

Heidelberger Frühling Streichquartettfest

String quartet festival “Heidelberger Frühling Streichquartettfest” 2024 inspired around the season's focus on Johannes Brahms

“Brahms in the Centre” filled around 3700 seats over four festival days with 10 events, occupancy about 95%

The **Heidelberger Frühling Streichquartettfest** in Heidelberg, Germany focuses exclusively on the string quartet genre and is considered a pioneering festival of its kind. Its 2024 edition under the motto “Brahms at the Centre” ended yesterday, 21 January, with a sold-out final concert at the Alte Pädagogische Hochschule Heidelberg. With around **3700 tickets sold**, the **occupancy was about 95%**. In addition to audiences from the region, the festival once again attracted quartet friends from all over Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

The Streichquartettfest marked the start of the Heidelberger Frühling's Brahms focus for the 2024 season, which also runs through the Musikfestival in spring and the Liedfestival in summer. The three string quartets by Johannes Brahms took centre stage. Works by Robert Schumann, Joseph Haydn, Anton Webern and contemporary composers were also presented. Guests included the **Quatuor Agate** from Paris, the South Korean **Arete Quartet**, the **NOVO Quartet** from Copenhagen, the Spanish **Cuarteto Quiroga** and the **Ševčík Quartet** from Prague. The workshops were led by **Natasha Loges**, Professor of Musicology at the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg, and **Oliver Wille**, violinist of the Kuss Quartett and Professor of String Chamber Music at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hanover. The keynote lecture by Prof. Wolfgang Sandberger, Director of the Brahms-Institut in Lübeck, at the start of the “Brahms Year” of the Heidelberger Frühling had to be cancelled due to illness. A new date as part of the Musikfestival from 15 March to 13 April 2024 will be announced.

The final concert was recorded by SWR Kultur – German public radio and media partner of the festival – and will be broadcast on 5 February 2024 at 20.03h.

The **Heidelberger Frühling Streichquartettfest** is the first festival of its kind. What began as a focal weekend in the Heidelberger Frühling Musikfestival has established itself as its own festival in January for eleven years. The opportunity for intensive encounters between ensembles and audiences and the density of different event formats attracts an international audience of connoisseurs and enthusiasts.

In 2025, the **Heidelberger Frühling Streichquartettfest** celebrates its 20th anniversary and will take place from 23 to 26 January 2025.

Free **pictures** of this year's Streichquartettfest (opening concert on Thursday, 18 January, workshop with Natasha Loges on Friday, 19 January and long quartet evening on Saturday, 20 January) is available for download [here](#), **photo credits: studio visuell**.

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