



4th edition of the „Salzburg Singt!“ Festival in Salzburg, Austria

18. – 21. /22. April 2024

**Charles Gounods (1818 – 1883) „St. Cecilia Mass “
for Soloist, choirs, orchestras and organs**



In Mozart's hometown, numerous top-class cultural and music events - as well as the world-famous Salzburg Festival, - take place all year round.

The Hohensalzburg Fortress, the baroque residence, the Salzburg Cathedral or the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart situated in the middle of the old town (and **listed on the UNESCO World Heritage since 1997**) ... many places that offer an incomparable setting for a music and choir journey.

This spring, the "Jubilate – Salzburg Choir" invites individual singers and choirs to the annual "Salzburg Singt!" choir festival in the city of Mozart, to perform Gounod's masterpiece together during High Mass in the Salzburg Cathedral.

At 37, Charles Gounod writes his "St. Cecilia Mass" and, as the name suggests it, dedicates it to Saint-Cecilia, the Patroness of sacred music. In his composition, Gounod tends to combine ancient Roman simplicity with operatic pomp in an enormously colorful instrumentation. In opposition to this, is the theme, reminiscent of Gregorian melody, with which the Kyrie is framed, the almost entirely homophonic choral movements, the strikingly simple harmonies and the moderate tempi, geared towards a large reverberation and church space.

The premiere took place on November 22, 1855, the anniversary of St. Cecilia, in St-Eustache de Paris. The composer present, Camille Saint-Saëns later wrote: Present at the premiere, the composer Camille Saint- Saëns wrote the following:

"The performance of the Cecilia Mass evoked a kind of daze. This simplicity, this grandeur, this pure light that spread over the musical world like a breaking dawn, amazed people: one felt that a genius was at work... radiant rays emanated from this mass ... at first one was dazzled, then intoxicated and finally overwhelmed."



Festival program

Thursday: Arrival in Salzburg & Group Dinner

Upon arrival in Salzburg, check-in to your booked accommodation.
Musical tour through Salzburg Cathedral.

Evening: Group dinner at a typical Austrian restaurant.

Friday: City Tour & Get-together

Breakfast at hotel.

Morning: 2h walking city tour of Salzburg with a local licensed English-speaking guide followed by an individual visit to Mozart's Birth House (**self-guided tour, admission included**) or for "repeaters", a 2-hours special tour "Mozart is unique - but not alone"
Time for an optional lunch.

Afternoon: Free time for shopping or to visit a coffee house

Alternatively: Immediately after the city tour, take the public bus to St. Leonhard and take the Untersbergbahn up to 1,800 m (weather permitting).

Evening: 2h rehearsal

After, **get-together with the other participants & common group dinner** at a local restaurant.

Saturday: Domquartier Salzburg, general rehearsal and get-together

Breakfast at hotel.

Morning: Visit and guided tour through the **Salzburg's Domquartier**. (Admission and guided tour included).

Afternoon: 2h dress rehearsal at Salzburg Cathedral.

Evening: Get-together with the other participants & common group dinner at a local restaurant.



Sunday: High Mass / St. Cecilia Mass, Lunch & “Traditional Morning Pint”, Departure

Breakfast at hotel.

Morning: Rehearsal at Salzburg Cathedral.

After, **High Mass at Salzburg Cathedral / St. Cecilia Mass** incl. numerous local & international singers and choirs, the orchestra of the Church of the Resurrection in Salzburg, the Hornfreunde Dorsendorf and members of the Musikkapelle Hof.

Noon: Lunch & traditional “Morning Pint“ incl. music at a local restaurant.

Individual journey home for those who have booked until the 21.04. For the ones staying longer, drive to **Hallein**, the capital of the district of Tennengau and return to Salzburg for a group dinner and overnight at the books accommodation.

The homeward journey will follow on the next day.

Individual departure.

Pre- and post-tour program on request.

The program is subject to change!