

From: "Berliner Philharmoniker" <newsletter@digitalconcerthall.com>

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Subject: Live this Sat: Bach's "St John Passion" with Simon Rattle and Peter Sellars

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Meditative and dramatic

**Bach's "St John Passion" with Simon Rattle
and Peter Sellars**

LIVE STREAM

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Sat, 16 Mar 2019, 19:00 (Berlin Time)

New York: 14:00 / Tokyo: Sun, 17 Mar 2019, 03:00

A double reunion: for the first time since the end of his tenure as chief conductor of the orchestra, Sir Simon Rattle returns to the Berliner Philharmoniker. The programme features one of the most sensational productions of those years: Bach's St. John Passion in the production of Peter Sellars, which uses intensive imagery to accentuate the meditative as well as the dramatic dimensions of the work. The singers include the Rundfunkchor Berlin and a top-class ensemble of soloists.

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Excerpt from the 2014 production

Photo: Monika Rittershaus



On DVD and Blu-ray: Sir Simon Rattle conducts the *St John Passion* in the 2014 production by Peter Sellars

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Threefold talent

Free of charge: Jörg Widmann conducts the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie

LIVE STREAM

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Mon, 18 Mar 2019, 20:00 (Berlin Time)

New York: 15:00 / Tokyo: Tue, 19 Mar 2019, 04:00

The Junge Deutsche Philharmonie is one of the best youth orchestras in Germany. For this year's performance at the Berlin Philharmonie, the ensemble has invited a threefold talent: Jörg Widmann is a composer, clarinetist and conductor, and in this concert presents himself in all three functions – with the clarinet sonata in E flat major by Felix Mendelssohn which he has transcribed for orchestra, Robert Schumann's Second Symphony, and his 2005 Mass for Orchestra.

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Photo: Achim Reissner



Nightmarish dreamscape

New in the archive: "Late Night" concert with Patricia Kopatchinskaja

Arnold Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, first performed in 1912, is one of the central works of Modernism in music with its surreal, nightmarish dreamscape, its unusual instrumental line-up and fascinating sound experiments. In the latest concert of the Philharmoniker's *Late Night* series, the violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja took on the vocal role. Together with members of the Berliner Philharmoniker, she embodied through voice, song and acting – and in clown costume – the eponymous Pierrot. As a delightful contrast, the concert also included the waltzes of Johann Strauss II in arrangements by Arnold Schoenberg and Anton Webern.

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Sharply contoured

Recommendation of the week: Brahms's Violin Concerto with Frank Peter Zimmermann and Bernard Haitink

It is actually astonishing that Brahms's Violin Concerto is considered one of the most popular as it forgoes any play on the tension between soloist and orchestra; the effect is rather one of mutual support for each other. In 2010, Frank Peter Zimmermann presented the work "with warmth and intensity" in a "sensational" performance, as the press described it. To close the concert, Bernard Haitink conducted Bartók's sharply contoured *Concerto for Orchestra*.

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Photo: Monika Rittershaus

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