



Germanic Experiences

BREGENZER FESTSPIELE

JUL 17 – AUG 18, 2024

DER FREISCHÜTZ

Carl Maria von Weber

Romantic Opera in 3 Acts (1821)

Bregenz Festspiele is a performing arts festival which is held every July and August in Bregenz in Vorarlberg (Austria). It features a large floating stage which is situated on Lake Constance. The Festival became an international event in its first year 1946, one year after World War II. People from Germany, Switzerland and France came to the festival. Two stages were created out of floating barges. One barge for the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and the other barge for carrying stage structures. In 2001, the festival created a handful of contemporary arts events to go along with their usual performances. These events were a new collaboration with the Kunsthhaus Bregenz. Other add-ons that the festival created for more variety and entertainment are the Children's Festival, the opera and band workshops, and family and school-group concerts. Along with the main performance on the floating stage, the festival presents a wide variety of musical and theatrical events in the following venues:

Seebühne (or floating stage), with its 7,000 seat open-air amphitheatre, is the location for large-scale opera or musical performances on a stage over water on the shores of Lake Constance. Opera or musical productions on the floating stage generally tend to come from the popular operatic repertoire, but often are extravagantly original and innovative productions/ stagings, frequently using the waters of the lake as an extension of the stage.

Festspielhaus presents performances of rarely performed opera and concerts.

Werkstattbühne presents performances of contemporary theatre and opera.

Theater am Kornmarkt presents operetta and drama performances.

shed8/Theater Kosmos venue for drama and crossculture acts.

The main performance during the Festival is Der Freischütz, one of the most popular Operas from Carl Maria von Weber, a German composer, conductor, virtuoso pianist, guitarist, and critic of the early Romantic period. As one of the most popular operas in the German speaking world, Der Freischütz is now staged on the Seebühne for the first time with director and stage designer Philipp Stölzl and Conductor in Residence Enrique Mazzola. Video:

<https://youtu.be/stdh0MH3A8E>

Description of Der Freischütz (translated "the Marksman")

An uninviting village in Germany shortly after the Thirty Years' War: The young clerk Max loves Agathe, the daughter of the head ranger Kuno. But in order to marry her, the inexperienced marksman Max must participate in an archaic tradition and score in a shooting trial – an unfulfillable challenge for him. The dubious war veteran Kaspar knows this. He convinces the clerk to meet him at Wolf's Glen at midnight to forge »free bullets« that never miss their target. Max, who does not see any other way out of his unfortunate situation, sells his soul to the devil. What he does not know, though, is that while six of the cursed bullets will hit their target, the seventh is in the devil's hands. In the meantime, his fiancé Agathe tries to find sleep in this stormy night. On the morning of their wedding day, she is overtaken by a deep sense of foreboding. Even her best friend Ännchen cannot cheer her up. When the shooting trial finally begins, Max is on his seventh bullet. He brings the gun to his shoulder, aims and pulls the trigger ...

FIXED DEPARTURES 2024

JULY 27	EUR 131.-	CAT 4
AUGUST 7	EUR 138.-	CAT 3

Tickets for other categories and other dates upon request

