

BEETHOVEN 27

— ALLE MENSCHEN WERDEN BRÜDER —

BEETHOVEN'S MUSIC UNITES EUROPE

2024 - 2027



Kit Armstrong (pianist) and Jan Caeyers (conductor)

Beethoven's music and vision of the world symbolise the profound experience of the European cultural identity. Beethoven27 wants to intensify this awareness and connect Europe through the universal language of music.

In the early nineteenth century, Beethoven issued a **call for peace** in the form of two masterpieces: the *Missa solemnis* and the *Ninth Symphony*. His music symbolises human brotherhood, reflected in the text sung by the choir in the *Ninth*: “Alle Menschen werden Brüder”, which would later be proclaimed the European hymn.

To help realise this humanistic objective, the internationally celebrated conductor Jan Caeyers has founded Beethoven27, an **ambitious European project** that he leads in conjunction with artistic partner Kit Armstrong. Both share the belief that music has a powerful role to play in today's society.

Beethoven27 aims to go beyond a mere aesthetic or emotional experience. It seeks instead to call attention to the relationship between Beethoven and the identity of Europe, and unite its 27 member states through the **universal language of music**.

To undertake this aspiring mission, a partnership has been formed between **conductor Jan Caeyers**, the American star pianist Kit Armstrong, the Belgian LCO orchestra, the Arnold Schoenberg Choir of Vienna and the Beethoven Haus in Bonn.

Between 2024 and 2027, the Beethoven orchestra Le Concert Olympique, under direction of Jan Caeyers, will revive 27 key works by Beethoven in the 27 EU countries, connecting at least 27,000 visitors in prestigious concert halls all over Europe.

In addition to the concerts, the calendar also features a **Beethoven Experience Day** with various activities that highlight Beethoven's life and work. Beethoven27 collaborates with artists, inspires through education and supports the hearing-impaired. Finally, the project also launches a virtual Beethoven world into the metaverse to inspire a younger generation.

BEETHOVEN27 | PROGRAMME

At the heart of Beethoven27 are 27 key compositions, spread across nine programmes, that take both the audience and the performers on a chronological journey across Beethoven's life and work.

Starting each programme, pianist **Kit Armstrong** will play a prelude and fugue from Bach in the key of the opening piece. That way, he highlights Beethoven's innovation while respecting its roots, and brings the audience into tune with Beethoven's mindset.

Additionally, each programme will follow a similar structure: one of Beethoven's symphonies is coupled with a concertante work as well as with a keyboard sonata or a piece of chamber music. A remarkable sequence that calls attention to the pianistic focus in his orchestral music.



PRODUCTION 1 | NOVEMBER 2024

1800: Juvenile Enthusiasm

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 21 in B flat major, BWV 890

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto no 2 in B flat major, op. 19 [1798]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 8 in c minor, op. 13 (*Pathétique*) [1799]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 1 in C major, op. 21 [1800]

PRODUCTION 2 | JANUARY 2025

1802: Crisis and Resurrection

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 1 in C major, BWV 846

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto no 1 in C major, op. 15 [1800]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 17 in d minor, op. 31 no. 2 (*Tempest*) [1802]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 2 in D major, op. 36 [1802]

PRODUCTION 3 | MARCH 2025

1804: Courage and Heroism

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 3 in E flat major, op. 55 (*Eroica*) [1804]

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 12 in f minor, BWV 881

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 22 in F major, op. 54 [1804]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Tripelconcerto in C major, op. 56 [1804]

PRODUCTION 4 | NOVEMBER 2025

1806: Optimism

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 2 in c minor, BWV 871

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto no 3 in c minor, op. 37 [1803]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Violin Sonata in G major, op. 30 no 3 [1802]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 4 in B flat major, op. 60 [1806]

PRODUCTION 5 | JANUARY 2026

1807: Passion

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 15 in G major, BWV 885

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto no 4 in G major, op. 58 [1806]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 23 in f minor, op. 57 (*Appassionata*) [1806]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 5 in c minor, op. 67 [1807]

PRODUCTION 6 | MARCH 2026

1808: The Beauty of Nature

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Violin Concerto in D major, op. 61 [1806]

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 8 in E flat minor, BWV 853

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Pianotrio in D major, op. 70 no 1 (*Ghost*) [1808]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 6 in F major, op. 68 [1808]

PRODUCTION 7 | NOVEMBER 2026

1812: Farewell: The End of an Era

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 7 in E flat major, BWV 852

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto no 5 in E flat major, op. 73 (*Emperor*) [1809]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 26 in E flat major, op. 81 (*Les Adieux*) [1809]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 7 in A major, op. 92 [1812]

PRODUCTION 8 | JANUARY 2027

1813: Retrospection

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 5 in D major, BWV 874

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Violin Concerto in D major, op. 61 arranged for piano and orchestra [1807]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 27 in e minor, op. 90 [1814]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 8 in F major, op. 93 [1813]

PRODUCTION 9 | MARCH 2027

1824: A message to the World

J.S. BACH: Prelude and Fugue no 2 in c minor, BWV 847

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Three Bagatelles (no 2, 4, 8) op. 199 [1820 – 1822]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Choral Fantasia, op. 80 [1808]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 9 in d minor, op. 125 [1824]
Arnold Schoenberg Choir Vienna



PROLOGUE | 13.05.2024

The nine core programmes and 27 key works from Beethoven27 are framed by a prologue in May 2024 and an epilogue in December 2027, featuring Beethoven's two great choral masterpieces: the Ninth Symphony and the Missa solemnis.

These grand symphonic works for choir and orchestra, underscore the political and ideological ambitions of the Beethoven27 project: to unite the citizens of the 27 EU member states, and to strive together for a better world under the motto, 'Alle Menschen werden Brüder!'

The concert of May 13 2024 in the Queen Elisabeth Hall in Antwerp is hosted by Jan Jambon, Minister-President of the Flemish Government and Flemish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Culture & Digitalization. He invited the 27 European Ministers of Culture in Antwerp who will attend this prestigious concert.

PROLOGUE: 13 MAY 2024

"Call for Peace"

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Choral Fantasia,
op. 80 [1808]

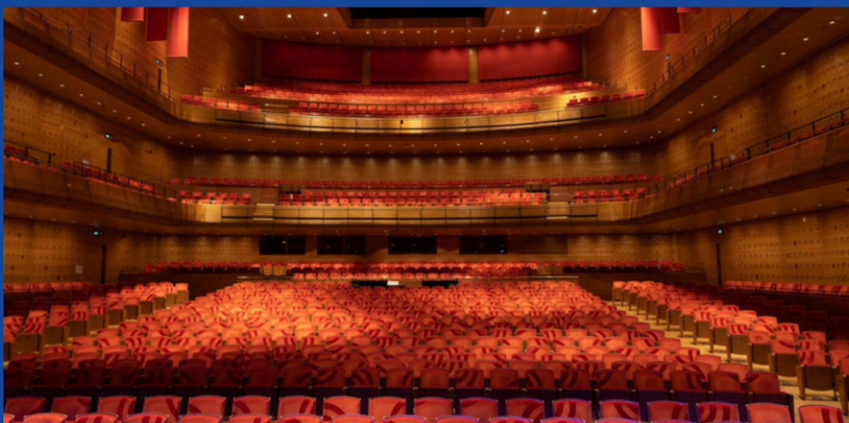
L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Symphony no 9
in d minor, op. 125 [1824]

Arnold Schoenberg Choir Vienna

*Lenneke Ruiten, soprano
Ulrike Mayer, mezzo-soprano
Simon Bode, tenor
Hanno Müller-Brachmann, bass*




KONINGIN
ELISABETHZAAL



EPILOGUE | DECEMBER 2027

"Message of Peace"

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Piano Sonata no 29
in B-flat major, op. 106 (Hammerklavier)
[1819]

L. VAN BEETHOVEN: Missa solemnis,
op. 123

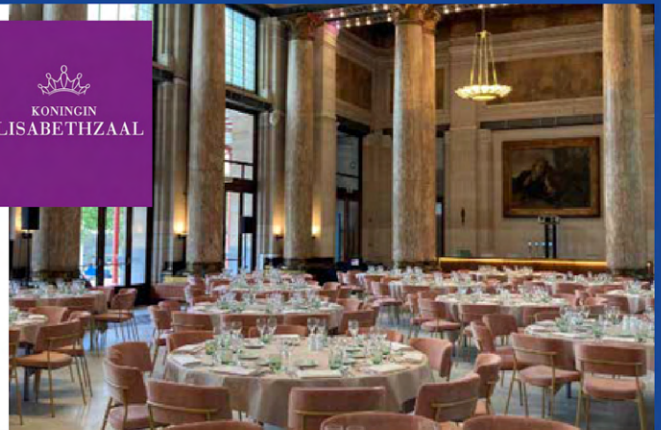
Arnold Schoenberg Choir Vienna

13 MAY 2024 | SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Beethoven27 is making a limited number of seats available for companies wishing to attend the opening concert in the Koningin Elisabethzaal in Antwerp. We will provide a unique concert experience with a personal welcome for you and your guests in a beautiful VIP setting. For catering, we serve quality wines and refined dishes in the Marble Hall.

PROGRAMME VIP PACKAGE

- 18h30 Champagne reception in Marble Hall
- 19h00 Fine dining - seated dinner
- 20h30 Concert Call for Peace - premium tickets
- 22h00 Coffee & desserts - meet & greet Jan Caeyers
- 23h00 End of the VIP programme



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concert communication

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concert communication

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1 VIP TICKET

Concert + seated diner all-in
Logo on website

€ 450

We would like to welcome you and your guests on 13 May 2024 in an exclusive VIP setting.
Book your VIP package: petra.meeus@beethoven27.com | +32 (0)473 98 56 97

BEETHOVEN²⁷

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