

Press release
14 November 2022

**World premiere:
The Vienna Girls Choir and Vienna Boys Choir to Sing at the Vienna
Philharmonic's 2023 New Year's Concert**

For the first time, the Vienna Girls Choir will sing alongside the Vienna Boys Choir at the New Year's Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. Conducted by Franz Welser Möst, the choirs will jointly perform a polka by Josef Strauss, „Heiterer Muth“, which roughly translated means „Good cheer“.

Good cheer indeed: 2023 marks the 525th anniversary of the famous choir, which was founded in 1498 as choir to the Holy Roman Emperor. Over the centuries, the court attracted musicians like Isaac, Gluck, Mozart, and Bruckner; Joseph Haydn, his younger brother Michael, as well as Franz Schubert are among the choir's alumni.

The Vienna Girls Choir (Wiener Chormädchen) was founded in 2004 as part of the campus to complement the Vienna Boys Choir; to give girls access to the same training in music. The girls' choir currently consists of 25 singers between the ages of 9 and 15. The girls attend different schools; they practice several times a week and perform mainly in Vienna.

Austrian designer Eva Poleschinski created a new look for the group, inspired by the boys' iconic sailor suit. The new outfits were funded by entrepreneur Klemens Hallmann. Gerald Wirth, the artistic director of the entire Vienna Boys Choir campus, is delighted, „We are very thankful to Mr Hallmann for his generous donation. The girls are a very important part of our institution, and it is really good to see them smartly dressed at what is one of the most important classical concerts world-wide.“. The Vienna Girls Choir will also participate in the year's next major highlight – the anniversary concert on 14 May 2023 in Vienna's venerable Musikverein.

Anniversary year highlights

- Participation in the 2023 New Year's Concert of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra
- 525 Years Anniversary concert / Musikverein, Vienna (Golden Hall) / 14 May 2023
- Book on the Choir's history „Ein Chor erobert die Welt“ – Die Wiener Sängerknaben 1498 bis heute, Tina Breckwoldt, Böhlau Verlag / spring 2023
- Anniversary Edition, box set of 25 CDs spanning 115 years of recordings, Deutsche Grammophon / fall 2023

Daniel Froschauer, principal of the Vienna Philharmonic and a former chorister:
„We are very happy that the Vienna Boys Choir and, for the first time, members of the Vienna Girls Choir will be singing at the upcoming New Year's concert. The Choir has a very rich tradition, and their participation at this concert marks the beginning of a special year: In 2023, the Vienna Boys Choir celebrates its 525th anniversary.“

Eva Poleschinski, designer:

„It is my goal to create new outfits for the Vienna Girls Choir which reflect the girls' importance, the value of what they do, and which also represent Austria – Austrian design meets „female future“.“

Klemens Hallmann, entrepreneur and investor:

„I will soon be the father of two daughters, and I know how important it is to support girls early on. To me, supporting the Vienna Girls Choir means to further equal opportunities, to help level the playing field. I am delighted that we were able to engage Eva Poleschinski to design the new outfits – not just for the historic occasion. I am convinced that the girls will be just as good and as dedicated as the boys in their performance.“

For more information, visit

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Press contact:

Maria Großbauer, CASA MARIA

Mobile: +43 664 538 777 3

office@casamaria.at

presse@wsk.at

Dr. Tina Breckwoldt, Wiener Sängerknaben

Dramaturgie / Presse

tbreckwoldt@wsk.at

presse@wsk.at

Tel: +43 1 216 39 42 45