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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Beethoven's birthplace in Bonn: A top destination for culture trips in 2020**

On the occasion of Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020, the Beethoven-Haus has redesigned its museum and offers a special event programme.

As one of the most frequently visited museums worldwide dedicated to a musician, Beethoven's birthplace would like to invite travellers interested in culture to visit the Beethoven-Haus in 2020 and experience the composer's life and work at the original settings. Leveraging its position as a cultural institution with solid international connections, the Beethoven-Haus is proud to present a new permanent exhibition and an exceptional anniversary programme to celebrate Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### Redesigned museum

On the occasion of the official opening of the celebrations on December 16, 2019, the museum was reopened with a new permanent exhibition and additional rooms. Visitors can now experience the composer's life and oeuvre in an engaging and exciting way. The new exhibition carried offers an informative and emotional access to more than 200 original exhibits from the world-known collection, such as original manuscripts, instruments, daily-life items, Beethoven's ear trumpets as well as portraits. Among the new additions are a music room for performances on historic pianos and lectures, rooms featuring audio-visual offerings, a "treasure chamber" with original manuscripts and a space for changing exhibitions. The modern shop, cafeteria and lecture rooms are situated on the other side of the street.

#### Temporary exhibitions on special topics

Until April 26, 2020, the Beethoven-Haus presents the new exhibition "Joseph Stieler's Beethoven portrait and its history". It is followed by "Bernstein's Beethoven" from June 18 until October 4, 2020, and "Beethoven as a contemporary" (November 12, 2020 until March 3, 2021).

International conferences and special music events throughout the whole year complement the museum programme.

Beethoven's piano sonatas and exclusive concert projects

Next on the agenda and spread over the anniversary year is an exclusive sonata cycle presenting the renowned Russian piano player Evgeni Koroliov who has gained a superb reputation for his tender and subtle interpretations. The sonata cycle will take place at the Beethoven-Haus on six Friday evenings in the anniversary year only. It is complemented by six corresponding Saturday concerts where younger piano players will perform other Beethoven compositions. Finally, the Beethoven-Haus has successfully won the following seven exceptional artists and ensembles for some very special projects that will take place during single concerts and smaller festivals at the Beethoven-Haus: Daniel Hope, Martin Stadtfeld, the Artemis Quartet, András Schiff, and jazz pianist Uri Caine. A charity concert with Anne-Sophie Mutter to be held at the chamber music hall on December 16, 2020 will mark the end of the anniversary year.

An events schedule for the anniversary year can be downloaded from [www.beethoven.de](http://www.beethoven.de). Specific offerings for group travel operators are summarised in an extra brochure. Please direct your request to the staff of the museum office at [museum@beethoven.de](mailto:museum@beethoven.de).

**Press photographs** are available on request.

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**Visit us at booth 103 of the cities of Bonn, Düsseldorf and Cologne at the ITB trade fair in hall 8.2.**

**About the Beethoven-Haus Bonn**

The Beethoven-Haus Bonn association, founded in 1889, is the worldwide leading Beethoven centre. It strives to preserve Beethoven's life, work and heritage. The Beethoven-Haus Bonn includes the world's most important Beethoven collection, the museum at Beethoven's birth place attracting over 100,000 visitors per year, a scientific research department dedicated to music with its own library and publishing house as well as the Hermann J. Abs chamber music hall. Thanks to the engagement and support of a good 900 friends, patrons and members from more than 20 countries as well as the German government, the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Rhineland Regional Council and the city of Bonn, the association carries out various cultural tasks and initiatives of national and international importance. Since 2020 Daniel Hope, a renowned violinist, producer and author, serves as President. In 2016 the non-profit institution Beethoven Jubiläums Gesellschaft was founded under the umbrella of the Beethoven-Haus Foundation to coordinate and promote Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020.