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Bergen International Festival

Bergen - Norway



Music, opera, dance, theatre, literature and visual art.

Annually in May/June. 2008: 21 May - 4 June

The Bergen International Festival, founded in 1953 in Edvard Grieg's native city, is Norway's music and theatre festival of longest and highest standing. Since 2006, when it took the motto Nordic Impulses, it has rapidly become established as a centre for northern European stage arts with its new productions of opera, theatre and dance.



Director:

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21 May to 4 June 2008

Bergen International Festival - Nordiske Impulser



Highlights

The festival opens with an exciting new production of the Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho's opera, *L'amour de loin* (Love from Afar), with direction and set design by the internationally acclaimed artistic duo Michael Elmgreen and Ingar Dragset. The festival closes with Arnold Schönberg's *Gurrelieder* which, based on Danish history and mythology and performed by some of the best singers from the Nordic countries, also serves to emphasise the Nordic profile of the Bergen International Festival.

The Bergen International Festival is a major venue for Nordic/Baltic contemporary music and in 2008 we premiere works by Magnus Lindberg (with the participation of the composer), Lasse Thoresen, Ruben Sverre Gjertsen and Ricardas Kabelis. The Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra will also perform Magnus Lindberg's newly written Violin Concerto (solo: Lisa Batiashvili). Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra and conductor Andrew Litton present the first act of Richard Wagner's *Valkyrie* with the soloists Päivi Nisula, Ain Anger and Stephen Gould.

Calixto Bieito returns to Bergen with an entirely new production of Henrik Ibsen's *BRAND*. The festival's Nordic profile is also evident in a co-production by The Bergen International Festival and Reykjavik Art Festival which combines the ground-breaking forces of two of the most dynamic contemporary dance companies in the Nordic countries, *Carte Blanche* from Bergen and Iceland Dance Company from Reykjavik.



Practical details

Bergen International Festival has an arrangement with one of Norway's leading travel agencies, Berg-Hansen Travel Bureau. Berg-Hansen can provide you with flight tickets to Bergen, accommodation in Bergen, and tickets to festival events. Please use this requestform to outline your requirements, and they will get back to you with an offer. Berg-Hansen, a member of Carlson Wagonlit Travel, provides services both to groups (more than 9 people) and to individual travellers.