance of obtaining tickets for some events from the Visitors' Office of Handel House in Halle (Grosse Nikolaistrasse 5, Great Courtyard), or at the box office.

If you want to find out more about this year's Handel Festival, we recommend reading the **festival magazine**, available for the price of €3. This provides full festival information, with interesting features on the performers, background information on performances and much more besides.

You can also buy **evening programme booklets** for the different performances in advance from the Visitors' Office.

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## **New: Information on ticket sales**

The two open-air *Bridges to Classics* events on 10 June and the closing concert on 11 June 2023, both at 9pm, will once again be enticing young and old to the unique natural décor of the Galgenberg Gorge. At *Bridges to Classics*, Eric Bazilian and his son Simon will be taking the stage. Tickets are still available for both these events!

**Tip 1:** Family tickets for the closing concert: Children under 14 accompanied by one adult paying the full ticket price pay only ten euros each.

**Tip 2:** Tickets for *Bridges to Classics* and the closing concert entitle holders to free transport on MDV vehicles in tariff zone 210 from two hours before the start of the event and for two hours after the end.

**Tip 3:** Concessionary student tickets are available for some events. For the Makiko Hirabayashi Weavers' concert *Chain of Life – Echoes of Handel?* on 27 May and *Baroque Lounges* on 29 May and 12 June, students pay only 15 euros instead of 20 euros.

## **Tickets for the 2023 Handel Festival are available:**

- From advance ticket booking agencies: CTS Eventim advance ticket sales offices all over Germany; in Saxony-Anhalt also from TiM Ticket in Mitteldeutsche Zeitung service centres and TiM Ticket in StadtCenter Rolltreppe
- Via our hotline: +49 (0) 345 / 565 27 06 from Monday to Friday: 7am-6pm, Saturday: 7am-12 noon
- From the Visitors' Office in the courtyard of Handel House, Grosse Nikolaistrasse 5  
Opening times: daily from 24 May to 11 June, 10am-6pm  
Phone no.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 444
- At box offices (open one hour before the start of performances at the respective venues)



**New: Programme of the Ceremony at the Handel Memorial**  
**Friday 26 May 2023, 4pm, Marktplatz (open-air)**

Participants: **Ki-Hyun Park** (bass)

**Stadtsingechor zu Halle**

Musical director: Clemens Flämig

**Latina Brass – Brass Ensemble of the Latina August Hermann  
Francke School**

Conducted by: Johann Plietzsch

**Chamber Orchestra of Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-  
Wittenberg**

Musical director: Daniel Spogis

**Halle Salt-Workers Brotherhood in the Halle Valley**

**Matthias Erben** (presenter)

Programme: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)  
*Alla Hornpipe* from the *Water Music Suite*, HWV 348–350  
Traditional flag-waving by the Halloren Salters' Guild  
*Singt, Himmel, singt* from *Belshazzar*, HWV 61

Welcoming address by Egbert Geier, Mayor of the City of Halle an  
der Saale

George Frideric Handel  
*Bourrée* from the *Water Music Suite*, HWV 348–350

Welcoming address from the First Deputy Minister-President of the  
State of Saxony-Anhalt  
Prof. Armin Willingmann

Andreas Hammerschmidt (ca. 1611 – 1675)  
*Freue dich sehr, du Tochter Zion*

Gottfried Heinrich Stölzel (1690-1749)  
*Befiehl dem Herren*  
Opening chorus from the cantata of the same name

George Frideric Handel  
March from *Scipione*, HWV 20  
*Tra caligini profonde* from *Orlando*, HWV 31

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
Courante and Gavotte from the *Orchestral Suite in C major*, BWV  
1066

George Frideric Handel  
*Dir will ich singen*  
*Schallt laut ihr Chöre*  
*Hallelujah Chorus* from the oratorio *Messiah*, HWV 56

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Press and PR Work Officer

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## Operas and Serenades at the Handel Festival

### **SERSE**

HWV 40

In Italian with German supertitles

Halle Opera (new production)

26 & 28 May, 3 & 11 June

in Halle (Saale) since 1922  
26 May - 11 June 2023

### **ALESSANDRO SEVERO**

HWV A<sup>13</sup>

Opera pasticcio

In Italian with German supertitles

Goethe Theatre, Bad Lauchstädt (new production)

27, 28 & 29 May

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### **ORLANDO**

HWV 31

(reprise of the 2022 Handel Festival production)

In Italian with German supertitles

Halle Opera

1 & 7 June

### **RINALDO**

HWV 7b

Performance based on the Halle Handel Edition

In Italian with German supertitles

Goethe Theatre, Bad Lauchstädt

9, 10 & 11 June

### **LOTARIO**

HWV 26

Concert performance

Halle Opera

11 June

### **GIULIO CESARE IN EGITTO**

HWV 17

In Italian with German supertitles

Leipzig Opera

11 June

### **ACI, GALATEA E POLIFEMO**

HWV 72

Löwengebäude (auditorium of Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg)

11 June

### **APOLLO E DAFNE**

HWV 122

Leopoldina, Banquet Hall

3 June

**Oratorios and Choral Concerts at the Halle Handel Festival**

**IL MESSIA**

HWV 56

Florentine version c. 1768 in Italian

The autograph score is part of the Handel House Foundation collection

Halle Cathedral

27 May

**MESSIAH**

HWV 56

English version

Marktkirche Halle

2 June

**MUSICAL ENCOUNTERS:**

*FOUNDLING HOSPITAL ANTHEM*

HWV 268 and *ZADOK THE PRIEST*

HWV 258 by G. F. Handel and

*MASS IN D MAJOR* by J. F. Fasch

Ulrichskirche Concert Hall

3 June

**MOTET CONCERT**

*CHANDOS ANTHEM AS PANTS THE*

*HART* HWV 251b by G. F. Handel

and

cantata *BEFIEL DEM HERRN DEINE*

*WEGE* by G. H. Stölzel

Marktkirche, Halle

3 June

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Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126

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[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## Operas at the 2023 Halle Handel Festival

The 2023 Handel Festival will open with one of the today's most popular operas by the Halle composer: **Serse**. And right at the beginning of this opera about the Persian king Xerxes we will hear *Ombra mai fu*, one of Handel's most famous arias. The musical direction is in the hands of the Baroque specialist and artistic director of the Handel Festival Orchestra, Attilio Cremonesi. Performing with familiar members of the Halle Opera ensemble, the soloists are countertenor Leandro Marziotte and, in the title role, the internationally renowned mezzo-soprano, Anna Bonitatibus. Following this premiere, she will receive the City of Halle Handel Prize, awarded by the Handel House Foundation. This new production is directed by Louisa Proske, who says of this opera in three acts: "This magnificent late work by Handel dating from 1738 sparkles with musical ideas and caustic humour. It takes a satirical look at the members of an upper class who, against a glamorous background, act like toddlers in a sandpit."

With **Alessandro Severo**, the series of Handel's largely unknown opera pasticcis that has achieved widespread acclaim will come to a close at the Halle festival. This fully staged performance is a joint production with an outstanding partner, the internationally renowned Collegium Marianum from Prague. The stage director is Monika Hliněnská. This opera pasticcio, for which Handel drew on existing pieces of music of his own composition, tells the story of the Roman emperor, Severus Alexander. Under the musical direction of flautist Jana Semerádová and with the participation of star singers such as Raffaele Pe and Hana Blažíková, the performance represents a highpoint in the festival programme. This very special theatrical event is possible thanks to funding by Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung and Saalesparkasse.

With the reprise of **Orlando**, "the musically richest of all Handel operas" (Winton Dean) will again be delighting Handel Festival visitors this year. Arno Lückner of Opernwelt magazine judged this stage production to be "one of the most coherent, cleverest Handel productions of recent times, which should also appeal to young people". The stage director is Walter Sutcliffe and the musical director will, as in 2022, be the British Baroque specialist, Christian Curnyn. In the title role you can hear the internationally celebrated countertenor Xavier Sabata.

Besides his title role in *Orlando*, Xavier Sabata will also be delighting the audience at the Goethe Theatre in Bad Lauchstädt in **Rinaldo** – and in two ways: as stage director, marking his debut in this role, and as a soloist, playing the eponymous Christian knight. This production features the rarely performed second version of Handel's 1731 opera – one more reason not to miss it. Yet another reason is quality of the musical performance: under the baton of the Polish conductor Jan Tomasz Adamus, this will be provided by Capella Cracoviensis, one of the leading eastern European Baroque orchestras.

The concert performance of Handel's opera **Lotario** promises to be an anniversary event of the highest calibre. Attilio Cremonesi will conduct the Halle Festival Orchestra



which will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023 and since its founding has perpetuated the Handel tradition in Halle with its historically informed performance practice. Alongside the 2023 Handel Prize laureate Anna Bonitatibus, further Baroque stars, such as Carlo Vistoli and Karina Gauvin, will make this special evening unforgettable.

In a joint production between Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Opéra Orchestre national de Montpellier Occitanie, Théâtre du Capitole Toulouse and Leipzig Opera, audiences will be able to enjoy Handel's most-performed opera ***Giulio Cesare in Egitto*** in Leipzig. The opera will be performed by the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra under the musical direction of Rubén Dubrovsky, who has been a guest at the Handel Festival in Halle on several occasions. The stage director is Damiano Michieletto.

Handel's serenata ***Acis, Galatea e Polifemo*** could also be called a chamber opera. Thanks to its musical quality, this work about the blissful love affair between the shepherd Acis and the nymph Galatea which is destroyed by the cyclops Polyphemus is regarded as one of Handel's great masterpieces. The arias demand huge virtuosity of the three vocal soloists. With the young soprano Federico Fiorio, who recently performed to great acclaim in Drottningholm in Sweden, in the role of the shepherd Acis, as well as Margherita Maria Sala and Luigi De Donato, audiences can expect a stellar performance. All the more so as the musical direction is in the hands of the Handel connoisseur, Federico Maria Sardelli.

The cantata ***Apollo e Dafne***, too, has the feel of a mini-opera. In it, Handel combines his experience of operatic composition that he began in Hamburg and consolidated in Italy. The cantata tells the gripping story of the divine "stalker", Apollo, and Daphne, whom the former covets but who prefers to be transformed into a tree than bend to his will. With Sophie Junker and Tomáš Král two virtuoso singers especially capable of bringing out all the drama of the music and plot are returning to Halle. They will be supported by the {oh!} Orkiestra Historyczna from Katowice and their concertmaster Martyna Pastuszka, who has achieved widespread acclaim for her interpretations of Baroque operas. You can hear the cantata with other settings of the subject in the concert ***Metamorphosis***.

**Media contact:**

Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126

Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416

Email:

[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## Oratorios and Choral Music at the 2023 Halle Handel Festival

For experts and admirers of the early music scene a great surprise is in store with ***II Messia***: the Florentine arrangement dating from around 1768 of Handel's probably best-known work will be performed for the 2023 Handel Festival in collaboration with the Innsbruck Early Music Festival under the baton of Alessandro de Marchi. He will be accompanied by soloists of international renown. The first modern-day performance of this *II Messia* in Innsbruck in August 2022 was an acclaimed highpoint of Baroque music festival there. The original manuscript of this Italian version has been in the possession of the Handel House Foundation for a number of years.

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
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[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

One tradition at the Handel Festival is the performance of the popular oratorio, ***Messiah***. In 2023, Handel Prize laureate Wolfgang Katschner will be performing it together with young soloists, some of whom have already made sensational appearances at previous Handel Festivals, and with the renowned Lautten Compagnie Berlin and Capella Angelica. After years of renovation work, the oratorio can, as in the past, once again be heard in the church where Handel was baptised. Following another established tradition, the performance of *Messiah* is presented by Lotto Sachsen-Anhalt.

Two choral concerts also feature on the festival programme. In a concert entitled ***Musical Encounter***, Handel's *Foundling Hospital Anthem* and the splendid coronation anthem *Zadok the Priest* can be heard alongside a mass by the Zerbst composer, Johann Friedrich Fasch. They will be sung by the Johann Friedrich Reichardt University Choir, conducted by the Fasch Prize laureate, Jens Lorenz. A musical ***Motet concert*** can be heard in the church where Handel was baptised, sung by Stadtsingechor zu Halle under the direction of Clemens Flämig. Among other works, they will sing Handel's Chandos anthem, *As Pants the Hart*.

## International Master Class: Gala Concerts

Further highlights of the Handel Festival that lend particular prestige to the two festival weeks include the concerts featuring stars of the international Baroque music scene.

The first gala concert of the 2023 Handel Festival will be honoured by the presence of the internationally renowned, star Baroque singers, **Anna Prohaska** and **Bejun Mehta**. Under the musical direction of Handel Prize laureate Wolfgang Katschner and accompanied by Lautten Compagnie Berlin, the concert will feature magnificent arias, duets and instrumental pieces that explore the theme of human relationships.

On her “grand tour”, virtuoso singer **Julia Lezhneva** will be stopping off at the Handel Festival and together with the prize-winning period instrument ensemble Concerto Köln performing works by G. F. Handel, A. Vivaldi and C. H. Graun. To judge by Lezhneva’s past appearances at the Handel Festival in 2014, 2015 and 2018, with her powerful voice of “angelic beauty” – to quote the New York Times – and the brilliant virtuosity of Concerto Köln we are promised an unforgettable evening.

In the concert entitled *Giulio Cesare – A Baroque Hero*, countertenor **Raffaele Pe** will be following in the footsteps of the Roman emperor Julius Caesar with works by G. Giacomelli, A. Pollaro, N. Piccinni, F. Bianchi and G. F. Handel. The period instrument ensemble La Lira d’Orfeo, conducted by Gian Andrea Guerra, will be making their first appearance at the Halle Handel Festival.

Works by the rival opera composers G. F. Handel and G. Bononcini are the subject of the concert by countertenor **Jakub Józef Orliński**, and fittingly so, as the dispute between the composers inspired the theme of the 2023 Handel Festival. Together with the early music orchestra Capella Cracoviensis under the musical direction of Jan Tomasz Adamus, Orliński will bring the musical battle of 1720s London to the 2023 Handel Festival in Halle.

In the 1720s Handel wrote some notable opera roles for the Italian tenor Francesco Borosini, thereby bringing the tenor register out of the shadow and to the front of the stage. Some 300 years later, **Julian Prégardien** will be devoting his concert to these virtuoso Borosini arias at the 2023 Handel Festival. He will be accompanied by La Cetra Barockorchester from Basel. Conducting them will be **Andrea Marcon**, the 2021 Handel Prize laureate, who will receive his award belatedly at the end of the concert.

While numerous musicians will be appearing for the first time at the Handel Festival in Halle, the gala concert featuring **Veronica Cangemi** marks more of a farewell appearance – the soprano intends to end her singing career and devote herself to teaching young musicians. She made her debut at the 1997 Handel Festival as Dalinda in *Ariodante*. In 2023, she will be bidding farewell to the city of Handel’s birth with



works by G. F. Handel and A. Vivaldi. Under the musical direction of Handel Prize laureate **Andrea Marcon** and La Cetra Barockorchester Basel, visitors can expect a superb and prestigious evening's performance.

Another gala concert will see the return to Halle of the well-known and frequently acclaimed countertenor **Filippo Mineccia**. He will be embarking on an exciting musical foray through different settings of *Orlando*. Other international singers will be celebrating their debut at the festival as outstanding soloists – one example is the baritone **Sergio Foresti** in his concert, *Cieco Amor*. The Handel Festival frequently offers a platform for young talented singers who are just starting their career. One of these is the tenor **Marco Angioloni**, whose concert Handel versus Bononcini is a musical reflection of the festival theme. He will be accompanied by the ensemble Il Groviglio, who are also making their debut in Halle.

**Media contact:**

Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126

Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416

Email:

[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)



## **Beyond Musical Boundaries: Cross-genre Projects**

It is a well-known fact that the Handel Festival is about far more than just early music. Once again in 2023, other musical genres and new concert formats will be enriching the programme, questioning musical boundaries and sending festival visitors on musical voyages of discovery.

One indubitable highpoint of the 2023 Handel Festival will come on Saturday 10 June, when the popular open-air concert, **Bridges to Classics** will again be breaking down the boundaries between classical, rock and pop music. Against the impressive scenery of the Galgenberg Gorge, electric guitar, violin and a choir are some of the sounds to be heard in this sunset symphonic rock concert – not forgetting the saxophone of musical director Bernd Ruf, who has conducted this bridge-building effort for the past 20 years. Which star guest will be lending their voice to the 2023 Bridges to Classics remains a secret until the spring – suspense!

Exciting interpretations and new arrangements of Handel's music are what the **Makiko Hirabayashi Weavers** promise with their programme entitled *Chain of Life – Echoes of Handel?*, held in St George's Church in cooperation with Women in Jazz. Together with Fredrik Lundin on the saxophone and Bjørn Heebøll on percussion the exceptional Japanese pianist Makiko Hirabayashi, who has lived in Denmark since the 1990s, will be weaving elements of jazz and classical music together to form a wholly unique sound and showing Handel's music from a new perspective.

Since the 2018 Handel Festival, the **Poetry Slam** puts the emphasis on the spoken word and invites wordsmiths to take the stage. The presenter this year again is Halle-based slammer Katja Hofmann, who has more than ten years' experience in national and international slams. On this year's theme of "Battle of Words", the slam promises to be a thrilling evening of surprises and inspiration between words and wit, combined with a pinch of profundity.

Mezzo-soprano **Laila Salome Fischer** and jazz trumpeter **Pascal Klewer** will show what results when early music meets jazz in **Baroque Lounge I**. Historically informed performance practice comes together with an innovative programme in *Agrippina – A Baroque-Jazz Guide*, also featuring the ensemble Il Giratempo. In it, "Time-Turner", as the ensemble's name translates into English, will cover 300 years of music history. This concert about the Roman empress, Agrippina, is held in cooperation with the Göttingen International Handel Festival.

In **Baroque-Lounge II** the international chamber music ensemble Thomas Dobler's New Baroque led by Swiss jazz vibraphonist **Thomas Dobler** performs works by G. F. Handel in *Haendel Reloaded*. Here, familiar Baroque pieces are combined with element of jazz, world music and pop. Unique compositions, arrangements and improvisations are the result.

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## The City as a Stage: Open-air Concerts, Church Concerts and More

Once again in 2023, Handel's music will sound in authentic venues of Halle when the whole city becomes a stage – and often with free admission.

The 2023 Handel Festival will open on Friday 26 May with the **ceremony at the Handel monument** on Halle's Marktplatz. Following this, you will be able to hear a carillon concert played by the bells of the Red Tower, before five different organs sound for the **19<sup>th</sup> Organ Night**. The Saturday programme will open with the **festival lecture** by Prof. Dr. Arnold Jacobshagen on "The dispute over opera – from Handel to the present day". From 1pm, Marktplatz will be transformed into a stage as theatre group Incanto perform their play, **Baroque and Rococo in Halle**.

After an exciting guided tour of the Botanical Garden, music lovers who enjoy concerts under an open, early summer sky can listen to the Halle University Choir and the Pfeiferstuhl Music wind quintet during their **promenade concert** – an unusual experience for all the senses that ends with snacks and refreshments. In **WaterMusic**, a musical boat trip down the romantic Saale Valley, Ventum Ensemble Leipzig and soloists from the Sächsische Bläserphilharmonie perform arrangements of Handel's music and other pieces on the MS Händel 2. The English king, George I, indulged in similar activities some three hundred years ago on the Thames. But Halle's WaterMusic pursues different musical paths, part popular pieces and part swing.

If you like your food served with music, you'll find the **Walking Dinner** to your taste – or (a purely musical starter) one of the **Lunchtime Concerts** organised in cooperation with the London Handel Festival and featuring, among others, Handel Singing Competition London winners Eszter Balogh and Hilary Cronin. A chance, perhaps, to hear the great vocal stars of tomorrow for free.

The **International Academic Conference** of the 2023 Handel Festival, entitled *The Politics of Opera – Handel's Opera Academies 1719–1737*, takes a look at the politico-cultural and social negotiating processes at every level of the opera productions of that time. Last but not least, the aim is also to critically update historical findings in the context of the situation of opera houses today.

Ending the 2023 Handel Festival will be the famed **Bridges to Classics** concert and, on the final evening, the **closing concert**; two open-air events set against the romantic, natural backcloth of the Galgenberg Gorge. As the final chord sounds, the Handel Festival in Halle an der Saale traditionally bids a fortissimo farewell to visitors with Handel's *Fireworks Music* and a superb closing fireworks display.

### Media contact:

Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126

Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416

Email:

[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## 2023 Handel Prize laureate

In 2023 the City of Halle Handel Prize, which is awarded by the Handel House Foundation, will go to the Italian mezzo-soprano **Anna Bonitatibus**. With this award, the Handel House Foundation Board of Trustees will be honouring the boundless enthusiasm with which she has interpreted Handel's music for many years and her passionate commitment that has led to performances of even less well-known works. Since her first recording of Vivaldi's opera *La Griselda* in 1992, Anna Bonitatibus has been regarded as an outstanding interpreter of Baroque opera and of Handel's music in particular.

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

The anti-diva, as Bonitatibus likes to style herself, was born in Potenza in the Basilicata region of southern Italy. Since her debut in *Don Giovanni* at La Scala in Milan in 1999, Anna Bonitatibus has lent her voice to countless works of the early Baroque, the bel canto period and more than 70 operas, working with internationally acclaimed conductors and stage directors. She has already performed ten operas by G. F. Handel alone: *Agrippina*, *Alcina*, *Deidamia*, *Giulio Cesare*, *Orlando*, *Tamerlano*, *Tolomeo*, *Ottone*, *Il trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* and, recently, during her European tour of the 2021-22 season, as Tigrane in *Radamisto*.

Her *Hosenrollen* – literally "trouser roles", male characters played by a woman – made Bonitatibus an internationally celebrated interpreter of Mozart's music. She has performed major works by Handel, Mozart and Rossini at Europe's greatest opera and concert venues. From her first steps at Milan's Teatro alla Scala to the Bavarian State Opera House in Munich, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, Teatro Real de Madrid, La Monnaie in Brussels, the Vienna State Opera, the Royal Opera House in London and the festivals in Salzburg, Florence, Munich, Bologna and Grange – Bonitatibus is a star of the Baroque.

With her CD recording of Vivaldi's *La Griselda* in 1992, Anna Bonitatibus laid the first stone in a whole series of award-winning recordings. In 2015, she received the International Opera Award in the CD (Operatic Recital) category for her album *Semiramide – La Signora regale*. With her CD *En Travesti*, with the Munich Radio Orchestra, she dealt with the subject of *Hosenrollen*.

In addition to her artistic activities, Anna Bonitatibus also researches and promotes Italian *lirica da camera*. Working together with experienced musicians and academics from European universities of renown, raising the international reputation of this musical legacy is a subject close to her heart.

With the new production of *Serse* at the 2023 Handel Festival, Anna Bonitatibus is adding one further Handel opera to her repertoire and will open the festival with its famous first aria, *Ombra mai fu*.

More information and photos are available at: <http://www.annabonitatibus.com/>

## **Thoughts on the Festival Theme**

By Clemens Birnbaum

Now, following the Covid pandemic, society is facing further huge challenges in the shape of the energy and economic crisis, which will certainly also have repercussions on cultural life. It is nothing new in the long history of the Handel Festival for exceptional external events to have a direct impact on the festival programme. Some scheduled festivals were unable to take place for this reason.

Traditional opera has also experienced historical crises. Less than 50 years ago, for example, the renowned composer and conductor Pierre Boulez, in an interview in *Der Spiegel*, urged people to: "Blow the opera houses up!". This was a funeral oration for modern opera first and foremost, but which also questioned the entire opera system per se.

George Frideric Handel repeatedly faced great challenges when trying to establish Italian opera in England. His first London opera, *Rinaldo*, written in 1711, attracted extraordinary interest from the English public and press. But the first criticisms of opera soon made themselves heard; for example, that this genre was a laughable in-between thing, written in a language no one understood and which, moreover, was far too expensive. Over the next 30 years, Handel repeatedly tried to convince the English of the opposite. From the mid-1720s an additional problem arose: opera lovers were divided – to the malicious delight of opera haters – into two camps, who argued fiercely about whose operas were the better ones, Handel's or those of Giovanni Bononcini. A musical locking of horns resulted and open rivalry between the two composers. Witness to this is the ironic epigram by the poet John Byrom, which provided the inspiration for the title of the 2023 Handel Festival.

Some say, compar'd to Bononcini  
That Mynheer Handel's but a Ninny  
Others aver, that he to Handel  
Is scarcely fit to hold a candle  
Strange all this Difference should be  
Twixt Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee!

John Byrom -

Epigram on the Feuds Between Handel and Bononcini

While the Royal Academy, the first London opera company for which Handel worked from 1719, favoured operas in the grand, heroic style in their choice of pieces – as can be seen with *Giulio Cesare* in 1723-24 and later with *Lotario* in 1729 – a very experimental tendency is noticeable in the seasonal programmes of Handel's subsequent opera companies. Because the composer had to react if he wanted to win back the interest of the London audiences for Italian opera after the dissolution of the Royal Academy in 1728 due to financial failure. Consequently, besides non-heroic material and operas which, as with *Orlando* (1732-33), were "on the threshold of comic opera" (Silke Leopold), oratorios in English, among other genres, additionally

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**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)



found their way onto theatres' seasonal programmes. Various opera pasticcis, such as *Alessandro Severo* (1738) were also performed. But all these measures were not enough to prevent Handel's last Italian operas in London enjoying only moderate success with audiences. This applies even to the today very popular opera, *Serse*, which, after its premiere on 15 April 1738, ran for only five performances. By the early 1740's, Handel's efforts to firmly establish Italian opera in London society despite all resistance had therefore failed. In the following years the composer wrote no further operas, but concentrated on English-language oratorio.

You will be able to hear most of the operas named above at the 2023 Handel Festival and can therefore look forward to an exciting foray through Handel's 30 years of opera in London with all its highs and lows, performed by very famous interpreters of Baroque music and important supporting partners. Today, Handel's operas are firmly anchored in theatre repertoire. The resistance the composer was forced to contend with is hard to understand.

By looking back to Handel's time, the thematic focus is also intended to stimulate a debate in the present about how opera can continue to be an attractive artistic form of expression. On the one hand, this debate is already in progress with one section of the audience, in particular those opera-goers who reject modern director's theatre because it is not "faithful to the original". But it also has a cultural and political dimension when one considers the question of which social target groups opera should address and in what way the public sector should contribute to financing it.

**Media contact:**

Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126

Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416

Email:

[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## **New: Rock musician Eric Bazilian is the star guest of Bridges to Classics**

The US musician Eric Bazilian is this year's star guest at the *Bridges to Classics* open-air concert. The concert will be held as part of the Handel Festival on Saturday, 10 June 2023 in the Galgenberg Gorge.

Eric Bazilian is one of the founding members and the face of the legendary US rock band, The Hooters. They made their international breakthrough at the legendary Live Aid Festival in Philadelphia in 1985. From the outset, Eric Bazilian was responsible for The Hooters' songwriting and characteristic sound. Their classic hits such as *All You Zombies* and *Johnny B* were penned by him.

It is a very special honour for the Handel Festival that after his thrilling appearance six years ago, rock legend Eric Bazilian of The Hooters is once again ready to perform on the unique natural stage of the Galgenberg Gorge. And because he loves the family atmosphere of the *Bridges* audience, he's bringing along his son Simon, who has a great career as a singer/songwriter ahead of him.

*Fathers & Sons* is the title of this year's open-air symphonic rock concert at the Halle Handel Festival. With this nod to the song by Cat Stevens, guest star Eric Bazilian and conductor Bernd Ruf are supporting their sons, Simon and Ilja as they set out on their careers:

"I'm really happy to be singing at *Bridges to Classics* with my son Simon. I have great memories of my *Bridges* premiere a few years ago and I'm sure that with Simon, Bernd, Ilja and Staatskapelle Halle we'll get the Galgenberg Gorge rocking!" says Bazilian.

Every year at the Handel Festival, *Bridges to Classics* entices thousands of visitors to the breathtaking natural stage of the Galgenberg Gorge. Creative crossover pioneer Bernd Ruf has conducted the Halle Handel Festival's open-air symphonic rock concert for more than 20 years. The longstanding *Bridges to Classics* arranger Benjamin Köthe is bringing along two new projects on which he has been working intensively over the past two years: modern hip-hop arrangements of the music from the Handel opera *Ezio* and his own completely new arrangement of Mussorgsky's *Pictures from an Exhibition*. Together with the young singer Anna Maria Schmidt, GermanPops Band & Singers and Staatskapelle Halle, the impressive backdrop of the Galgenberg Gorge will be reverberating to the sound of music. This open-air concert traditionally ends with a thundering display of fireworks – a not-to-be-missed highpoint of the Handel Festival!

The open-air symphonic rock concert is presented by MDR SACHSEN-ANHALT.

For more information on Eric Bazilian, visit [www.ericbazilian.com](http://www.ericbazilian.com).

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## **New: Exhibitions in Handel House and Wilhelm Friedemann Bach House during the Handel Festival**

### **Free Wi-Fi in Handel House**

You can get free WLAN/Wi-Fi Internet access in all the indoor and outdoor areas of Handel House by connecting to "Haendel Gast". No special access data is required. In the Handel House exhibition rooms, we offer our visitors a WLAN/Wi-Fi-based mobile information system. At more than 50 spots in the *Handel – The European* and *Historical Musical Instruments* exhibitions, an easy-to-use audio guide feature provides additional information on your smartphone, tablet or other devices via an NFC tag or QR code. No app or additional storage space is required. Thanks to funding from the Ministry for the Economy, Science and Digitalisation, this service is free for visitors.

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

### **1. HANDEL HOUSE**

Grosse Nikolaistrasse 5, 06108 Halle (Saale)  
Phone +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 0  
[stiftung@haendelhaus.de](mailto:stiftung@haendelhaus.de) / [www.haendelhaus.de](http://www.haendelhaus.de)

**Special opening times during the 2023 Handel Festival:**  
daily 10am-7pm

**Permanent exhibitions in Handel House:**  
*"Handel – the European"*  
*"Historical Musical Instruments"*

**Annual exhibition in Handel House** until 7 January 2024  
*"Fireworks and Halle-lujah – 100 Years of the Handel Festival in Halle"*  
Curated by: Dr. Konstanze Musketa, Christiane Barth

**Temporary exhibition** until 7 January, 2024  
*"The Coronation – Handel and the British royal family"*  
Curated by: Dr. Juliane Riepe, Christiane Barth, Karl Altenburg

**Special exhibition for children** until 7 January, 2024  
*"Curtain up! Welcome to the realm of feelings!"*  
Curated by Hagen Jahn

**Tickets:** €6, concessions €4.50, admission free for children under 6, family pass €12 (parents, children)

**Combined ticket for Handel House and WF Bach House:** €7.50, concessions €6.50

## Personal special guided tours during the 2023 Handel Festival

**Friday 2 June and Friday 9 June 2023**, at 3pm

### **Historical Musical Instruments from Five Centuries**

Guided tour of the musical instrument exhibition with demonstrations of period keyboard instruments: Christiane Barth (director of the Handel House Foundation Museum)

**Whit Monday, 29 May and Saturday 3 June 2023**

### **Of the real and false Handel House**

A guided tour of its architectural history by Karl Altenburg (Handel House Foundation)

**Tickets for guided tours:** €8 each, number of participants limited, reservation possible up to 15 minutes before start.

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in Halle (Saale) since 1922  
26 May - 11 June 2023

**Media contact:**  
Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126  
Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416  
Email:  
[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## **2. WILHELM FRIEDEMANN BACH HOUSE**

Grosse Klausstrasse 12 (entrance on Hallorenring), 06108 Halle (Saale)

### **Special opening times during the 2023 Handel Festival:**

Friday to Sunday: 10am to 6pm

### **Permanent exhibition in Wilhelm Friedemann Bach House:**

***Halle, the City of Music***

**Tickets:** €3, no concessions



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### Media contact:

Robin Knötzsch  
Press and PR Work Officer

Tel.: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 126

Fax: +49 (0) 345 / 500 90 416

Email:

[presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

## Press release

**2023 Handel Festival – LOTTO renews support for this Baroque music festival**

**€70,000 for “Opera: Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee”**

Magdeburg, 29 November 2022 – When stars of the international Baroque music scene meet for the traditional Handel Festival from 26 May to 11 June 2023, a multitude of events will once again be celebrating the city’s great son.

Following the centenary edition of 2022, the Handel House Foundation chose a theme of overarching interest for the festival theme: Baroque opera. Entitled *Opera: Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee*, it focuses on Handel’s opera and theatrical work, at the same time building bridges of artistic interest to other music genres.

George Frideric Handel’s home city has commemorated and conserved his legacy for more than a century. LOTTO Sachsen-Anhalt has sponsored the Handel Festival since 1998 and has provided funding of more than 1.1 million euros of lottery earnings\* to date, 70,000 euros of which are going to the 2023 Baroque music festival.

“With the choice of the festival’s leading theme for 2023, the guardians of George Frideric Handel’s musical legacy are opening up a new chapter in the history of music. As new life is breathed into the old Baroque opera, music lovers from home and abroad who come to the great composer’s birth city can enjoy some very special musical moments,” says Lotto’s managing director, Stefan Ebert. “LOTTO Sachsen-Anhalt has for many years been a dependable sponsor of the Handel Festival, the fame of which reaches far beyond the state of Saxony-Anhalt.”

Lotto-Toto GmbH  
Sachsen-Anhalt  
Stresemannstraße 18  
39104 Magdeburg

For queries, please contact:

**Astrid Wessler**

Phone: 0391 5963-220  
Mobile: 0160 94 94 87 33

Email:

[a.wessler@sachsen-anhalt-lotto.de](mailto:a.wessler@sachsen-anhalt-lotto.de)



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### Further information:

\*Lottery funding resources come from lottery revenues. For every euro spent on a LOTTO Sachsen-Anhalt product, around 20 cents go towards projects of public interest. Depending on the project, any not-for-profit body can apply for lottery funding resources ► since July 2022 solely online on [www.lottosachsenanhalt.de](http://www.lottosachsenanhalt.de) in the section *Lotto fördert* (“Lotto funds”).

Since 1991, LOTTO Sachsen-Anhalt has provided funding of over 37.9 million euros to City of Halle projects – its most recent contributions in the culture category include those for the Monstronale Festival in mid-October, the improvised drama festival in late November and the annual Women in Jazz festival held in Halle every spring.

## Press release

### Stadtwerke Halle supports the 2023 Handel Festival

The 2023 Handel Festival will take place in Halle from 26 May to 11 June and is entitled *Opera: Dispute over Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee*. “As longstanding sponsors, we are extremely attached to the Handel Festival because it has been thrilling music-lovers from all over the world since 1922. Famous artists and first-rate orchestras bring pleasure to concert-goers and music critics alike – reason enough for us to support this top-class event. We want to do our bit towards building a rich cultural landscape in Halle an der Saale, because that is good for us too,” says Matthias Lux, Managing Director of Stadtwerke Halle.

Stadtwerke Halle not only assumes economic responsibilities, it is also passionately committed to culture, sport, science and education – as well as numerous other activities that make everyday life in this city on the River Saale pleasanter and contribute to the well-being of the people who live here. Stadtwerke Halle operates in four fields of business:

- **Energy**  
Energy supply, provision of energy-efficiency services
- **Water and Waste Management**  
Water supply, sewage treatment, waste disposal, secondary raw materials
- **Mobility**  
Local public transport, mobility, logistics
- **Services**  
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#### Stadtwerke Halle GmbH

Stadtwerke Halle is a powerful corporate group providing the full range of basic utilities for the city of Halle and services to industry: its operations range from energy and water supply to local public transport, recycling, sewage treatment, waste disposal, street-cleaning, ice and snow-clearing services, logistics, landfill and infrastructure services and data processing, right through to the provision of swimming facilities and street-lighting – all from a single source. With 2,945 employees and interns and an annual turnover of €781m in 2021, Stadtwerke Halle is the largest industrial employer in Halle an der Saale and the largest municipal utility in Saxony-Anhalt. More at: [www.stadtwerke-halle.de](http://www.stadtwerke-halle.de)

#### **Press contact:**

Stadtwerke Halle GmbH  
Bornknechtstr. 5 5  
06108 Halle (Saale)

#### **Press Office**

Tel.: (0345) 5 81 - 10 18  
Email: [pressestelle@swh.de](mailto:pressestelle@swh.de)

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Are you planning a report on the Handel Festival in Halle? Let us know your accreditation requirements! Send this form by e-Mail to [presse@haendelhaus.de](mailto:presse@haendelhaus.de)

Name, first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Medium / freelance journalist: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Press tickets only

- ☐ I will collect the tickets for the Handel Festival from the press office of the Handel Festival at Große Nikolaistraße 5, Halle (Saale).  
Opening hours: 24 May to 11 June 2023, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ☐ Please send me the press tickets (and purchase tickets) by post in advance. I will pay a flat rate of 10.00 euros for postage and packing.

### Press and purchase tickets

Press tickets in conjunction with purchase tickets will generally be sent by post in advance for a flat-rate postage fee of 10.00 euros. The tickets will be sent after receipt of payment.

### Important notes

1. We reserve a maximum of one free press ticket per event for each member of the press. For certain events of the Handel Festival, only purchase tickets are available for journalists.
2. Please note clearly if you would like to purchase additional purchase tickets and also indicate the corresponding price group. If tickets in one price group are already sold out, we will book the purchase ticket in another category. There is no entitlement to purchase tickets. However, we will make every effort to fulfil all requests.
3. After receipt of the accreditation we will send you a confirmation e-Mail about realisable ticket requests from April 2023.
4. For events that are already sold out, there is no longer any entitlement to a purchase or press ticket after the re-registration date has expired.
5. In the interest of other festival visitors, please cancel in good time at the press department of the Handel House if you are unable to attend events already booked for which you have received a press ticket. The exchange and return of already purchased tickets is excluded.

MUSIKMUSEUM

HÄNDEL-FESTSPIELE

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RESTAURIERUNGSATELIER

Stiftung Händel-Haus  
Große Nikolaistraße 5  
06108 Halle (Saale)  
Germany

Telefon:  
+ 49 (0)3 45 | 5 00 90-222

Telefax:  
+ 49 (0)3 45 | 5 00 90-416

E-Mail:  
[festspiele@haendelhaus.de](mailto:festspiele@haendelhaus.de)

Internet:  
[www.haendelhaus.de](http://www.haendelhaus.de)

Please note that you will need to purchase separate bus tickets for transfers for these events or arrange your own travel. You will find more information in the programme booklet or at [www.haendelfestspiele-halle.de](http://www.haendelfestspiele-halle.de).

The events for which you can buy bus tickets are marked with \*\*.

PC = Press Card / PT = Purchase ticket

No	Time	Event	Place	PC	PT
<b>Friday, 26. May 2023</b>					
1	16.00	Feierstunde	Marktplatz, Händel-Denkmal	Free entry	
2	17.00	Carillonkonzert	Marktplatz, Roter Turm	Free entry	
3	18.00 – 23.00	19. Orgelnacht	Dom, Moritzkirche, Marktkirche & Ulrichskirche	Free entry	
4	19:00	Serse HWV 40 (Premiere)	Oper Halle		
<b>Saturday, 27. May 2023</b>					
5	10.00	Festvortrag: Prof. Dr. Arnold Jacobshagen: „Streit um die Oper – Von Händel bis heute“	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal	Free entry	
6	11.00	Stadtführung „Händel und die Musikstadt Halle“	Händel-Haus, Großer Hof	-----	
7	13.00 & 17.00	Barock und Rokoko	Marktplatz	Free entry	
8	14.30	Alessandro Severo HWV A13 ** (Premiere)	Goethe-Theater, Bad Lauchstädt		
9	19:00	Il Messia	Dom		
10	19.30	Chain of Life – Echoes of Handel?	St. Georgen Kirche		
<b>Sunday, 28. May 2023 (Pentecost Sunday)</b>					
11	11.00	Cieco Amor	Löwengebäude		
12	11.00	7. Sinfoniekonzert der Staatskapelle Halle	Georg-Friedrich-Händel Halle		
13	12.00	Lunch-Konzert I: Léon Berben	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal	Free entry	
14	14.30	Alessandro Severo HWV A13 **	Goethe-Theater, Bad Lauchstädt		
15	15:00	Serse HWV 40	Oper Halle		
16	19.30	Festkonzert mit Anna Prohaska und Bejun Mehta	Konzerthalle Ulrichskirche		
<b>Monday, 29. May 2023 (Pentecost Monday)</b>				Free entry	
17	11.00	Vom echten und falschen Händel-Haus	Händel-Haus, Museumskasse		
18	12.00	Lunch-Konzert II: Eszter Balogh & Asako Ogawa	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal	Free entry	
19	14.30	Alessandro Severo HWV A13 **	Goethe-Theater, Bad Lauchstädt		
20	16.00	Aci, Galatea e Polifemo HWV 72	Löwengebäude (Uni-Aula)		
21	19.00	Baroque Lounge 1: Agrippina – A Baroque Jazz-Guide	St. Georgen-Kirche		
22	19:30	7. Sinfoniekonzert der Staatskapelle Halle	Georg-Friedrich-Händel Halle		

No	Time	Event	Place		
<b>Tuesday, 30. May 2023 (Internationale Wissenschaftliche Konferenz 9 bis 17 Uhr)</b>				Free entry	
24	18.00	Wandelkonzert: „Liebliche Töne erklingen“	Botanischer Garten	-----	
25	19.30	Festkonzert mit Julia Lezhneva	Konzerthalle Ulrichskirche		
<b>Wednesday, 31. May 2023 (Internationale Wissenschaftliche Konferenz 9 bis 17 Uhr)</b>				Free entry	
26	15.00	Stadtführung „Händel und die Musikstadt Halle“	Händel-Haus, Großer Hof	-----	
28	19.00	WasserMusik	MS Händel II, Riveufer, Bootsanleger	-----	
<b>Thursday, 1. June 2023</b>					
29	19.00	Orlando HWV 31	Oper Halle		
30	19.30	Sängerkrieg – Der Poetry-Slam zu Dideldum und Dideldi	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal		
<b>Friday, 2. June 2023</b>					
31	15.00	Führung durch die Musikinstrumenten-Ausstellung	Händel-Haus		
32	17.00	Messiah HWV 56	Marktkirche		
33	20.00	Baroque Lounge II: Händel Reloaded	St. Georgen-Kirche		
<b>Saturday, 3. June 2023</b>					
35	11.00	Vom echten und falschen Händel-Haus	Händel-Haus, Museumskasse		
36	12.00	Lunch-Konzert III: Hilary Cronin & Asako Ogawa	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal	Free entry	
37	16.00	Musikalische Begegnungen: G. F. Händel und J. F. Fasch	Konzerthalle Ulrichskirche		
38	18.00	Motette	Marktkirche		
39	19.00	Metamorphosis	Leopoldina		
40	19.30	Serse HWV 40	Oper Halle		
<b>Sunday, 4. June 2023</b>					
42	11.00	Festkonzert mit Raffaele Pe	Löwengebäude (Uni-Aula)		
43	11.00	Lunch-Konzert IV: Asako Ogawa	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal	Free entry	
45	17.00	Orlando: Amore – Gelosia – Follia	Leopoldina		
<b>Monday, 5. June 2023</b>					
46	18.00	Wandelkonzert: „Liebliche Töne erklingen“	Botanischer Garten	-----	
47	19.30	Ad Álgea	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal		
<b>Tuesday, 6. June 2023</b>					
48	19.30	Händel versus Bononcini	Löwengebäude (Uni-Aula)		
<b>Wednesday, 7. June 2023</b>					
49	15.00	Stadtführung „Händel und die Musikstadt Halle“	Händel-Haus, Großer Hof	-----	
51	19.00	Orlando HWV 31	Oper Halle		
52	19.00	WasserMusik	MS Händel II, Riveufer, Bootsanleger	-----	
53	19.30	„Ein prächtiger, erhabener und lebhafter Gesang“	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal		

No	Time	Event	Place	PC	PT
<b>Thursday, 8. June 2023</b>					
54	19.30	Festkonzert mit Jakub Józef Orliński	Konzerthalle Ulrichskirche		
<b>Friday, 9. June 2023</b>					
55	15.00	Führung durch die Musikinstrumenten-Ausstellung	Händel-Haus		
56	19.00	Rinaldo HWV 7b **	Goethe-Theater, Bad Lauchstädt		
57	19.30	Lotario HWV 26 (Konzertante Aufführung)	Oper Halle		
<b>Saturday, 10. June 2023</b>					
58	11.00	Stadtführung „Händel und die Musikstadt Halle“	Händel-Haus, Großer Hof	-----	
59	14.00	Kinderkonzert „Frühling im Garten des Riesen“	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal		
60	14.30	Rinaldo HWV 7b **	Goethe-Theater, Bad Lauchstädt		
62	17.00	Festkonzert mit Andrea Marcon und Julian Prégardien	Konzerthalle Ulrichskirche		
63	21.00	Bridges to Classics (Open-Air)	Galgenbergschlucht		
<b>Sunday, 11. June 2023</b>					
65	11.00	„The leaves be green“	Händel-Haus, Kammermusiksaal		
66	14.30	Rinaldo HWV 7b **	Goethe-Theater, Bad Lauchstädt		
67	15.00	Serse HWV 40	Oper Halle		
68	16.00	Giulio Cesare in Egitto HWV 17	Oper Leipzig		
69	17.00	Festkonzert mit Andrea Marcon und Veronica Cangemi	Konzerthalle Ulrichskirche		
70	21.00	Abschlusskonzert mit Feuerwerk	Galgenbergschlucht		