



WORLD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

FESTIVAL STRINGS LUCERNE

The Lucerne Festival Strings have been one of the most distinguished chamber orchestras in Europe for nearly 60 years, with important recordings and concert tours all over the world to their credit. The Australian-Swiss violinist Daniel Dodds has been Artistic Director and Leader of the orchestra since 2012. The principal guest artist at present is Arabella Steinbacher.

Closely associated with Lucerne University, the very busy Lucerne Festival Strings offers a deliberately wide-ranging repertoire in its own concert series at the Lucerne KKL, as guest ensemble at the Lucerne Festival, in the recording studio and on tour. Since its foundation in 1956, it has premiered more than one hundred works, compositions by Jean Françaix, Frank Martin, Bohuslav Martinu, Sándor Veress, Iannis Xenakis, Krzysztof Penderecki, Klaus Huber and Peter Ruzicka among them.

For more than forty years, from the ensemble's establishment, Rudolf Baumgartner played a role as a performing artist and in due course as conductor and artistic director of the «Strings», as citizens of Lucerne affectionately refer to the orchestra with its basic core of eighteen musicians. Apart from Baumgartner, formative influence derived from his fellow-founder, the legendary Viennese violinist Wolfgang Schneiderhan and the master pupils of his who originally joined him in the violin section; they were oriented towards the Austro-Hungarian string tradition and its special «golden sound».

The core consisting of seventeen string soloists and a harpsichordist can be expanded depending on requirements, so that the ensemble can perform as an approximately 25-strong chamber orchestra or, for symphonic repertoire, as an approximately 60-strong «real top-ranking orchestra». In smaller chamber groupings, the Festival Strings Chamber Players also have their place in the concert schedule.

Daniel Dodds, concertmaster

The Australian-Swiss violinist, chamber musician and teacher Daniel Dodds and his family have made Lucerne their adoptive home. He has led the Lucerne Festival Strings since 2000 and additionally became its artistic director in 2012.

Like Gunars Larsens, his former teacher and predecessor as leader of the Lucerne Festival Strings, he teaches a violin class at the Lucerne College of Music.

He has performed in chamber groupings with Dmitri and Vovka Ashkenazy, Ramin Bahrami, Kolja Blacher, Wolfram Christ, Viviane Hagner, James Galway, Jens Peter Maintz, Alois Posch, Herbert Schuch, Martin Stadtfeld and many others.

In addition to his regular engagements as guest leader of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, the Salzburg Camerata, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the Australian World Orchestra, he is a member of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra and forms part of the ensemble of soloists in the star-studded orchestra.

The press has been praising Dodds's musical flexibility and intuitive grasp of style ever since he assumed artistic direction of the Lucerne Festival Strings:

«What Daniel Dodds achieved from the first desk in the Dvorák was simply splendid and lent the piece exemplary melodic intensity, sensuous timbre and vigour.» Neue Luzerner Zeitung





WORLD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

«The performance of the 'Festival Strings Lucerne' under Daniel Dodds evinced high string culture, sensitive and subtle interpretation and homogeneous sound. Musical aesthetics at their best.»

Schwarzwälder Bote

«The five movements appeared to light up from within of their own accord. Baroque rationality and Romantic emotionalism happily complemented each other: the 'Strings' proved to be nimble and adaptable.»

Frankfurter Neue Presse

There are plans for concerts with the Lucerne Festival Strings at the Hong Kong Arts Festival among other venues, and for solo appearances with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra conducted by Stanley Dodds at the Philharmonie, with the Orchestra della Radiotelevisione della Svizzera Italiana conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy, with the Giessen Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Michael Hofstetter and with the Australian World Orchestra conducted by Zubin Mehta.

With his solo CD «Time Transcending» released by OEHMS CLASSICS, Daniel Dodds proves that he knows no limits on the violin.

Daniel Dodds plays the Stradivari «ex Hämmerle - ex Baumgartner» of 1717 kindly loaned by the Lucerne Festival Strings Foundation.



WORLD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY S.p.a.
Codice fiscale e P.I. 03463781207
www.wec-spa.com - info@wec-spa.com

Sede legale: Bologna 40126
Via A. Zanolini 36/AB

Sedi operative: Modena 41121
Via Farini 53
Tel. +39.059.245486

Milano 20127
Via Soperga 20
Tel. +39.02.67071216