

ECHO KLASSIK 2017: This Year's Winners Have Been Chosen!

Award ceremony to be held on 29th October in the
Elbphilharmonie concert hall, hosted by Thomas Gottschalk

Tickets go on sale on 3rd August

Berlin, 27th July 2017 – Joyce DiDonato, Matthias Goerne, Daniel Hope, Kent Nagano, Maurizio Pollini, Fazıl Say, Christian Tetzlaff, the Vienna Piano Trio, Thomas Fritsch, Sebastian Knauer, Linus Roth and next-generation artist Lucas Debargue are only a few of the winners of this year's ECHO KLASSIK awards. The *Deutsche Phono-Akademie*, which acts as the cultural arm of Germany's *Federal Music Industry Association (Bundesverband Musikindustrie, BVMI)*, also announced today that tenor Jonas Kaufmann, whose album "Dolce Vita" topped the charts in terms of sales, will be honoured in the category "Bestseller of the Year 2017". This year's ECHO KLASSIK comprises a total of 54 awards in 22 categories. For a list of all prize winners, please consult the bottom of this press release or visit www.echoklassik.de.

The ECHO KLASSIK trophies will be handed out on Sunday, 29 October 2017 during a gala event in the Elbphilharmonie Concert Hall in Hamburg. The German public TV channel ZDF will broadcast the ceremony that evening starting at 10 pm. Once again this year, popular television presenter Thomas Gottschalk will host the ECHO KLASSIK, marking the fourth time overall he acts as master of ceremonies for the event. The names of those award winners who will perform live that evening will be announced shortly.

Tickets for the ceremony will go on sale next week on Thursday, 3rd August 2017, at 6 pm on www.eventim.de or via the eventim ticket hotline at +49 (0)1806-570070.

"Classical music forms an essential part of our heritage and represents one of the fundamental foundations of our culture", notes *BVMI* Managing Director Florian Drücke. "All of the artists receiving an ECHO KLASSIK this year have made outstanding contributions to this heritage in the 2016/17 music year. Their performances have brought audiences closer to numerous works of traditional classical music, but also to so-called New Classics. Whether its brilliant solo artists, collaborating ensembles, global superstars or exciting young newcomers – each of these musicians has helped to foster the extraordinary diversity of classical music and ensured that it continues to reach and inspire people of all ages and social backgrounds on all possible distribution channels. Indeed, distribution is of extreme importance to the future of classical music, especially in our increasingly digital world, and this also makes it a key priority for the ECHO KLASSIK. I'm already looking forward to a wonderful award ceremony and all the amazing guests and artists who will perform in the new and perhaps most spectacular concert hall in the world, the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg."

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Here is an overview of all winners of the ECHO KLASSIK 2017 (in alphabetical order; for an overview by category, please visit www.echoklassik.de):

- Aida Garifullina
- Boston Symphony Orchestra
- Camille Thomas | Julien Libeer
- Chorus Musicus Köln | Das Neue Orchester | Christoph Spering
- Christian Tetzlaff
- Daniel Hope
- Daniil Trifonov
- Die 12 Cellisten der Berliner Philharmoniker
- Dominik Wagner
- Eva van Grinsven
- Fazıl Say
- Gábor Boldoczki
- Giovanni Antonini | Il Giardino Armonico
- Henning Kraggerud | Norwegian Chamber Orchestra
- Ian Bostridge
- Jan Lisiecki | NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester | Krzysztof Urbanski
- Johannes Moser
- Jonas Kaufmann
- Joyce DiDonato
- Kent Nagano
- Kristian Bezuidenhout | Freiburger Barockorchester | Gottfried von der Goltz
- Ksenija Sidorova
- L'Achéron | François Joubert-Caillet
- Linos Ensemble
- Linus Roth | London Symphony Orchestra | Thomas Sanderling
- Luca Pisaroni | Christiane Karg | Sonya Yoncheva | Thomas Hampson | Rolando Villazón | Chamber Orchestra Of Europe | Yannick Nézet-Séguin
- Lucas Debargue
- Maria Sournatcheva | Göttinger Symphonie Orchester | Christoph-Mathias Mueller
- Marianne Crebassa
- Matthias Goerne
- Maurizio Pollini
- MDG | Werner Dabringhaus
- Mission Mozart (with Lang Lang, Wiener Philharmoniker, Nikolaus Harnoncourt; Director: Christian Berger)
- Mozarteumorchester Salzburg | Constantin Trinks
- Neeme Järvi | Orchestre de la Suisse Romande
- Nils Mönkemeyer | Julia Fischer | Sabine Meyer | William Youn
- Notos Quartett
- Piano Duo Genova & Dimitrov | Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra | Yordan Kamdzhali
- Pretty Yende
- Purcell: The Indian Queen (with MusicAeterna, Teodor Currentzis; Director: Peter Sellars)
- Quartetto di Cremona
- Quatuor Molinari
- querstand
- Renaud Capuçon | Wiener Symphoniker & Orchestre de l'Opéra de Paris (Philippe Jordan) | Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France (Myung-Whun Chung)
- RIAS Kammerchor
- Roman Trekel | Anne Schwanewilms | Houston Symphony | Hans Graf
- Sebastian Knauer | Arash Safaian
- Sebastian Manz | SWR Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra | Antonio Méndez
- Thomas Fritsch
- Thomas Günther
- TONALi
- Wiener Klaviertrio
- Yoel Gamzou

PRESSEMITTEILUNG



ECHO KLASSIK 2017

DATE: 29th October 2017;
TV broadcast on same day at 10 pm on ZDF

LOCATION: Elbphilharmonie Concert Hall, Hamburg

HOST: Thomas Gottschalk

BACKGROUND: The ECHO Klassik is one of the most prestigious music awards in the world. Each year, a virtual who's-who of the international classical music scene attends the glamorous ceremony, which will mark its 24th anniversary in 2017. The gala will take place this year on 29 October in Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie Concert Hall. The German TV channel ZDF will broadcast the event that evening at 10 pm.

The ECHO Klassik has been organised annually since 1994 by the Deutsche Phono-Akademie, which acts as the cultural arm of the BVMI. The awards honour outstanding performances by national and international artists. The winners are chosen by a jury consisting of prominent industry experts. The key goals of the ECHO Klassik are to recognise extraordinary recordings but also to use the prestigious award to foster young talent and bring the fascination and diversity of classical music to a broader audience.