



## LUCERNE FESTIVAL ARK NOVA

### Media Release

#### **For the first time in Tokyo: Lucerne Festival Ark Nova, September 19-4 October 2017**

*Tokyo/Lucerne, 24 July 2017.* For its fourth season, the mobile concert hall known as the Lucerne Festival Ark Nova will be constructed on site in the park Grass Square in Tokyo Midtown in the Japanese capital of Tokyo, where it will be in operation from 19 September to 4 October 2017, immediately before the start of the upcoming Asian tour by the Lucerne Festival Orchestra.

As has been the case in the first three years, social engagement will play a significant role. The planned offerings call for educational projects for children and youth as well as concert programs ranging from traditional Japanese music to European classical and jazz at low ticket prices. As in previous years, musicians from the Lucerne Festival Orchestra will perform in the Ark Nova this year, as will, for the first time, an ensemble of the Lucerne Festival Alumni. Details of the programming will be announced at a later date.

#### **About the Creation of the Lucerne Festival Ark Nova**

Following the catastrophe of 11 March 2011 in Japan's Tōhoku Region, the Japanese star architect Arata Isozaki, the British artist Anish Kapoor, together with Michael Haefliger, Executive and Artistic Director of Lucerne Festival and the Japanese concert agent Masahide Kajimoto developed the idea of using music to provide encouragement and assurance to people while the region is being rebuilt. For this purpose, Anish Kapoor and Arata Isozaki designed the world's first mobile and inflatable concert hall, the Lucerne Festival Ark Nova. It was constructed for its inaugural season of performances in 2013 in Matsushima, Japan. Thereafter, the Ark Nova operated during the fall of 2014 in Sendai and, in 2015, in Fukushima. The Ark Nova was given the Classical:NEXT Innovation Award in Rotterdam in 2015.

#### **About Lucerne Festival**

Lucerne Festival encompasses a series of internationally leading festivals in the realm of classical music. Each year three distinct festivals take place: the Easter, the Summer, and the Piano Festival. The most acclaimed symphony orchestras come to Lucerne to perform. The Lucerne Festival Orchestra brings internationally acclaimed orchestral musicians to Lucerne each summer for a two-week period, Riccardo Chailly is the orchestra's Music Director. Equally important is the development of emerging talent in the areas known as Lucerne Festival Young and in the Lucerne Festival Academy, which is under the directorship of Artistic Director

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Wolfgang Rihm and Principal Conductor Matthias Pintscher. As Lucerne Festival Alumni, participants of the Academy continue to have an impact in Lucerne and around the world through first-class concert projects.

### **About Tokyo Midtown**

Tokyo Midtown is a composite urban district with the concept of “a town that creates and collects ‘Japan Value (new values, senses, and capabilities of Japan)’. This town features a variety of facilities such as The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo, Suntory Museum of Art, 21\_21 Design Sight, shops, restaurants, offices, and apartments, surrounded by greenery. These resonate with each other to provide your urban life with a superior quality of everyday living.” Tokyo Midtown, as a ‘town of design and art,’ carries out various projects for design and art throughout the year to pursue the ideal of the city. Art is alive in every corner of the town to welcome the visitors, as it is also a key factor in the proliferation of Japanese designs around the world.

**Press photos** can be accessed at

[www.lucernefestival.ch/en/press/photos?keyword=Ark+Nova#](http://www.lucernefestival.ch/en/press/photos?keyword=Ark+Nova#)

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