

Prague Spring  
Final Report 2025

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# REPORT



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This year marked the 80th edition of the Prague Spring International Music Festival. The current program offered a wide range of genres and formats. Early and contemporary music, performed by world-renowned soloists and ensembles, was framed by the traditional opening cycle of Smetana's symphonic poems, presented by the Czech Philharmonic under its Chief Conductor Semyon Bychkov, and concluded with Mahler's powerful message in his Symphony of a Thousand. The successful Prague Spring 2025 is now a cherished memory – long live Prague Spring 2026!

Martin Baxa  
Minister of Culture



Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends, Prague Spring 2025 once again filled Prague with music that brings hearts and cultures together. Every note was a celebration of art, every performance a testament to the fact that the beauty of music knows no boundaries. I rejoice in another successful edition, and I believe that so do all those who shared this unique journey with us – for the eightieth time. My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who prepared this festival, performed in it, and came to experience it. I am sure that every music lover is already looking forward to Prague Spring 2026 – and that includes me.

Bohuslav Svoboda  
Mayor of Prague



Dear friends,

We have just concluded one of the most successful editions of the Prague Spring in the festival's history. We have broken records in audience numbers and ticket sales, sold out dozens of concerts, and welcomed numerous distinguished guests to both the stage and the auditorium, including journalists from all over the world. Alongside our long-standing partners and patrons, we have also been joined by new sponsors.

We gained a new main partner, while our general partner and the Ministry of Culture increased their support. This has enabled us to present a truly exceptional programme in 2025 and has strengthened the festival's budgetary stability. For all of this, we owe immense thanks to you – the friends and supporters of the Prague Spring – not only from the festival team, but also from the artists, who made no secret of their delight at the deep understanding of music and the exceptionally warm reception shown by the festival audience. I believe it is ultimately this that makes the Prague Spring such a unique musical event of international standing and gives us all great hope that the finest artists will continue to return to the festival regularly and with enthusiasm.

Thanks to the support of our media partners, music lovers abroad were also able to enjoy the Prague Spring to a great extent this year. Festival concerts were broadcast in Spain, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, Denmark, the Netherlands, Poland, Estonia, Romania, Croatia, and the Republic of Korea. Czech Television recorded three Prague Spring concerts, while Czech Radio offered four concerts live. As is now tradition, we live-streamed the Prague Spring Competition, watched by tens of thousands of fans around the world. The festival's new media partner, the Czech News Agency (CTK), reported almost daily on the latest events. In cooperation with CzechTourism and

the Czech Centres, we welcomed journalists from across the globe, and the festival received extensive coverage in Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, Brazilian, Indian, German, British, Irish, Italian, Spanish, Serbian, Slovak, and Polish media. We also owe a great debt of gratitude to Czech journalists, who throughout the year have brought unique interviews and articles about the Prague Spring 2025 to lovers of classical music, and whose concert reviews will remain a lasting record of the jubilee 80th edition for generations to come.

To all of you who contributed to this year's festival, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks and my hope that you will remain loyal to the Prague Spring in the years ahead, for it is a festival that is truly unique – and I dare say, the only one of its kind in the Czech Republic.

[Pavel Trojan](#)  
[Director of the Prague Spring](#)

# A RECORD-BREAKING FESTIVAL IN NUMBERS

The **80<sup>th</sup>** anniversary edition of the Prague Spring International Music Festival and the **76<sup>th</sup>** Prague Spring International Music Competition brought a total of **80** events, including **46** concerts featuring more than **100** soloists, ensembles, and orchestras from **24** countries around the world. These attracted some **30,000** audience members and generated record takings of CZK **36.2 million**, exceeding last year's record by CZK **11 million**. Attendance reached **95%**, with **34** festival events sold out completely, including all the major symphonic concerts. The festival welcomed **8** foreign orchestras and presented **10** world premieres.

The **76<sup>th</sup>** edition of the Prague Spring International Music Competition also broke records, with an all-time high of **458** young musicians from **47** countries applying. In total, **87** musicians from **29** countries came to Prague to compete in the oboe and cello categories.

Between 22 October 2024 and 30 June 2025, the festival website attracted **218,000** users. On social media – Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube – posts reached **1.3 million** users and generated **5.6 million** media views. More than **2,000** articles and news reports on Prague Spring achieved a total estimated reach of approximately **194 million**, with an advertising value equivalency (AVE) of over CZK **1,660,000,000**. One concert broadcast, **25** episodes of Prague Spring Echoes, and the official festival trailer were seen on Czech Television by over **3,493,300** viewers. Czech Radio broadcast **4** concerts live. All broadcasts were made available to dozens of other radio stations via the EBU broadcasting network.



# PRAGUE SPRING 2025 PARTNERS

Prague Spring is an international music and cultural event with a unique position on the Czech cultural scene. Its leading status in today's competitive environment is maintained in part thanks to the support of festival partners from both the public and private sectors.

Prague Spring is a public service company and a prime example of diversified funding, with a well-balanced mix of **public funding**, **ticket sales**, and **sponsorship**. In 2025, the festival's budget exceeded CZK 130 million. This multi-source funding model demonstrates how culture can be supported through a variety of collaborative approaches. We thank all our partners from the public and private spheres for their support, trust, and shared passion for classical music.

Cooperation with partners is reflected in a range of accompanying and presentation activities that reinforce the **links between culture and business while reaching out to the festival's audiences**. In 2025, these included press conferences, partner concerts, round tables, expert meetings, open-air events, social gatherings, and family-friendly programmes. These formats allow partners **to gain visibility, foster contacts, and actively engage in the festival's life**.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all our partners from the public and private sectors for their support, trust, and shared enthusiasm for classical music.



The general partner of the festival is the CEZ Group.



Meeting of representatives of the festival's main partner, Doosan Škoda Power, with President Petr Pavel and his wife at the Opening Concert



The Prague Spring Festival offers partnership opportunities for individual concerts and projects. One such partner is Allianz pojišťovna, a. s.

In addition to long-standing partners from both the public and private sectors – such as **the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the City of Prague, CEZ Group, innogy Česká republika, CETIN, Allianz pojišťovna, Philip Morris ČR, ABB, the ČEZ Foundation, and Mercedes-Benz Czech Republic** – Prague Spring welcomed new supporters in 2025, with **Doosan Škoda Power** joining as main partner and **FNC Technology Co.** as concert partner. Thanks to this financial support, the festival is able to present a world-class programme every year and invite top artists from around the globe to Prague. **We extend our sincere thanks for their trust and support.**

## PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE 2025

With financial support



MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
CZECH REPUBLIC



General Partner



Main Partner



Festival Partner



Concert Partners



PHILIP MORRIS ČR



Technology Partner



Competition Partner



Official Car



General Media Partner



Main Media Partner



Media Partner







The ČEZ Open Air took place as part of the festival in front of Prague's Rudolfinum

*Music accompanies us through life, bringing us both strength and joy – just like the energy we deliver every day. We are proud to have stood alongside the 80th edition of the Prague Spring Festival this year, which unites artistic excellence with profound human experience. We thank the organisers and audiences alike for unforgettable musical moments and look forward to many more shared encounters.*

**Daniel Beneš**, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO of CEZ Group

*At Doosan Škoda Power, we see support for classical music as a natural extension of our activities and values. We place emphasis on quality, long-term vision, human potential, and social responsibility. The world of culture and the energy industry share much in common: precision and attention to detail, harmony of individuals in pursuit of a perfect whole, and also creativity and innovative thinking. We believe that culture has the power to inspire not only individuals but society as a whole. That is why we see our support for the Prague Spring Festival as a vital investment in cultural and human capital.*

**Youngki Lim**, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO of Doosan Škoda Power

*Our collaboration with Prague Spring on the SpringTEEN project is a wonderful example of how two seemingly distant worlds – classical music and advanced technology – can come together in an inspiring experience. ABB has long supported the promotion of technical education, and we believe that when technology is presented in an engaging and accessible way, it can spark curiosity, develop talent, and encourage creative thinking. That is precisely the deeper meaning we see in our support for culture and education.*

**Vítězslav Lukáš**, Board Member at ABB Česká Republika



ABB, partner of the SpringTEEN project

*We have been reliably powering the tones of Prague Spring for 31 years. For us, spring begins on 12 May and ends on 3 June, when – after a magnificent closing concert in excellent company – we welcome summer. We thank the entire Prague Spring team for the beautiful concerts of this year's edition and look forward to more classical tones in the years to come.*

**Zuzana Tylčerová**, Head of Corporate Affairs, innogy



Partners of the Prague Spring Festival 2025





Czech Television, the general media partner of the Prague Spring, prepares, in collaboration with the festival, series of reports entitled *ECHO of the Prague Spring*.

## MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS

Media partnerships are an essential part of the festival's public presentation. Our long-term and professional cooperation with **Czech Television** and **Czech Radio** enables the festival to cross the imaginary threshold of the concert hall and deliver **musical experiences** to audiences across **Bohemia, Moravia, and the wider world** through live broadcasts and recordings.

The media image of the Prague Spring has traditionally been supported by the **Hospodářské noviny** daily newspaper, the magazines **Proč ne**, **Ekonom**, **HN Víkend**, and the online portals **Aktuálně.cz** and **hn.cz** of the **Economia a. s.**, a media partner of the festival. The festival also enjoys long-standing cooperation with dozens of other independent media outlets and companies such as **Aerofilms**, **Classic Praha**, **KlasikaPlus.cz**, **Marie Claire**, **Opera PLUS**, **Polyharmonie**, **Radio Proglas**, **Xantypa**, and many others. The festival also established a new media partnership this year with the **Czech News Agency (CTK)**, which reported regularly on the concerts of the 80th Prague Spring.



The main media partner, Czech Radio, has been associated with the Prague Spring since the very first festival in 1946.



Alongside the print and digital campaigns, two special Prague Spring supplements are being published in collaboration with Economia a.s.



Petr Pavel, President of the Czech Republic, with his wife, and Martin Baxa, Minister of Culture, at the Opening Concert

## CULTURAL DIPLOMACY AND EDUCATION

The festival plays an important role in international cultural exchange and cooperation through music.

In 2025, collaboration deepened with a number of foreign diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, which contributed significantly to the international character of the festival. Together with the embassies of the **Republic of Korea, Japan, France, Switzerland, Estonia, Latvia, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom**, we were able to organise not only artistic performances by top interpreters but also social and networking events.

In 2025, Prague Spring continued its previous collaborations with institutions such as **the National Theatre, the National Gallery Prague, the National Technical Museum, the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, the Austrian Cultural Forum, the French Institute, Czech Centres, Czech Tourism and the Czech-German Fund for the Future**. These partnerships supported the realisation of specific concert projects as well as long-term experience exchange. The festival also continued to work with platforms such as **MenART**, which supports young talent, and **ZUŠ Open**. Thanks to these collaborations, Prague Spring remains active in the fields of cultural diplomacy and education. Thanks for long-term cooperation are also due to **NH Hotels** and **Yamaha**.



Tõnu Kaljuste, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. Gita Kalmet, Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia



Youngki Hong, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Czech Republic





Bohuslav Svoboda with his wife. The Mayor of Prague opens the Prague Spring Festival every year.

*I am very pleased with how significantly this ensemble has made its mark in the history of this beautiful and prestigious Czech festival. I am amazed at how characteristically this collaboration is tied to the “fives” of the years. The Orchestra first performed at the Prague Spring in 1965, and in 2005 it even had the honour of opening the festival with Smetana’s My Homeland. The year 2025 was also special in a certain way, as the orchestra performed for the first time under the baton of its new chief conductor, Sir Antonio Pappano.*

[Matt Field, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Czech Republic](#)



Petr Pavel, President of the Czech Republic, with Petr Fiala, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, during a festival social event



Nagaoka Kansuke, Ambassador of Japan to the Czech Republic, conductor Fabio Luisi, and concertmaster of the NHK Symphony Orchestra, Kota Nagahara, after the concert at Prague’s Rudolfinum

*The Embassy of the United States in Prague is deeply honored to continue our long relationship with the Prague Spring International Music Festival as it brings world class performances and artists to audiences in Czechia. I am thrilled that the Boston Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Andris Nelsons, were among the extraordinary musicians at this year’s event.*

[Christy Agor, chargé d’Affaires, US Embassy to the Czech Republic](#)

*I am delighted to celebrate the milestone 80th anniversary of the Prague Spring International Music Festival and to welcome the NHK Symphony Orchestra from Japan to this prestigious event. One of Japan’s most important orchestras, approaching its 100th anniversary next year, embarks on this European tour – their first in five years – marking a significant occasion: their second performance at the Prague Spring Music Festival. They last performed at the festival forty-two years ago, in 1983.*

[Nagaoka Kansuke, Ambassador of Japan to the Czech Republic](#)



# THE PRAGUE SPRING PATRONS' CLUB

The Prague Spring Patrons' Club is a community of friends and supporters whose generosity enables Prague Spring to flourish and to present the very best of Czech and international music. Our patrons form a community, which we nurture with respect and gratitude throughout the year.



Visit to the recording studio at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (HAMU)



Visit to the Nostitz Palace



Meeting of the patrons during the festival



Meeting at the Church of Saint Lawrence

Club members enjoy a range of exclusive benefits, including a private presentation of the upcoming programme with priority ticket booking before public sales begin, regular gatherings at inspiring venues with leading figures from the cultural scene, and international trips in pursuit of exceptional artistic experiences.

The club also serves as a unique platform for building and deepening relationships between key cultural patrons, the professional public, and other actors in cultural life. Partnering with the club allows companies and institutions to take an active role in supporting a prestigious international festival, enhance their visibility at exclusive events, and associate their brand with the values of cultural excellence and social responsibility.

The Patrons' Club thus creates an environment in which culture, business, and patronage naturally intersect – three pillars upon which a vibrant and sustainable cultural scene rests.





# A JOURNEY TO THE GOTHENBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

From 18 to 21 March, the Prague Spring Patron's Club visited Gothenburg, Sweden – a city connected with the work of Bedřich Smetana and home to the world-renowned Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, which this year performed at the Prague Spring Festival for the first time.



The programme included an exclusive opportunity to attend the orchestra's dress rehearsal and evening concert in their architecturally unique concert hall dating from 1935. Under the baton of Anna Rakitina, the performance featured Poulenc's *Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra*, interpreted by Arthur and Lucas Jussen.

Musicologist Anders Carlsson introduced participants to Smetana's legacy in the city, including a visit to places where the composer lived and performed. In conclusion, the patrons experienced a remarkable performance of Britten's opera *Peter Grimes* at the modern Gothenburg Opera House, beautifully situated on the shores of the Kattegat Bay.

# FESTIVAL

*Names. Great international names. They are what defines an international showcase more than anything. In number, in concentration, and in significance, they surpass the ordinary season. They are what makes a festival the festival. Be it soloists, conductors, or ensembles... This year's line-up was exceptional.*

Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz

*A sense of celebration was felt at almost every concert.*

Daniel Jäger, Český rozhlas Vltava

*The festival's renown is vast, its standing global, and its image has become a permanent part of the cultural landscape of its home city.*

Mateusz Ciupka, Ruch Muzyczny

*It is musical heaven.*

Pavel Kosatík, Czech Radio Dvojka

*Once again, Prague Spring confirmed that, even after eighty years of existence, it is in excellent form. It keeps pace with the latest trends, honours tradition, and offers debuts by conductors, instrumental competitions, and the appearance of orchestras of the highest renown. It embraces unorthodox programming, young children, and demanding world premieres alike.*

Matěj Hollan, Deník N

# TOWN LISTER





# OPENING CONCERT

12. & 13. 5.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

**Bedřich Smetana**  
*My Country*

**Czech Philharmonic**  
**Semjon Byčkov** – conductor

General Partner



Má vlast, My Homeland, Mein Vaterland, Patria mia, Ma Patrie, Rodina... We all have one, whatever we call it. It expresses the same emotions. Identification with our roots and a sense of belonging. The pride we draw from the finest parts of our heritage, and the pain of living with and confronting its darker sides. Smetana speaks on behalf of his country, of its yearning for independence at a time when it needed to assert its national identity, its language, its way of thinking. Looking back, he dreams of the future.

**Semjon Byčkov**, Chief Conductor  
of the Czech Philharmonic





*To attend the festive Opening of the Prague Spring is always a privilege. The Opening of the 80th edition is a double celebration for us and also a cause for pride. Thank you.*

[Eva Pavlová and President of the Czech Republic Petr Pavel](#)



*My Country fulfils a similar ritual role in Czech society as Bach's Passions do in Germany. The performance of My Country by Semyon Bychkov and his Philharmonic was a remarkable achievement, even in a year as packed as this one.*

[Martin Zvěřina, Lidovky.cz](#)

*It is truly remarkable how this work acts as a milestone and an anchor in such turbulent times.*

[Jindřich Bálek, Polyharmonie](#)



# ČEZ OPEN AIR

11. – 12. 5.

2 – 10 pm,  
public space in front of the Rudolfinum

General Partner



In cooperation with



The two-day ČEZ Open Air event in front of the Rudolfinum, organised in collaboration with general partner CEZ Group, offered the public free concerts by music school ensembles and professional musicians, film screenings, a children's programme, and culminated in a live broadcast of the Czech Philharmonic's opening concert, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere and a memorable open-air cultural experience.







*The sold-out concert was followed by hundreds of people watching the live broadcast on the large screen in front of the Rudolfinum.*

Eliška Stodolová, Radek  
Cihla, Pražský deník



*An absolutely confident description and aggressive celebration of a proud land brimming with history and wonder.*

Frank Kuznik, Bachtrack



# TRIBUTE TO BEDŘICH SMETANA AT SLAVÍN

12. 5., 10 am

Vyšehrad Cemetery – Slavín



## TWO ARTISTS, TWO VIEWS

9. & 10. 5., 4 pm

Academy of Performing Arts in Prague

**Fabien Thousand, Vilém Veverka** – oboes

**Marc Coppey, Tomáš Jamník** – cellos

This accompanying event offered insights into the Czech repertoire of the competition's first round through the interpretative perspectives of both Czech and international jury members.



# COMPETITION FINALS

## OBOE

13. 5., 6 pm  
Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

With financial support



**Jiří Gemrot, Bohuslav Martinů,  
Bernd Alois Zimmermann**

**Prague Philharmonia  
Robert Kružík – conductor**

*I believe I will remember  
this evening for the rest  
of my life.*

*Fedor Osver, competition laureate*



# COMPETITION FINALS

## CELLO

14. 5., 6 pm  
Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

With financial support



**Johann Sebastian Bach,  
Antonín Dvořák**

**Prague Symphony Orchestra  
Marek Prášil – conductor**

*These ten days in Prague were truly  
extraordinary. Everyone here is so kind.  
I am deeply grateful for all the support  
I have received and will do my best  
to give my all in the future.*

*Yuya Mizuno, competition winner*

# BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

14. 5.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

**Dmitrij Šostakovič:** *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra No. 1,*  
*Symphony No. 11 "The Year 1905"*

**Boston Symphony Orchestra**

**Andris Nelsons** – conductor

**Baiba Skride** – violin

Main Partner

**DOOSAN Škoda Power**

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the United States of America in the Czech Republic and the Embassy of the Republic of Latvia in the Czech Republic

The historic Prague Spring debut of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Andris Nelsons and joined by violinist Baiba Skride, also marked the 50th anniversary of the death of Dmitri Shostakovich.







*That's how artistic milestones are born!*

[Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)

*It was the miracle of music taking form. First Boston, then Chicago – frankly, one could very quickly get used to, and delight in, such grand and powerful playing...*

[Petr Fischer, Přítomnost](#)

*A surge of uncompromising energy swept across the stage – language more often used to describe rock or metal gigs, but no less apt here.*

[Matěj Hollan, Deník N](#)

*Absolute music in a flawless interpretation.*

[Alex Švamberk, Novinky.cz](#)



*She delivered the notes with heavenly lightness, as if not even touching the strings. All the more striking was the contrast in other passages, where she presented a wild ride, tearing with such verve at the bow hairs that they could not withstand her energy. She was recalled to the stage several times by the audience's prolonged applause.*

[Martina Heroldová, Aktuálně.cz](#)







# NHK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

15. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of Japan in the Czech Republic.

**Tōru Takemitsu, Alban Berg, Johannes Brahms**

**NHK Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo**

**Fabio Luisi** – conductor

**Akiko Suwanai** – violin

The NHK Symphony Orchestra made its Prague Spring debut in 2025 under the baton of Fabio Luisi and joined by violinist Akiko Suwanai. The powerful programme of Takemitsu, Berg, and Brahms proved one of the highlights of the festival's international line-up.



*An impressive blend of discipline and expression.*

[Frank Kuznik, Bachtrack](#)

*I have never before heard Berg's concerto live in such refined interpretation.*

[Martin Jemelka, Polyharmonie](#)

*The festival concert featuring a demanding, almost "club-like" programme for the audience proved a real success!*

[Štěpán Filípek, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)



Patricia Kopatchinskaja —  
festival's Artist-in-Residence

# TIME & ETERNITY

16. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

Concert held under the patronage  
of the Embassy of Switzerland

**John Zorn, Karl Amadeus Hartmann, Johann  
Sebastian Bach, Guillaume de Machaut, Frank  
Martin, Luboš Fišer**

**Patricia Kopatchinskaja** – concept, violin,  
artistic direction

**Camerata Bern**

**Wiesław Pipczynski** – accordion

**Beata Würsten, Sarah Würsten,**

**Monika Würsten** – vocals

Prague Spring 2025 Artist-in-Residence  
Patricia Kopatchinskaja presented three  
stylistically contrasting programmes, the  
highlight of which was the multimedia  
project *Time & Eternity*, affirming her  
reputation as an artist who breaks  
through the boundaries of traditional  
concert experience.

*She let herself be swept away by the musical  
current, as if unaware of where she was or what  
she was doing. She lived the music. For some,  
perhaps too experimental or bold – for me, a reason  
to rise to my feet in applause, something I do only  
once in a great while.*

[Kateřina Pincová, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)

*Artiste en majesté.*

[Hélène Pierrakos, Webtheatre \(FR\)](#)



# PIERROT LUNAIRE

17. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

Concert held under the patronage  
of the Embassy of Switzerland

**Igor Stravinskij, Darius Milhaud,  
Béla Bartók, Arnold Schönberg**

**Patricia Kopatchinskaja** – recitation, violin  
**Meesun Hong Coleman** – violin, viola  
**Júlia Gállego** – flute, **Reto Bieri** – clarinet  
**Thomas Kaufmann** – cello  
**Joonas Ahonen** – piano

Patricia Kopatchinskaja presented a staged performance of Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire* and an evening inspired by jazz and folk elements, with works by Stravinsky, Bartók and Milhaud, enriched by her distinctive expression and visual elements.



*To see someone so wholly, even painfully, immersed in the role they portray was truly an experience. (...) The ease with which they played made Dvořák Hall feel like someone's living room.*

[Jiří Slabihoudek, Seznam Zprávy](#)

*Her Pierrot is a spectacle. It is unique, and regrettably, it's likely we won't witness anything like it in Prague again anytime soon.*

[Martin Zvěřina, Lidovky.cz](#)

*It was electrifying, and I cannot imagine seeing a better Pierrot lunaire in the Czech Republic in future.*

[Luboš Stehlík, Polyharmonie](#)







# TRIBUTE TO LUBOŠ FIŠER

18. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

Concert held under the patronage  
of the Embassy of Switzerland

**Luboš Fišer, Ludwig van Beethoven**

**Patricia Kopatchinskaja** – violin

**Joonas Ahonen** – piano

In her third residency programme, Patricia Kopatchinskaja turned her focus to the work of Czech composer Luboš Fišer, presenting his emotionally charged violin and piano compositions alongside pianist Joonas Ahonen.

*Musically, it was pure magnificence. Beethoven's sonatas in this interpretation were a knockout – it was as though they'd been written yesterday. PatKop is a revelation. A hurricane. Something you don't encounter in concert halls.*

[Matěj Hollan, Deník N](#)



*It was a miracle...  
but one wrought by human  
hands, not heaven.*

[Luboš Stehlík, Polyharmonie](#)

*Kopatchinskaja effortlessly imparts her  
spirit of curiosity to her audience.*

[Lucia Maloveská, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)

# JAN ČMEJLA MATINÉE

17. 5., 11 am, Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

**Johann Sebastian Bach, Adam Skoumal,  
György Ligeti, Sergej Rachmaninov**

**Jan Čmejla** – piano

Pianist Jan Čmejla impressed at his first solo recital at Prague Spring with a programme of exceptional technical and interpretative demands.

*Jan Čmejla is clearly on track for a remarkable pianistic career. Technically, he was fully in command – even the most difficult passages sounded as light and natural as if nothing could be easier.*

[Věroslav Němec, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)



# LA DOLCE VISTA

17. 5., 5 pm, Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

**Francesco Landini**

**Sollazzo Ensemble**

**Roberta Diamond** – soprano

**Jonatan Alvarado** – tenor

**Roger Helou** – organetto, **Christoph Sommer** – lute

**Anna Danilevskaia** – vielle, artistic director

The Sollazzo Ensemble, an internationally acclaimed group specialising in medieval and early Renaissance music, made its Prague Spring debut with a poetic and stylistically refined programme dedicated to the work of Francesco Landini.

*There are few places in Prague suited to hosting a concert of medieval music, but the Convent of St Agnes is undeniably among them. Placing a concert of medieval Italian music here was, in my view, a very fine curatorial choice by the festival.*

[Čeněk Svoboda, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)





# WIHAN QUARTET 40 & LUCIE KAŇKOVÁ

18. 5., 5 pm, Carolinum

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Jindřich Feld,  
Ludwig van Beethoven**

**Wihan Quartet**

**Leoš Čepický, Jan Schulmeister** – violin

**Jakub Čepický** – viola, **Michal Kaňka** – cello

**Lucie Kaňková** – soprano

The Wihan Quartet celebrated its 40th anniversary with a concert featuring works by Mozart, Beethoven, and Jindřich Feld. The composer's anniversary was marked by a world premiere performed by soprano Lucie Kaňková, Feld's granddaughter.

*Kaňková displayed great vocal precision throughout the programme. There was a symbiotic rapport between the soprano and the quartet.*

[Martina Marie Heroldová, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)



## WINNER'S CONCERT

19. 5., 8 pm, National Technical Museum

**Trygve Madsen, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Johannes Brahms**

**Zhicheng Jin** – French horn

**Miroslav Sekera** – piano

**Bennewitz Quartet**

**Jakub Fišer** – violin, viola, **Štěpán Ježek** – violin

**Jiří Pinkas** – viola, **Štěpán Doležal** – cello

Zhicheng Jin, winner of the 2024 Prague Spring French horn competition, appeared with top Czech musicians at the National Technical Museum. The programme featured works by Mozart, Brahms, and Norwegian composer Trygve Madsen.

*It's rare to encounter such a view: biplane models, a steam locomotive, vintage cars – and, within the same sightline, a stage with a piano (humorously a Yamaha) and masters of musical art, both composers and performers.*

[Daniel Pinc, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)



# ARVO PÄRT 90

19. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

Concert held under the patronage  
of the Embassy of the Republic of Estonia

**Arvo Pärt**

**Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir**

**Tõnu Kaljuste** – choirmaster

**Kadri Toomoja** – organ

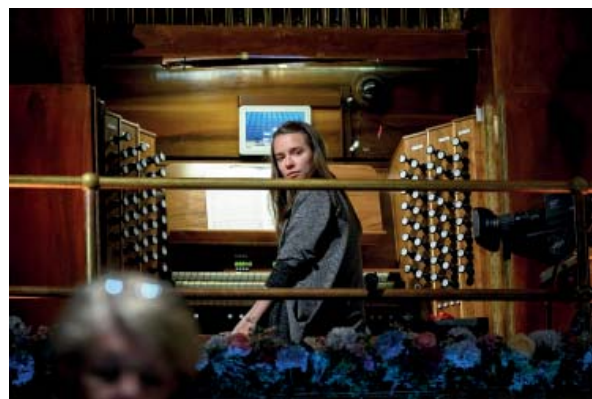
Prague Spring 2025 celebrated Arvo Pärt's 90th birthday with a concert by the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir under the baton of Tõnu Kaljuste, offering a selection of the composer's sacred works. A pre-concert talk featured Joonas Sildre, author of a graphic novel about Arvo Pärt, who gave a live-drawing presentation of the composer's life.

*The programme alone promised an exceptional event – but its artistic quality exceeded expectations. It was a sacred, purifying experience. The entire concert was a rare touch of humanity.*

[Jindřich Bálek, Polyharmonie](#)

*No confessional faith, no religious conviction, no "preparation" is needed to encounter this music – it welcomes anyone willing to let go.*

[Petr Fischer, Přítomnost](#)







*The sold-out Dvořák Hall at the Rudolfinum remained immersed in silence throughout the evening – not a breath from the audience. An extraordinary programme with powerful impact.*

[Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)

*I felt the music touching the heart, and the singers seemed to go beyond mere technical perfection.*

[Lenka Nota, Opera PLUS](#)

*I expected the concert to be a great musical experience, and my expectations were fulfilled. To hear the music of Arvo Pärt in what was literally an authentic performance was a unique experience.*

[Kryštof Spirit, HIS Voice](#)





# CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

20. 5.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

Concert held under the patronage  
of the Embassy of the United States of America

**Gustav Mahler:** *Symphony No. 6 "Tragic"*

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra**  
**Jaap van Zweden** – conductor

The debut of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Prague Spring 2025, performing Mahler's *Sixth* under Jaap van Zweden, enriched the festival with an extraordinary union of world-class artistry and the Czech roots of the composer.







*This was an interpretation that left you breathless – not from despair, but from beauty and nobility.*

[Věra Drápelová, iDnes.cz](#)

*The performance by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra was simply absolutely magnificent. The epic monumentality of the music stunned with its size and depth, filling one with art itself and the joy it brings, yet also compelling one to take stock of one's own life. Many no doubt continued to process the whole work on their way home, before it truly faded within them.*

[Martina Heroldová, Aktuálně.cz](#)

*The orchestra offered a brawny, dynamic reading that barreled off the Municipal House stage like a thunderstorm coming in off Lake Michigan.*

[Frank Kuzník, Bachtrack](#)

*This performance of Mahler's Sixth by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra was a revelation – an experience one will never forget.*

[Jiří Bezděk, Opera PLUS](#)





# JAZZ AT THE SPRING FEST

21. 5., 7 pm, Mercedes Forum Prague

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil in the Czech Republic.

Concert partner



**Luciana Souza** – vocals

**Trio Corrente**

**Fabio Torres** – piano, **Edu Ribeiro** – percussion

**Paulo Paulelli** – double bass

Luciana Souza brought the energy of samba and a powerful programme, the Grammy-nominated *Cometa*, to Prague Spring alongside Trio Corrente.



## FOUR HORNS WITH ORCHESTRA

21. 5., 8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

**Carl Maria von Weber, Robert Schumann, Petr Iljič Čajkovskij**

**Prague Symphony Orchestra**

**Robert Jindra** – conductor

**Zhicheng Jin, Zuzana Rzounková, Jan Vobořil, Szabolcs Zempléni** – French horn

The evening of 21 May at the Municipal House featured Schumann's rarely performed *Konzertstück for Four Horns* and Tchaikovsky's *Fourth Symphony*, performed by the Prague Symphony Orchestra under Robert Jindra.



# MASTERCLASS PIERRE-LAURENT AIMARD

22. 5., 1 pm, Rudolfinum – Suk Hall

A public masterclass with Pierre-Laurent Aimard offered the opportunity to engage with one of the world's foremost pianists.



## JENŮFA

22. 5., 7 pm, National Theatre, Prague

In cooperation with

**Národní divadlo**

**Leoš Janáček:** *Jenůfa*

**Stefan Veselka** – conductor

**Calixto Bieito** – director

The traditional collaboration with the National Theatre brought the premiere of a new production of Janáček's *Jenůfa* directed by Calixto Bieito.

*Bieito's production raises controversial questions and pushes the limits – just as Preissová's drama does.*

[Martina Heroldová, Aktuálně.cz](#)

# BEETHOVEN'S FATE SYMPHONY

22. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Czech Republic.

Concert partner



Ludwig van Beethoven, Toshio Hosokawa

Kammerakademie Potsdam

Antonello Manacorda – conductor

Pierre-Laurent Aimard – piano

Antonello Manacorda made his Czech debut with a landmark concert featuring Beethoven's *Fate Symphony*, the *Piano Concerto No. 1* with Pierre-Laurent Aimard, and the Czech premiere of *In the Forest* by Toshio Hosokawa.







*The performance was so electrifying that the audience rose to their feet the moment the final chords sounded.*

[Věroslav Němec, KlasikaPlus.cz](https://www.klasika.cz)



# GÖTEBORGS SYMFONIKER

23. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of Sweden in the Czech Republic.

**Bedřich Smetana, Fryderyk Chopin, Béla Bartók**

**Göteborgs Symfoniker**

**Santtu-Matias Rouvali** – conductor

**Jan Lisiecki** – piano

The Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra made its Prague Spring debut under the baton of Santtu-Matias Rouvali, with Jan Lisiecki performing works by Smetana, Chopin, and Bartók in an emotionally charged and superbly executed programme.

*The Swedish orchestra offered a brilliant interpretation of the score, full of contrasts.*

[Antonio Moral, Scherzo \(ES\)](#)





*Lisiecki's performance, flawless and utterly definitive, was ideal in expression and lit up the evening – and indeed the entire festival.*

[Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)

*The listener believed every note he played – and the sincerity, delight, and poise with which he conveyed the piece.*

[Richard Hruban, Novinky.cz](#)





# TRIO INCENDIO

24. 5., 11 am, Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

**Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Rihm, Maurice Ravel**

**Trio Incendio**

**Filip Zaykov** – violin, **Vilém Petras** – cello

**Karolína Františová** – piano

Trio Incendio made its Prague Spring debut at the Convent of St Agnes with works by Haydn, Ravel, and Rihm, confirming its international reputation for exceptional ensemble playing and depth of interpretation.

*Overall, it was an unequivocally joyful encounter. Years of diligent work met the awareness of an extraordinary moment. A pity that such a “secret concert series” cannot go on forever: one can only debut at Prague Spring once.*

**Pavel Ryjáček**, [KlasikaPlus.cz](https://KlasikaPlus.cz)



## IVAN ŽENATÝ & MARTIN KASÍK

24. 5., 5 pm, Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

**Sergej Rachmaninov, Bohuslav Martinů**

**Ivan Ženatý** – violin, **Martin Kasík** – piano

Violinist Ivan Ženatý and pianist Martin Kasík returned to Prague Spring 2025 with a recital featuring works by Rachmaninoff and the early *Sonata in C major* by Bohuslav Martinů.







# MUSIC SCHOOL SALON

24. 5.

2 pm, Church of Saints Simon and Jude

In cooperation with

**MenART**

A concert featuring the top graduates of the MenART Academy 2024–2025, mentored by leading Czech performers, also included the world premiere of a work by Beata Hlavenková.

*The synergy between the scholarship programme and a prestigious festival can only benefit young musicians – and offers audiences a glimpse into the future of performance art.*

[Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)





# MOZART'S REQUIEM

24. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Austrian Embassy in Prague.

Main partner and concert partner

**DOOSAN Škoda Power**

In cooperation with



**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart,  
František Xaver Richter**

**Concentus Musicus Wien  
Tomáš Netopil – conductor  
Silentium!**

**Tereza Válková – chorus master  
Markéta Kloudová – soprano  
Václava Krejčí Housková – alto  
Dmitrij Ivančej – tenor  
Peter Kellner – bas**

Concentus Musicus Wien, conducted by Tomáš Netopil, presented sacred works by Mozart and Richter at Prague Spring in a performance of stylistic authenticity and expressive intensity.

*Mozart's Requiem was far from a routine item on this year's Prague Spring programme. There are tourist concerts with ad hoc ensembles – and then there is an exceptional, artistically justified performance of this calibre.*

[Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz](http://PetrVeber.KlasikaPlus.cz)









# SUK'S KŘEČOVICE

25. 5., 10.30 am, Church of St Luke

**Radek Baborák** – French horn

**Aleš Bárta** – organ



## QUATUOR ÉBÈNE

25. 5., 8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the French Republic in the Czech Republic.

**Ludwig van Beethoven, Benjamin Britten, Petr Iljič Čajkovskij**

**Quatuor Ébène**

**Pierre Colombet, Gabriel Le Magadure** – violin

**Lawrence Power** – viola, **Yuya Okamoto** – violoncello

The French ensemble Quatuor Ébène made its Prague Spring debut and confirmed both its world-class stature and interpretative flair.

*The enthusiasm in the hall was indescribable!*

[Mateusz Ciupka, Ruch Muzyczny](#)

*Momentos espléndidos.*

[Antonio Moral, Scherzo \(ES\)](#)



# FRAGMENTS OF LOVE

## 26. 5.

8 pm, Rudolfinum – Dvořák Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the French Republic in the Czech Republic.

Concert partner



**Jean-Baptiste Lully:** selection of operas

**Ensemble Correspondances**

**Sébastien Daucé** – conductor

**Caroline Weynants, Blandine de Sansal,**

**Eugénie Lefebvre, Caroline Bardot** – soprano

**Lucile Richardot** – mezzo-soprano

**Vojtěch Semerád, Abel Zamora,**

**Davy Cornillot** – tenor

**Etienne Bazola** – baritone

**Sebastian Myrus** – bass

Ensemble Correspondances made its Prague Spring debut with *Fragments of Love* drawn from Lully's operas, and under the direction of Sébastien Daucé reaffirmed its pre-eminence in French baroque music.

*Ensemble Correspondances delivered a breathtaking interpretation of early music with deep understanding, feeling and expressive force. This was not a performance by a baroque orchestra with ten soloists, but one vocal-instrumental ensemble that loves and breathes the music it so deeply comprehends.*

[Jan Sebastian Tomsa, KlasikaPlus.cz](http://JanSebastianTomsa.com)







# WIENER SYMPHONIKER

27. 5.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Austrian Embassy in Prague.

In collaboration with



**Ludwig van Beethoven, Richard Strauss,  
Josef Strauss**

**Wiener Symphoniker**  
**Petr Popelka** – conductor  
**Jan Bartoš** – piano

The Vienna Symphony Orchestra made its Prague Spring debut under its new Chief Conductor Petr Popelka and reaffirmed its prestige in a stylistically Viennese programme with Jan Bartoš.







*They delivered a performance full of vibrant colour, wonderful play with detail across all orchestral sections, right through to a sonically opulent conclusion.*

Richard Hruban, [Novinky.cz](http://Novinky.cz)

*The concert was rewarded with a standing ovation from a packed Smetana Hall.*

Zdeňka Kuchyňová, [Radio Prague International](http://RadioPragueInternational.com)

*It was a journey to another world, for which we owe the deepest thanks.*

Mateusz Ciupka, [Ruch Muzyczny](http://RuchMuzyczny.pl)

*It was thrilling, dramatic, and beautifully sung.*

Věra Drápelová, [iDnes.cz](http://iDnes.cz)



The Vltava Philharmonic Hall Endowment Fund was formally introduced at the festival.



# PRAGUE SPRING DEBUT

28. 5.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

The concert was held under the patronage  
of the Embassy of Japan in the Czech Republic.

Concert partners

 **Czech Radio**



PHILIP MORRIS ČR

**Leonard Bernstein, Sergej Prokofjev, Antonín Dvořák**

**Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra**

**Jan Sedláček** – conductor

**Tsukushi Sasaki** – violin

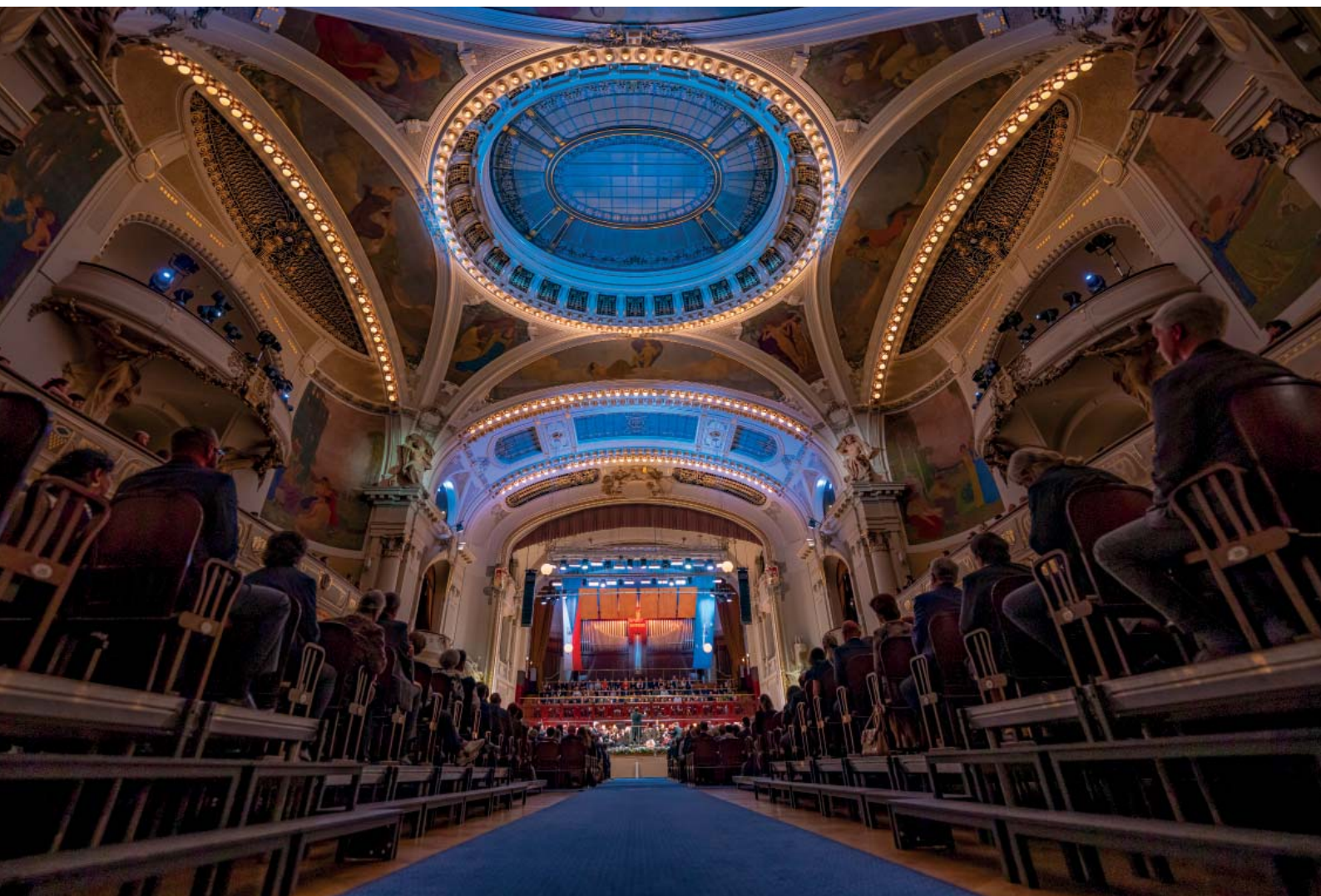
The 2025 Prague Spring Debut Concert featured a dynamic performance by conductor Jan Sedláček and violinist Tsukushi Sasaki with the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra.

*The Prague Spring Debut is one of the festival's most closely followed projects.*

[Český rozhlas Vltava](#)

*It is undoubtedly his precision, dignity, composure, sense of refinement and detail, emotional engagement, and ability to construct large-scale forms with logical clarity that Jan Sedláček can take pride in.*

[Vojtěch Mojžíš, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)







# LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

29. 5.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Czech Republic.

Concert partner



FNC TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.

**Hector Berlioz, Karol Szymanowski,  
Richard Strauss**

**London Symphony Orchestra**  
**Sir Antonio Pappano** – conductor  
**Lisa Batiashvili** – violin

The London Symphony Orchestra returned to the Prague Spring after twenty years, under its new Chief Conductor Sir Antonio Pappano, and with violinist Lisa Batiashvili thrilled the audience in Smetana Hall with works by Berlioz, Szymanowski and Richard Strauss.





*This orchestra is like a Ferrari  
it takes off instantly.*

Antonio Pappano

*It could not have sounded more  
convincing. The impression of  
the massive orchestral forces was  
overwhelming.*

Dita Hradecká, Seznam Zprávy

*Real music filled the Municipal House,  
music that penetrates to the bone. The  
enthusiastic audience refused to let the  
soloist leave the stage.*

Gabriela Špalková, Opera PLUS

*The entire performance radiated,  
alongside supreme professionalism,  
a clear, warmly relaxed atmosphere.  
The English – cold? Not at all...!*

Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz





# SPRINGTEEN

31. 5.

2 pm, Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

Concert partners



**Jan Cina** – vocals  
**Vocal sextet Skety**  
**Czech Radio Children's Choir**  
**SpringTEEN Band**

**Petr Wajsar** – composer & conductor  
**Roboti GoFa & YuMi**  
**Klára Boudalová** – dramaturge

The SpringTEEN festival day showcased the diversity of the Prague Spring, attracting young audiences and families for a creative afternoon culminating in a premiere by Petr Wajsar with a star cast – and a performance by the robot GoFa.

*My favourite memory of this incredible musical journey is of the heart-warming, open air Prague SpringTEEN annual family festival concert within the flower-filled grounds of the St Agnes, Monastery, a 13th century convent and gallery in Prague, on a balmy evening. This event is the culmination of a festival day featuring crazy games and activities aimed at youngsters and families. The professional vocalists' selection of popular songs pleases adults and young ones alike. Everyone joins in the dynamic finale, which features the whole cast. Young children run up to jostle and jiggle about alongside the stage, singing loudly and playing 'instruments' they made in the workshops.*

[Marion Ainge, NationalWorld \(UK\)](#)







*The range of activities offered by the Prague Spring is extraordinary. It is a broadly conceived festival capable of welcoming both the tiniest of toddlers and the most specialised music connoisseurs.*

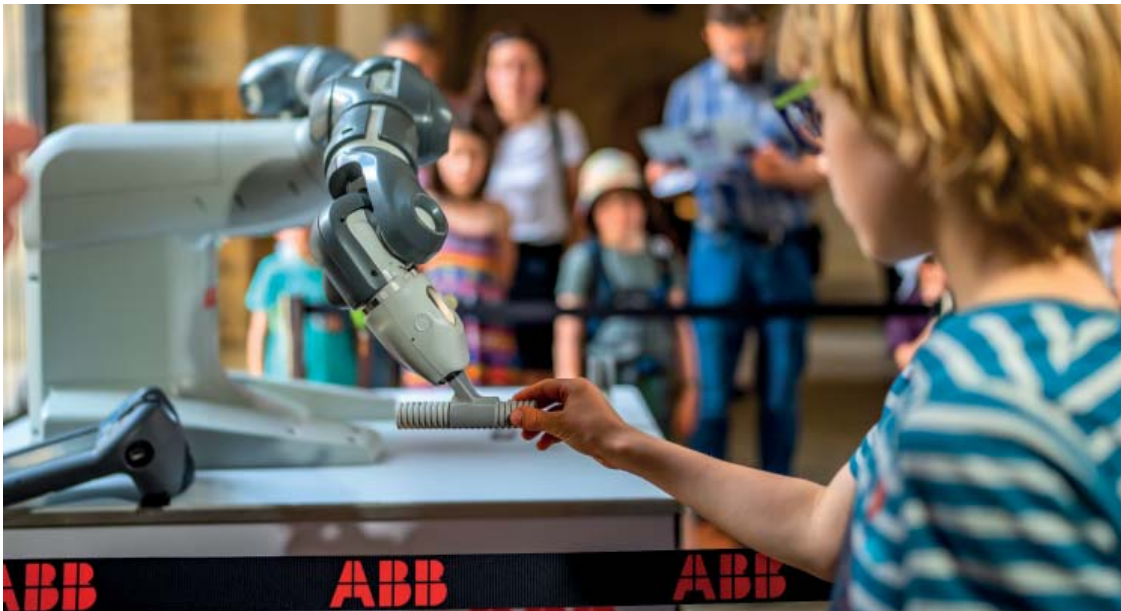
[Matěj Hollan](#), [Deník N](#)

*Thank you for sharing joy that words can hardly describe. Only music can express it. The best live karaoke in Central Europe!*

[Jan Cina](#)











# PRAGUE OFFSPRING ENSEMBLE MODERN I.

30. 5.

8 pm, DOX+

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Czech Republic and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Czech Republic.

With financial support

Česko-německý  
fond budoucnosti



Deutsch-Tschechischer  
Zukunftsfonds

In collaboration with



Unsuk Chin, Haštal Hapka, Jan Ryant Dřízal, Barbora Tomášková, Pavel Šabacký, George Benjamin

**Ensemble Modern**  
Michael Wendeborg – conductor

In 2025, Ensemble Modern appeared at Prague Offspring for the first time. Under the direction of Michael Wendeborg, the ensemble performed works by emerging contemporary composers and inaugurated its three-year residency with George Benjamin.

*Experiencing Ensemble Modern is like riding in a Rolls-Royce.*

Jan Ryant Dřízal, composer

*While many festivals can attract top performers, one of the most intriguing aspects of this festival is its approach to contemporary music and the way it integrates young composers from the local scene.*

Pedro J. Lapeña Rey, Scherzo (Španělsko)

# READING LESSONS ENSEMBLE MODERN

31. 5., 2 pm, DOX+

Young composers from HAMU and JAMU confronted their musical visions with the interpretation of a top contemporary music ensemble.



# MASTERCLASS

31. 5., 4 pm, DOX+

How can musicians get the most out of their instruments when interpreting contemporary music? Young performers explored new techniques with members of Ensemble Modern.



# HOW TO SPRING OFF?

31. 5., 6.30 pm, DOX Café

What is it like to compose a new piece for one of the world's best contemporary music ensembles? Composer Miroslav Srnka interviewed Pavla Šabacký, Barbora Tomášková and Slavomír Hoříňka. How to Spring Off?





# PRAGUE OFFSPRING ENSEMBLE MODERN II

31. 5.

8 pm, DOX+

The concert was held under the patronage of the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Czech Republic and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Czech Republic.

With financial support

Česko-německý  
fond budoucnosti



Deutsch-Tschechischer  
Zukunftsfonds

**Oliver Knussen, Slavomír Hořínka, George Benjamin**

**Ensemble Modern**

**Franck Ollu** – conductor

**Jennifer France** – soprano

**Helena Rasker** – mezzo-soprano

The pinnacle of Prague Offspring 2025 was the concert performance of Sir George Benjamin's opera *Into the Little Hill*, inspired by the legend of the Pied Piper, alongside the world premiere of a landmark composition by Slavomír Hořínka.

*This is a group of virtuosos –  
and they clearly enjoy it.*

[Lenka Dohnalová, Opera PLUS](#)

*The ensemble was phenomenal. There's no point even commenting on their technical skills – this is one of the best groups in the world specialising in contemporary music. But the level at which they interpreted these works exceeded anything anyone in the audience could have imagined.*

[Kateřina Pincová, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)



# CLOSING CONCERT SYMPHONY OF A THOUSAND

## 2. & 3. 6.

8 pm, Municipal House – Smetana Hall

Concert partner



**Gustav Mahler:** *Symphony No. 8 in E-flat major*  
“Symphony of a Thousand”

**Czech Philharmonic**

**Semjon Byčkov** – conductor

**Czech Philharmonic Choir Brno**

**Joel Hána** – chorus master

**Prague Philharmonic Choir**

**Lukáš Vasílek** – chorus master

**Kühn Children’s Choir**

**Jiří Chvála** – chorus master

**Sarah Wegener** – soprano

**Kateřina Kněžíková** – soprano

**Miriám Kutrowatz** – soprano

**Stefanie Irányi** – mezzo-soprano

**Jennifer Johnston** – mezzo-soprano

**David Butt Philip** – tenor

**Adam Plachetka** – baritone

**David Leigh** – bass (2. 6.)

**Derek Welton** – bass (3. 6.)

Mahler’s monumental message in the *Symphony of a Thousand* brought the 80th Prague Spring to a close. Not only the stage of the Municipal House, but also its balconies were filled with eight top-class soloists, three choirs, the Czech Philharmonic and Semyon Bychkov.







*If the roof had suddenly opened  
to let in rays of divine light,  
it would have been no surprise.*

[Frank Kuznik, Bachtrack](#)

*Smetana Hall resounded with the power  
of three hundred musicians. The first part  
of Mahler's Symphony of a Thousand  
culminated in a half-hour-long fortissimo  
invoking the Creator Spirit. Just when  
it seemed the climax had been reached,  
one final chord took it even further...  
On the third of June, the 80th Prague  
Spring ended with a work like no other.  
Beneath the listeners' feet, and deep in  
their bodies, the massive pedal tone of the  
organ resonated as the foundation of this  
sonic mass. A victorious, overwhelming,  
intoxicating chord.*

[Petr Veber, KlasikaPlus.cz](#)

*The performance was electrifying  
in every respect.*

[Zbyněk Brabec, Opera PLUS](#)







*The 80th edition of the Prague Spring ended triumphantly.*

[Pavel Unger, Opera Slovakia](#)

*Never before, when I've had the opportunity to experience this piece live, have the sound textures been so clear. The performers achieved a transparency that seems practically impossible.*

[Pedro J. Lapeña Rey, Scherzo \(Španělsko\)](#)

*During this performance, you could feel through every pore that we were witnessing something extraordinary. It was a ninety-minute celestial Faustian journey through realms that only such music can reveal. There could not have been a more fitting conclusion to this year's festival.*

[Matěj Hollan, Deník N](#)







# PRAGUE SPRING INTERNATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION 2025

6. 5. – 14. 5.

Disciplines: **Oboe and Cello**

Vzlet Cultural Centre

Academy of Performing Arts

Rudolfinum

The Prague Spring International Music Competition is the most important platform for young classical musicians not only in the Czech Republic. As a member of the prestigious World Federation of International Music Competitions (WFIMC), it brings almost a hundred musicians from around the world to Prague each year. The 2025 edition was one of the most successful ever in terms of the number of applications received. The competition is open to the public, and the final rounds are available to stream online. In addition to its artistic contribution, the project has a significant cultural and societal impact.

With financial support



**The Prague Spring International Music Competition is a founding member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions in Geneva and a member of the Alink-Argerich Foundation.**

**Long-term partnerships with cultural institutions:**

Bärenreiter Praha s. r. o.  
Czech Centres  
Bohuslav Martinů Foundation  
Czech Music Fund Foundation  
Gideon Klein Foundation  
Pro Harmonia Mundi Foundation  
The Artist's Life Foundation  
(Nadace život umělce)  
Viktor Kalabis and Zuzana Růžicková Endowment Fund

**Cooperation with cultural institutions:**

Czech Culture Festivities  
Czech Chamber Music Society  
EuroArt Praha  
Young Prague  
Pilsen Philharmonic  
Třeboňská nokturna  
Treasures of the Broumov Region



# Violence Cherish

# OBOE

The oboe discipline saw exceptional interest this year – **254 applications** were received from **34 countries**, with 49 candidates admitted to the first round. The first round was held at the Vzlet Cultural Centre, where the jury, chaired by Nancy Ambrose King, heard 45 performances. The finals took place at the Rudolfinum, accompanied by the Prague Philharmonia under the baton of Robert Kružík.

Watch the oboe finals online.



## Results of the Oboe Category

1st Prize not awarded

2nd Prize: Fedor Osver, Russia

3rd Prize: Pedro Moreira, Portugal

## Honourable Mention of the Jury of the First Grade

Leandro Lazzari, Italy

## Honourable Mention

Iria Folgado Dopico, Spain

## Audience Prize

Fedor Osver, Russia

## Czech Music Fund Foundation Prize for the best performance of the piece *Three Prague Pictures* by Kryštof Marek

Iria Folgado Dopico, Spain

## CultureTone Foundation Special Award

Clara Maria Schweinberger, Germany

## Prize of the City of Prague

Fedor Osver, Russia

## Bärenreiter Prize

Fedor Osver, Russia





# CELLO

The cello, one of the competition's traditional disciplines, received a record **203 applications from 32 countries** this year. A total of 46 participants were admitted to the first round. The final round at the Rudolfinum was accompanied by the Prague Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Marek Prášil. The jury was chaired by British cellist Raphael Wallfisch.

Watch the cello finals online.



## Results of the Cello Category

1st Prize: Yuya Mizuno, Japan

2nd Prize: Till Schuler, Germany

3rd Prize: Alexandra Kahrer, Austria

## Honourable Mention of the Jury

Seungyeon Baik, Republic of Korea

Constantin Heise, Germany

Sanghyeok Park, Republic of Korea

**Czech Music Fund Foundation Prize for the best performance of the *Sonata No. 5 Frammenti e Canto* by Pavel Zemek Novák**  
Alexandra Kahrer, Austria

## Bohuslav Martinů Foundation Prize

Tae-Yeon Kim, Republic of Korea

## Prize of the City of Prague

Yuya Mizuno, Japan

## Bärenreiter Prize

Yuya Mizuno, Japan

## Viktor Kalabis and Zuzana Růžičková Prize

Yuya Mizuno, Japan



# PRAGUE SPRING ART SALON

In cooperation with KODL Gallery, we held the Prague Spring ART SALON charity auction for the second time this year, for which renowned visual artists and designers created unique works on the theme of “time”.

*“Time can be perceived as either linear or cyclical. What both perspectives share is its relentlessness, precision, and – particularly in connection with its recurring face – finality. As an exceptional event in our cultural landscape, Prague Spring celebrated its eightieth edition this year. That is, in fact, a cyclical element in the linear flow of time,”* explained curator **Jan Kudrna**, who, together with Prague Spring, invited leading Czech artists – **Michael Rittstein, Rony Plesl, Anna Neborová, Josef Bolf, Martin Krajc,** and **Jakub Tomáš** – to contribute to the exhibition.

Their works were auctioned off during the 93rd KODL Gallery auction, held on 25 May at Žofín Palace, raising **CZK 1,180,000** in support of Prague Spring 2026’s artistic projects. The works were on view at the Rudolfinum and the Municipal House throughout the festival.





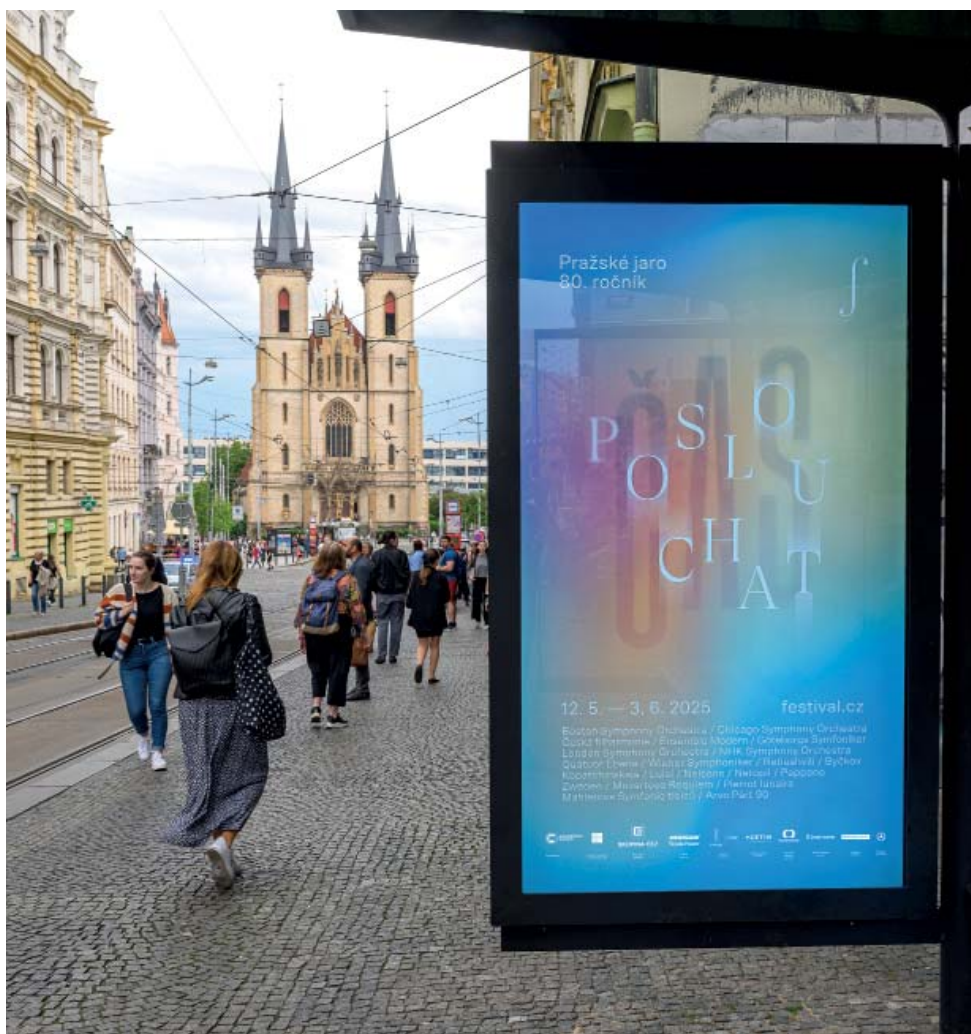


The exhibition opening took place on May 12 on the occasion of the Prague Spring Opening Concert, attended by the President of the Czech Republic, Petr Pavel, and the First Lady, Eva Pavlová.

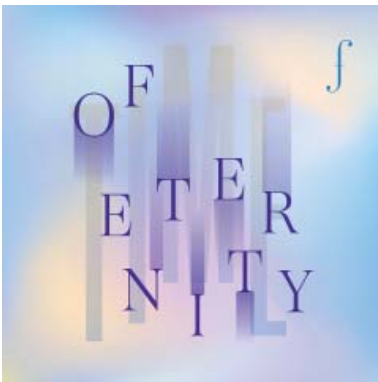


# FESTIVAL CAMPAIGN

The 80th anniversary edition marked the conclusion of a successful three-year collaboration with the graphic design studio Colmo. For the author of the graphic design, Markéta Hanzalová, the central inspiration for the anniversary edition's visuals was the theme of time. It is the festival itself that offers visitors an extraordinary time of *music*, an opportunity to *stop* and *listen*, during which we can experience a true moment of *eternity*.













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Under the patronage of the President of the Czech Republic, the Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic, and the Mayor of Prague.

The project is realised with the support of a grant from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The festival is held with financial support from the City of Prague in the amount of CZK 14 million.

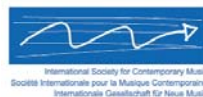


MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
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The Prague Spring is a member of the Czech Association of Music Festivals (AHF), the European Festivals Association (EFA), the World Federation of International Music Competitions (WFIMC), and an associate member of the International Artist Managers' Association (IAMA) and the International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM).



The Prague Spring Festival has been awarded the prestigious EFFE – European Festival Label.



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## FINAL REPORT OF THE 80TH PRAGUE SPRING FESTIVAL 2025

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