



RADICI NEL FUTURO

Italia Ospite d'Onore 2024
Fiera del Libro di Francoforte

PRESS RELEASE

An ode to the twentieth century: the Filarmonica della Scala wows Berlin and showcases Italy in Frankfurt

Berlin, 29 August 2024 – Under the expert direction of Maestro Riccardo Chailly, the prestigious Filarmonica della Scala of Milan enchanted the audience at Berlin's Philharmonie during the Musikfest. Just one in the rich calendar of initiatives marking Italy's participation as Guest of Honour at the upcoming Frankfurt Book Fair, the event celebrated the excellence of Italian music and the innovative spirit of twentieth-century composers.

Carefully honed to emphasise the dialogue between tradition and the avant-garde, the concert programme included masterpieces by Luciano Berio, with his intense *Quatre dédicaces*, Wolfgang Rihm's complex and futuristic *Dis-Kontur*, and Maurice Ravel's majestic *Daphnis et Chloé*. Selected for their ability to unite past and future, these pieces also demonstrated the timeless appeal of classical music and underscored the creative genius of their composers.

In a celebration of the richness and diversity of Italian culture, the Government's Extraordinary Commissioner, Mauro Mazza, declared that 'Italy's participation in Frankfurt represents a unique opportunity to link the worlds of literature and music. The decision to pay tribute to composers such as Berio, Rihm and Ravel testifies to our commitment to promote tradition and innovation in the arts. The visionary spirit characteristic of their works perfectly reflects the "Roots in the Future" motto that guides our own presence at the Frankfurter Book Fair. It is a way of highlighting how Italian culture, while aware of the greatness of its roots, is constantly projected into the future. And with its ability to excite and unite, music plays a fundamental role in this.'

The concert given by the Filarmonica della Scala in Berlin represents a fundamental element in the broader project to promote music as an integral part of Italian culture being celebrated at the next edition of the *Buchmesse*. This runs in parallel



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to the 'Destination Frankfurt' project, inaugurated last 12 June in Dortmund with the *Italian Passions, from Rossini to Puccini* concert by the Nuova Orchestra Scarlatti of Naples, conducted by Beatrice Venezi, and which will culminate with the four concerts organised on the occasion of the Frankfurt Fair: the Arena di Verona Orchestra's homage to Giacomo Puccini (15 October, Alte Oper), *Taranta d'amore e balli italiani* with Maestro Ambrogio Sparagna, the Orchestra Popolare Italiana, and the Corpo di Ballo Popolare of the Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome (16 October, Alte Oper), Giuseppe Verdi's *Rigoletto* directed by Hendrik Müller and conducted by Giuseppe Mentuccia (18 October, Teatro Oper Untermianlage), and the final concert by *Il Volo* (19 October, Festhalle).

Numerous Italian institutions are collaborating in Italy's participation as Guest of Honour at the 76th edition of the Frankfurt Book Fair, including the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Italian Embassy in Berlin, the Italian Publishers' Association, the ICE Agency, and the Centre for Books and Reading.

Press Office

Italy Guest of Honour 2024 Frankfurt International Book Fair

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