

LUCERNE FESTIVAL STRINGS

«Polished, buoyant sound» (The New York Times)

The Lucerne Festival Strings have been established in 1956 by Wolfgang Schneiderhan and Rudolf Baumgartner and been classified just recently by Spanish newspaper El Mundo as “one of the most brilliant chamber orchestras that currently exists in the world”. Since 2012 the Australian born Swiss violinist Daniel Dodds has served as Artistic Director.

The Orchestra regularly tours throughout Europe, appearing at prominent festivals and concert halls as Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Hamburg Elbphilharmonie and Vienna Musikverein, just to name a few. Past overseas tours have taken the Orchestra to USA, to Japan and several times to China, South Korea and South America.

At its headquarters in Lucerne the ensemble offers a concert series at Jean Nouvel’s KKL Concert hall and is a regular part of the Lucerne Festival’s programming.

The regular ensemble consists of 16 to 18 string players and a harpsichordist but can also be expanded to a larger chamber orchestra according to the specific repertoire.

The repertoire of the Lucerne Festival Strings extends from the Baroque to contemporary music. During their more than 60-year history, they have given the world premieres of more than 100 works, including compositions by Jean Françaix, Frank Martin, Bohuslav Martinu, Sándor Veress, Iannis Xenakis, Krzysztof Penderecki, and Klaus Huber.

Another defining feature has been their collaboration with fabulous artistic partners, from Yehudi Menuhin, David Oistrakh, Pablo Casals, and Clara Haskil to such contemporary stars as Anne-Sophie Mutter, Leonidas Kavakos, Mischa Maisky, Daniil Trifonov, Vilde Frang, Hélène Grimaud, and Bernard Haitink.

The ensemble regularly releases CDs as a highly acclaimed recording of Mozart’s violin concertos No.3-5 featuring Arabella Steinbacher that was nominated for the prestigious Gramophone Award. Besides TV broadcasts and documentaries accompany the ensemble’s artistic work.

www.festivalstringslucerne.org

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