

»War & Peace« // »Krieg & Frieden«

Hartmut Haenchen conducts a series of concerts based on his own concept throughout Europe and Japan in 2014 – 2016

“The war will never end as long as any wound that it has inflicted is still bleeding” (Heinrich Böll). Most of the wounds inflicted in Europe in the early 20th century are now scarred over, and the horrors of war and its consequences on our continent, which has now been at peace for more than six decades, are rapidly fading from memory. Hartmut Haenchen, born in Dresden in 1943, experienced the complete destruction of his native city in Allied air raids as a two-year-old, and grew up in the ruins of the former “Florence of the Elbe”. As an East German citizen, he was a witness of the Cold War and – as a political and artistic freethinker – he the victim of state reprisals as early as 1959. It was not until 1986 that he was able finally to escape these by “voluntarily” leaving the country. War and peace have profoundly shaped the life of this much-honoured musician – and he is now devoting a special series of concerts to this theme, inspired by the spate of historical anniversaries in 2014/15: the First World War broke out 100 years ago, the Second World War 75 years ago, and the unification of the two Germanies was celebrated 25 years ago. 2015 is also the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

With his project War & Peace, Haenchen would like to draw musical attention to the gaping wounds inflicted by wars, at a time when there is a growing danger of conflict. He has brought together compositions created under conditions directly marked by lack of liberty, violence and suffering, and contrasting them with classical masterpieces informed by a sense of peace. The central pillar of the War & Peace cycle, which was launched in mid-May in Helsinki – the venue for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) – is Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony no. 8. In this work, composed in 1943, the year of Haenchen's birth, the Russian composer uses highly expressive devices to “articulate the experience of the people and the terrible tragedy of war” in music. The conductor gained special insights into this so-called “Stalingrad Symphony” while studying with Yevgeny Mravinsky, who provided him with the opportunity of speaking twice with Shostakovich about the Eighth Symphony. Shostakovich said: “This work reflects my thoughts, feelings and mental states with regard to the happy news about the first victories of the Red Army ... all the darkness and ignominy will pass, all that is beautiful will triumph.” And the symphony does indeed end – like Beethoven's Fifth, which Haenchen has chosen to pair it with in a programme of the War & Peace project – in C major the key of light ... though it does so very differently, without any heroism or triumph.

Haenchen has taken other pieces that were written under the impression of violence and death into his repertoire for the various programmes of the War & Peace series of concerts, which, in various guises and combinations, can be heard into 2016 throughout Europe and Japan, including in Helsinki, Tokyo, Stockholm, Oslo, Brussels, Copenhagen, Genf, Madrid, Toledo, Pisa, Colon, Weimar, Amsterdam, Toulouse, Lille, Bergen and Barcelona. Works include Bohuslav Martinů's “Memorial to Lidice”, Karl Amadeus Hartmann's “Concerto funebre”, Arnold Schoenberg's “A Survivor from Warsaw”, Richard Strauss's “Metamorphosen”, Johannes Brahms “Schicksalslied”, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozarts “Requiem” and Frank Martin's oratorio “In terra pax”. After two other programs in this Cycle in Tokyo he is conducting the Sumida Memorial Peace Concert in Tokyo 2015 in honor of the victims of the bombing of Tokyo 70 years ago.

Hartmut Haenchen is integrating Gluck's opera “Iphigenie en Tauride” in Geneva and Beethoven's opera “Fidelio”, as a central embodiment of the struggle against tyranny and bondage, into his War & Peace project, conducting the opera in May and June 2015 at the Teatro Real in Madrid. “Beethoven is the real singer of freedom, the greatest the nation had ... No one has musically depicted the horrors of imprisonment, the gloomy Bastille that filled the Parisians with incredible fear, as he has,” wrote Beethoven's biographer Ludwig Nohl right back in the mid-19th century. It is thus very appropriate that Hartmut Haenchen will celebrate the 2015 Day of German Unity in Stockholm with Beethoven's Symphony no. 9 and its “Ode to Joy” as part of his War & Peace cycle – and it will be a celebration and jubilation.

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Programme and Dates May 2014 – December 2016 // »War & Peace«-project

15. May 2014 | Helsinki Music Centre | 19.00 Uhr

Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony Nr. 8 C minor

15. July 2014 | Tokyo | Suntory Hall | 19.00 h

Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

20. July 2014 | Tokyo | Metropolitan Art Space | 19.00 h

Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra
Paul Lewis (Klavier)

Bohuslav **Martinů**: Memorial to Lidice
Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Piano Concerto No 3 in C minor
Franz **Schubert**: Symphony No 9 C major "Great"

11. September 2014 | Stockholm | Konserthuset | 19.30 h // Gala Opening Concert of the New Season

Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

13. September 2014 | Stockholm | Konserthuset | 15.30 h

Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor (on Video http://rspoplay.se/#tcywoDZU_MfBPPB9GyKa2A)
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

20. September 2014 | Oslo | Den Norske Opera // Festive Opening of the Concert Season

The Norwegian National Opera Orchestra

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

09. October 2014 | Brussels | Palais des Beaux Arts | BOZAR | 20.00 h

Orchestre Symphonique du Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

28. November 2014 | Copenhagen | New Opera House | 20.00 h

Det Kongelige Kapel (The Royal Danish Orchestra)

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

25. Januar 2015 | Genf | Grand Théâtre de Genève | 19.30 Uhr // PREMIERE

Christoph Willibald **Gluck**: Iphigénie en Tauride

Orchestre de la Suisse Romande

Chœur du grand Théâtre de Genève

Regie: Lukas Hemleb
Bühnenausstattung: Alexander Polzin
Kostüm: Andrea Schmidt-Futterer

Anna Caterina Antonacci Iphigénie
Bruno Taddia Oreste
Steve Davislim Pylade
Alexey Tikhomirov Thoas
Julienne Walker Diane
Michel de Souza Un Scythe

Performances: 27., 29., 31. Januar sowie 2., 4. Februar 2015 | Genf | Grand Théâtre de Genève | jeweils 19.30 Uhr

7. März 2015 | Tokyo | Sumida-Triphony-Hall | 19.00 Uhr // SUMIDA MEMORIAL PEACE CONCERT 2015

New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra; Ritsuyukai Choir (Einstudierung: Fumiaki Kuriyama),
Shigeke Hata (Sopran); Mariko Kobayashi (Mezzo); Hiroyuki Yoshida (Tenor); Katsunori Kono (Bass)

Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart**: Kyrie d-Moll KV 341
Fünf **Japanische Lieder** arrangiert von Myoshi
Johannes **Brahms**: Schicksalslied
Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart**: Requiem (Version: Hartmut Haenchen)

24. März 2015 | Madrid | Auditorio Nacional de Música | 19.30 Uhr

Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid

Richard **Strauss**: Also sprach Zarathustra
Franz **Schubert**: Symphony C major

28. März 2015 | Toledo | Kathedrale | 20.00 Uhr

Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 9 D minor

27. Mai 2015 | Madrid | Teatro Real | 20.00 Uhr // PREMIERE

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Fidelio

Performances: 30. Mai, 2., 5., 7., 11., 14., 17. April

23. Juni 2015 | Dresden | Sächsisches Landesgymnasium für Musik, Kretschmerstr. | 13.45 Uhr

Talk with students of the Landesgymnasiums
Zeitzeugenbefragung

12. September 2015 | Pisa | Duomo | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestra e Coro dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia. Roma

Joseph **Haydn**: Die Schöpfung

27. September 2015 | Brüssel | Palais der schönen Künste | BOZAR | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestre Symphonique du Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie

Bohuslav **Martinu**: Lidice
Karl Amadeus **Hartmann**: Concerto funebre
Anton **Bruckner**: Sinfonie Nr. 3

1. und 3. Oktober 2015 | Stockholm | Konserthuset | 19.00 Uhr

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Bohuslav **Martín**: Lidice
Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 9 D minor

13. und 14 November 2015 | Valencia | Palau de la Música | 19.00 Uhr

Orquesta de Valencia

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 4 in B major
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

10./11./12. Januar 2016 | Köln | Philharmonie | 20.00 Uhr

Gürzenich Orchestra

Georg Friedrich **Händel**: Feuerwerksmusik
Karl Amadeus **Hartmann**: Concerto funebre
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

19. Februar 2016 | Toulouse | Halle aux Grain | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestre national du Capitole de Toulouse

Bohuslav **Martín**: Lidice
Karl Amadeus **Hartmann**: Concerto funebre (Isabelle van Keulen)
Richard **Strauss**: Alpensinfonie

29. Februar 2016 | Helsinki | Music Centre | 20.00 Uhr

Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra

Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart**: *Maurerische Trauermusik*
Bohuslav **Martín**: *Lidice*
Anton **Bruckner**: Sinfonie Nr. 5

20. und 21. März 2016 | Weimar | Weimarahalle | 20.00 Uhr

Staatskapelle Weimar

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: Symphony No 5 in C minor
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

21./22. und 24. Mai 2016 | Amsterdam | Concertgebouw | 20.15 Uhr

Nederlands Philharmonisch Orkest

Georg Friedrich **Händel**: Feuerwerksmusik (für den Aachener Frieden)
Dmitri **Shostakovich**: Symphony No 8 in C minor

2. Juli 2016 | Lille | Auditorium du Nouveau Siècle | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestre national de Lille

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: *Missa solennis*

3. Juli 2016 | Valenciennes | Auditorium | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestre national de Lille

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: *Missa solennis*

22. und 23. Oktober 2016 | Bergen | Grieg Hall | 19.00 Uhr

Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra

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11./12. und 13. November 2016 | Barcelona | L'Auditori | 21.00 Uhr

Orquesta Simfònica de Barcelona i Nacional de Catalunya

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: *Missa solemnis*

7./9. Dezember 2016 | Genf | Victoria Hall | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestre de la Suisse Romande

Bohuslav **Martín**: *Lidice*

Johann Sebastian **Bach**/ Leopold Stokowski: *Toccatà und Fuge d-Moll*

Jean-Luc **Darbellay**: *in Memoriam Paul Klee* **Uraufführung**

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: *Sinfonie Nr. 5 c-Moll*

8. Dezember 2016 | Lausanne| Palais de Beaulieu | 20.00 Uhr

Orchestre de la Suisse Romande

Bohuslav **Martín**: *Lidice*

Johann Sebastian **Bach**/ Leopold Stokowski: *Toccatà und Fuge d-Moll*

Jean-Luc **Darbellay**: *in Memoriam Paul Klee* **Uraufführung**

Ludwig van **Beethoven**: *Sinfonie Nr. 5 c-Moll*

Dates and programmes hereafter will be announced always eight months prior to the concert date on the website of the artist (www.haenchen.net).