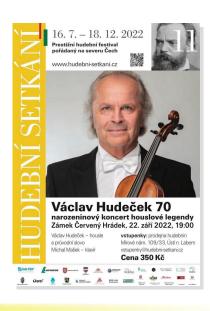
www.hudebni-setkani.cz Tereza Mátlová 15. 7.-10. 12. 2023 SALTEN SK PHOLCIM MINISTRACIONALIZA SERVICIONALIZA SERVICIONA

At present "HUDEBNÍ SETKÁNÍ" (The Music Encounters) is the biggest independent music festival of classical music organised in the Ústecký Region with an outreach over its borders to other Czech Regions. This festival **originated in Ústí nad Labem** where it is firmly rooted and still based. It is aimed at bringing the best classical music performers to amazing, even though sometimes a bit overlooked, places in North Bohemia. It strives to connect the audience with the artists and to show that the music performed atthe highest standards always attracts big audiences from all walks of life. The HUDEBNÍ SETKÁNÍ change the established perception of classical music events and reach much wider audiences including those who in the past would never have attended such events. The HUDEBNÍ SETKÁNÍ show that music is not detached from the everyday reality but on the contrary, forms an integral part of it. The programmes of concerts are always carefully crafted for a particular venue and evening, sometimes combining music with prose rendered by leading actors of the Prague National Theatre.

During twelve years of the festival's existence there have been 150 concerts which 30 000 people attended encountering more than 100 artists. The artists such as *Ivan Klánský*, *Igor Ardašev*, *Gabriela Beňačková*, *Eva Urbanová*, *Štefan Margita*, *Jiří Vodička*, *Radek Baborák*, *Škampa Quartet*, *Wihan Quartet*, *Bennewitz Quartet*, *Josef Špaček*, *Václav Hudeček*, *David Eben*, *Jiří Bárta*, *Roman Janál*, *Aleš Bárta* and many others have repeatedly performed at the festival.



The HUDEBNÍ SETKÁNÍ is the major cultural undertaking in the Ústecký Region which is complemented by many activities and programmes designed for all age groups and held all year round.



The festival follows several programming lines such as a *piano cycle dedicated to Ferenc Liszt* and a traditional event of "Concert for Ústí nad Labem" which is a major symphonic concert held every October in the theatre in Ústí nad Labem. In 2020 another line was launched called DIGITAL, which is focused on promoting and communicating music by means of digital technology. Between 2020 and 2022 thirty music

video recordings were produced called "Video Invitations to Concert" including first class concerts performed by the top Czech artists at numerous historical sites situated in North Bohemia. In these video documentaries the exceptional interiors of the concert venues were presented by guides who were famous Czech actors - Josef Somr and Ladislav Županič.

In 2020 the HUDEBNÍ SETKÁNÍ were included into the prestigious scheme called Family Silver of the Ústecký Region and since 2022 the festival has become one of the important events organised by the Town of Ústí nad Labem. The festival is organised under the patronage of the Czech Minister of Culture, Governor of the Ústecký Region and the Mayor of Ústí nad Labem.





The founder and manager of the festival is **MgA. Michal Mašek, Steinway Artist,** who is also Managing Director of Morpheus Art, the organising agency.