

a cappella

INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF
VOCAL MUSIC LEIPZIG

4 - 12 MAY 2018
a-cappella-festival.com

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Friday 04 May 2018	Peterskirche Taufkapelle	7 pm Introduction to amarcord*
Saturday 05 May 2018	Gemeindsaal der Thomaskirche	2 pm Arrangement workshop with Juan M.V. Garcia**
	Stadtbad	7 pm Introduction to Vocal Six*
Sunday 06 May 2018	Thomashaus	11 am Lecture: The history of Leipzig vocal ensembles 1900 to 1990 with Günter Sonne, Admission free
	Schauspiel Leipzig Oberes Foyer	7 pm Introduction to Bliss*
Monday 07 May 2018	Lutherkirche tba.	7 pm Introduction to Octavians*
Tuesday 08 May 2018	Gewandhaus Schumann-Eck	7 pm Introduction to The King's Singers*

WELCOME

DEAR a cappella-FANS,

Once again, we plan to journey across several continents as in ten concerts we emphasize the motto "Cantare humanum est" – "Singing is human"! Singing together brings people together in more ways than one. It provides comfort, tears down barriers, and often reaches the very core of the human soul – which in these times of turmoil and uncertainty is more important than ever.

Look forward to a bunch of newcomers at the a cappella festival such as **Bliss**, the **Humanophones**, **Vocal Six** and **New York Polyphony**, as well as Congolese polyphonic singing by **Ndima**, a special concert featuring last year's competition winners the **Octavians**, and last but not least the **King's Singers**, who'll be honouring us with a performance in their golden jubilee year. What's more, for the eleventh time, young ensembles will be competing for the coveted **A CAPPELLA AWARD**. All the participants can be enjoyed again in the **A CAPPELLA Showcase**, last year's new addition to the programme.

And make sure you don't forget the many talks and concert introductions throughout the festival.

All the artists and those behind the scenes look forward to welcoming you – and so do we!

AMARCORD

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Wednesday 09 May 2018	Ev.-Reformierte Kirche	7 pm Introduction to Ndima*
Thursday 10 May 2018	Thomashaus	7 pm Introduction to New York Polyphony*
Friday 11 May 2018	Kupfersaal	10 am A CAPPELLA workshop with Stephen Connolly, Admission free
	Haus Leipzig Foyer	7 pm Introduction to the Humanophones*
Saturday 12 May 2018	Villa Thomana	1 pm A CAPPELLA Seminar with Professor Michael Fuchs***
	Villa Thomana	4 pm Lecture: The voice in a social context by Professor Michael Fuchs, admission free

* Current information: www.a-cappella-festival.de

** Registration required: eggerts@a-cappella-wettbewerb.de or +49 341 21829701

*** Contestants only



Photo: Nick Begbie

AMARCORD Germany

Pierre de la Rue – Missa pascale

Major anniversaries currently seem to be cropping up in quick succession. That's certainly the case in the run-up to the 19th a cappella festival. Accordingly, amarcord will be dedicating themselves at the beginning of the festival to an important quinqucentenary, for 2018 will be the 500th anniversary of the death of Franco-Flemish Renaissance composer Pierre de la Rue. Some of his extensive, significant works (which include over 30 masses) have already featured in performances and recordings by amarcord. They'll be singing 'Missa pascale' in his honour – a cantus firmus mass for Easter Sunday. They'll also be presenting Gregorian chorales based on the mass and a few striking motets by Pierre de la Rue.

Opening concert

FRIDAY
04 MAY 2018
8 PM

Peterskirche



Normal € 27/20
Senior/Leipzig Card € 23/15
Concessions € 18/10



Photo: Vocal Six

VOCAL SIX Sweden

Vocal Six Turn 30

Delving deep into the world of Scandinavian a cappella, this time we've conjured up a purely male ensemble: Vocal Six. The four tenors, baritone and bass cultivate a repertoire of well-known songs from the realms of pop and jazz and, with a crafty wink or two, package them in a feel-good show. It's earned them the Ward Swingle Award and concert performances all the way from Las Vegas to Taiwan. Founded in Helsingborg, Vocal Six will be celebrating their 30th anniversary in 2018. Give a big hand for "Sweden's most mature boy band!"

SATURDAY
05 MAY 2018
8 PM

Stadtbad



Normal € 22
Senior/Leipzig Card € 18
Concessions € 14



Photo: Bliss

In cooperation with Schauspiel Leipzig

BLISS Switzerland

Tell's Angels

Cheeky monkeys, big kids and all sorts of rascals are always welcome at the a cappella family concert. How apt that the five Swiss scallywags from Bliss had already agreed to show up at this year's festival! While their current programme revolves around men, fortunately these five singers will have an opportunity let their inner child out to play at this year's family concert as they perform a fast-paced version featuring the essence of their successful programme 'Tell's Angels'. Their perpetual humour and high-quality musical drive promise an entertaining afternoon for all a cappella fans big and small!

Family concert

SUNDAY
06 MAY 2018
3 PM

Schauspiel Leipzig, Große Bühne



1 adult (18+)	€ 15
2 adults	€ 25
Children (under 18)	€ 2



Photo: Bliss

In cooperation with Schauspiel Leipzig

BLISS Switzerland

Mannschaft

Five powerful singers who deliver thrilling entertainment at the highest level, Bliss are Switzerland's top a cappella pop and comedy export. In previous shows, they've made fun of everything from the Eurovision Song Contest to the pitfalls of Christmas and even their own concert planning. In 'Mannschaft', the five seasoned comedians take a long, hard look at what it's like to be a man. What constitutes the modern male? What does he look like? And above all, what does he actually sing? Strong songs, strong vocal presence, oodles of energy and a big show with that certain Swiss pizzazz: it all amounts to pure Bliss!

SUNDAY
06 MAY 2018
8 PM

Schauspiel Leipzig, Große Bühne



Normal	€ 22
Senior/Leipzig Card	€ 18
Concessions	€ 14



Photo: Matthias Pick

OCTAVIANS Germany

Minutes from centuries

Having emerged from the boys' choir of the Jena Philharmonic, Octavians are currently blossoming into one of the most promising vocal ensembles in central Germany. Their broad male-voice line-up including three countertenors delivers a colourful ensemble sound, and their repertoire is equally broad: sacred and profane music ranging from medieval songs and early polyphony to swing and modern pop. In the last **A CAPPELLA Contest**, the octet was the favourite of both jury and audience alike, so returning to Leipzig was inevitable. They'll be accompanied by the likes of not just Josquin, Passereau and Brahms but also Simon & Garfunkel, the Beatles and Billy Joel.

Prizewinners concert

MONDAY
07 MAY 2018
8 PM

Lutherkirche



Normal	€ 20
Senior/Leipzig Card	€ 16
Concessions	€ 12



Photo: The King's Singers

In cooperation with Gewandhaus zu Leipzig

THE KING'S SINGERS Great Britain

Gold 50

The King's Singers are an authority in the a cappella world: an icon, a living ideal for the very best vocal music art. Amazingly, in 2018 this British ensemble is celebrating its 50th anniversary. The members may have changed over the years, but as far as their technique, sound and content of contemporary ensemble singing are concerned, this six-strong line-up has always been in a class of its own. After two previous appearances at the a cappella festival, we're delighted that they'll be returning to Leipzig in their golden jubilee year. Appearing in the Large Auditorium of the Gewandhaus, you can be sure that the King's Singers will yet again perform a concert full of variety leaving nothing to be desired.

THURSDAY
08 MAY 2018
8 PM

Gewandhaus zu Leipzig, Großer Saal



Normal	€ 30
Schoolchildren/Leipzig Pass	€ 15
Senior/Leipzig Card	€ 30
Concessions	€ 24

WITH KIND SUPPORT
BMW GROUP
Werk Leipzig

International
a Cappella
Contest Leipzig
9-12 MAY 2018

amarcord
presents

09.05. A CAPPELLA CONTEST PART 1*
1 PM // Gewandhaus zu Leipzig, Mendelssohn-Saal
10.05. A CAPPELLA CONTEST PART 2*
11 AM // Gewandhaus zu Leipzig, Mendelssohn-Saal
11.05. A CAPPELLA SHOWCASE**
5 PM // Kupfersaal

** Per day
Normal
Senior/Leipzig Card
Concessions

€ 5
€ 12
€ 10
€ 7

Patron
Stadt Leipzig

Cooperationspartner
**Städtisches
Orchester**

a-cappella-contest.com



Photo: Ndima

NDIMA

Republic of the Congo

Voices from the forest

In 2018, we'll be welcoming African artists again. Ndima from the Republic of the Congo is a group of musicians, singers and dancers from the Aka – a Pygmy people who live in the rainforest. Aka music is polyphonically and polyrhythmically unique and protected by UNESCO. Founded by researcher and ethnologist Sorel Eta in 2003, Ndima ('Forest') is the only Aka group to give concerts around the world, hence helping to preserve and raise awareness of Aka musical culture. Their songs reflect a life inextricably linked to their homeland in the rainforest and their social and religious traditions, yet also their relationship with the modern era and neighbouring peoples such as the Bantu.

WEDNESDAY
09 MAY 2018
8 PM

Ev.-Reformierte Kirche



Normal € 20
Senior/Leipzig Card € 16
Concessions € 12



Photo: Chris Owyong

NEW YORK POLYPHONY

USA

Passion

Despite their origins in the fast-paced city that never sleeps, their musical preferences focus on the sensitive polyphonic singing of Renaissance and medieval Europe. Founded in 2006, New York Polyphony is a male quartet whose sound, performance and repertoire have earned them both an excellent reputation and two Grammy nominations for early music to boot. Their Leipzig debut at the **a cappella** festival will impressively showcase highlights from the group's discography. They'll be performing a selection of mainly religious English and French-Flemish polyphonic 'classics' along with modern-day compositions by the likes of Cyrillus Kreek and Andrew Smith.

THURSDAY
10 MAY 2018
8 PM

Thomaskirche



Normal € 20
Senior/Leipzig Card € 16
Concessions € 12



Photo: Jean Lefranc

HUMANOPHONES

France

Corpus

Although all singers use their body as well as their voice, the French Humanophones take this to a whole new level! 'Body Pop Music' is the name of their musical concept, in which singing and vocal acrobatics are combined with not only 'traditional' vocal percussion but also body percussion. These five 'sounding bodies' use seemingly every part of their being to produce sounds, harmonies and rhythms as they create a lively cocktail of jazz, pop and world music with a pulse revealing the roots of music and its very nature. The Humanophones' concerts are fast-paced, energetic, enthralling affairs with plenty of humour and poetry for eyes and ears – and we can't wait to see and hear them here!

FRIDAY
11 MAY 2018
8 PM

Haus Leipzig



Normal € 28
Senior/Leipzig Card € 22
Concessions € 15



Photo: Holger Schneider

FINAL CONCERT

Highlights of the Festival

The 19th **a cappella** festival will close with its traditional overview of the festival programme in the Gewandhaus's Large Auditorium. This is where the **a cappella** community gathers for the annual festival summit – a joyous, festive occasion which frequently sees participants singing together both on stage and off! As for 2018's grand finale, we can already reveal that at least three continents and languages will be represented with the various ensembles providing a mixture of tradition and innovation. Huge genre diversity goes without saying, and there are almost bound to be one or two surprises ...

SATURDAY
12 MAY 2018
7-PM

Gewandhaus zu Leipzig, Großer Saal



Normal € 60/45/32/25
Senior/Leipzig Card € 49/38/27/19
Concessions € 42/32/22/15

TICKETS



Subject to change.

Gewandhaus zu Leipzig
+49 341 1270280
Musikalienhandlung M. OELSNER Leipzig
+49 341 9605656
Ticket Galerie
+49 800 2181050
Thomashop
+49 341 22224200
All authorized ticket agencies
www.a-cappella-festival.de

The prices stated include booking fees.

HOTEL

LTM GmbH
Tourist-Information
Tel: +49 341 7104255
info@ltm-leipzig.de
www.leipzig.de

Concessions:
Children, full-time students, apprentices, trainees, unwaged (except on 8 May 2018), volunteers in the Federal Volunteers Service, people with severe disabilities, Leipzig Pass holders (proof required).

LEGAL NOTICE

PROMOTER

Verein zur Förderung der Vokalmusik – a cappella e.V.
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