

eurofestival zupfmusik 2010 – Getting Together in the Musikland Baden-Wuerttemberg

The Federation of German Plucked String Musicians (BDZ) is the senior organisation worldwide dealing with all the various aspects of plucked string music. In this capacity, it is holding its next large-scale music festival in the baroque town of Bruchsal from 3-6 June, 2010. This huge music spectacle will attract and inspire plucked string musicians from all over the world. Neatly sandwiched in as part of the whole-year project of the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, “Musikland Baden-Wuerttemberg”, this Festival is the biggest of its kind anywhere in the world.

In cooperation with the European Guitar and Mandolin Association (EGMA) and the European Guitar Teacher Association (EGTA), the Festival organisers will present musical events at the various attractive concert venues of the town, the parish church and the baroque castle. The function is centred around the logistically excellent **Citizens’ Centre**. For a few days, the musical state of Baden-Wuerttemberg with its rich historical tradition will tell the history in sound of plucked string music.

The Idea Behind the Music Festival

This Festival regards itself as the major international showcase for plucked string music and aims to serve the national and international scene as a place for experts in every area to meet and exchange information and ideas. Through the Festival, the Federation of German Plucked String Musicians makes it possible for everybody to take stock of developments internationally, in both instrumental and artistic respects. These developments are reflected in the endless variety of instrumental combinations, the interpretive richness and also the innovatively modern artistic trends and specialised musical literature. So this music festival is aimed as much at established soloists and chamber musicians, music educationists, students, and elite ensembles as at interested amateur orchestras and music clubs.

The “eurofestival” aims to contribute in its own way to international cooperation and dialogue. One important aspect is the productive interaction between generations, and another is the encounter between young people from various countries, something for which there will be a special range of functions. The organisers expect fruitful impetus for the future to result from the interaction between amateur and professional musicians.

The Festival will see the performance of particular works which are seldom heard because of their instrumentation, musical language or difficulty, and it will also provide for the participation of outstanding performers or ensembles and the presentation of up-and-coming talent. A wide display of wares provides an unusual opportunity to examine, discuss, try out and buy printed music, recordings, accessories and instruments.

The project “Musikland Baden-Wuerttemberg” will add a special emphasis to the “eurofestival”, promoting the participation of different circles of German musical life and the citizens of Bruchsal. The tradition of plucked string music in Baden-Wuerttemberg will be illuminated in its historico-cultural aspect in an exhibition in the town hall foyer, whereas plucked string ensembles from the region will bring the typical sounds to life.

Particular events like music in the baroque castle, a concert in the parish church during market hours or a children’s opera will be directed specifically at the Bruchsal concert public and help fill the air with music.

The Venue – The Municipality and Region of Bruchsal

Bruchsal is situated about 20 km north of Karlsruhe in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg and looks back on around 1,500 years of history. In the 18th century it was the residential seat of the prince-bishopric of Speyer, something which even today is apparent in many buildings. A noteworthy architect of the time – both for the baroque castle and for the parish church of St Peter – was Balthasar Neumann. The readily accessible infrastructure and excellent range of hotels and restaurants ought to arouse the curiosity of plucked string enthusiasts from around the world. Please go to www.bruchsal.de for further information.

Participants and Visitors

An invitation to take part in the “eurofestival zupfmusik 2010” is extended to all plucked string orchestras, guitar or chamber music ensembles and mixed musical groups from Germany and abroad. A special invitation is extended to club, state youth and state BDZ orchestras, which would like to contribute something interesting in the context of the thematic concept, and so experience and enliven the Festival. A few organisational details might be relevant:

In order to be involved in the “eurofestival zupfmusik 2010”, people should be prepared to take part for the whole duration of the event. This is the only way to ensure that it really is a “meeting place”. Because of the large number of participants, for organisational reasons, each appearance must be limited to 20 minutes. The costs of travel and accommodation must be met by the participants themselves. The Federal Music Committee of the BDZ will make final decisions about participation.

Interested performers, ensembles and orchestras should apply in writing. Please include the following information:

- Name and address, including telephone numbers and email address
- In the case of groups: the number of members in the ensemble and the name of the ensemble leader
- Line-up of instruments
- Short CV
- Photograph in 300 dpi
- Programme suggestion (duration: 20 minutes)
- If possible an audio sample in the form of a CD or MC
- Press reviews and references

Applications including with the requested information should be sent by May 15, 2009 to:

Daniel Mortsch

Schloßstraße 11

D - 07407 Rudolstadt

Germany

mortsch@bdz-online.de

The Federal Music Committee of the BDZ