

## MUSIC

MAGAZINE  
12 MIN.

### VERSIONS

English, German: 70 x 12 min.  
Spanish: 01-06, 06 x 12 min.

### RIGHTS

Worldwide  

### ORDER NUMBER

64 4844 | 01-70



## Sarah's Music – Contemporary Classical

**Sarah's Music – Contemporary Classical** is a magazine show dedicated to the rich diversity of classical music. Presenter Sarah Willis, a world-class horn player with the Berlin Philharmonic, gets up close and personal with the stars of the classical music world.

What motivates a star conductor like Sir Simon Rattle to rehearse Carl Orff's 'Carmina Burana' with a children's choir? Or how does one of the world's famous opera singers, Plácido Domingo, remember his cooperation with the celebrated conductor Herbert von Karajan?

In each edition Sarah Willis will present European concert highlights, showcase top events and welcome a star guest. The British host was born in the US but grew up in Tokyo, Boston and Moscow. Sarah's Music – Contemporary Classical gives audiences around the globe a peek behind the scenes of current productions.

- 01** Sarah Willis is at the Kulturforum Festival in Berlin to take a look behind the scenes. She speaks to Sir Simon Rattle, Chief Conductor of the Berliner Philharmoniker, about his vision for involving children from all walks of life in classical music and follows his rehearsals with a young choir as they prepare to perform Carl Orff's 'Carmina Burana'.
- 02** Sarah Willis meets top Venezuelan conductor Gustavo Dudamel and they discuss the magic of open-air concerts. And she takes part in a very special event: Once a year, the Berliner Philharmoniker plays in front of 20,000 spectators at the Waldbühne, an open-air amphitheater in the German capital's Olympic Stadium complex.
- 03** Sarah Willis meets one of the world's most famous opera singers, Spanish tenor Plácido Domingo. Sarah talks to Plácido Domingo about the world's major music festivals and why performers are always keen to perform in such a context. She also visits the Salzburg Festival, which has attracted hundreds of thousands of music fans from around the world during July and August since its inception in 1920.
- 04** Sarah Willis pays a visit to the annual Beethovenfest in Bonn. She meets Latvian conductor Andris Nelsons to discuss the life and work of the great composer Ludwig van Beethoven. This festival features a performance by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra of all nine of Beethoven's symphonies.
- 05** Sarah Willis focuses on stringed instruments. Every musician has a story to tell about their instrument. Sarah Willis speaks to German cellist Alban Gerhardt and renowned violinmakers Daniel Kogge and Yves Gateau about their experiences. The program also features music performed by the Borodin Quartet from Russia.

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- 06 Sarah Willis attends the Echo Klassik Awards in Munich where she experiences some red carpet glamour and talks to the stars of the classical music world about what it takes these days to reach the pinnacle of the profession.
- 07 At the Mozart Week festival in Salzburg, Sarah visits the famous riding school where horses are trained to perform to music by Mozart and other composers. Sarah Willis discusses the spectacle with horse choreographer Bartabas and the conductor Marc Minkowski.
- 08 What precisely is a double reed, and why are woodwind players always tinkering with their instruments? To get answers to these questions and others, Sarah Willis meets the “Double Reed Club” – the oboists, bassoonists and cor anglais players from the Berlin Philharmonic.
- 09 During music recordings, who is responsible for making sure the sound is perfect? This question has Sarah Willis wondering, so she visits the famous Teldex Studio in Berlin.
- 10 Sarah Willis meets the world-famous French piano duo Katia and Marielle Labèque in Paris. The two sisters have been making music together since their childhood. They’re also known for their extravagant stage outfits. What’s the secret of their success?
- 11 All the world’s best musicians want to play at New York’s Carnegie Hall. What is it about the famous concert hall that makes it so special? Sarah Willis explores the reasons for the venue’s mythical status and meets the Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes.
- 12 In the Education Wing at the Carnegie Hall in New York, Sarah Willis takes part in a hip hop workshop. What does her horn sound like when it’s underlaid with an electronic beat?
- 13 The 21C agency in New York advises classical musicians on their use of social media. Sarah Willis visits the consultancy to find out how the Internet can best serve her interests.
- 14 The Metropolitan Opera in New York, or the Met for short, is one of the most famous opera houses in the world. Sarah Willis goes backstage during rehearsals for the opera Manon by Jules Massenet and talks to the General Manager of the Met, Peter Gelb.
- 15 At the Max Planck Institute in Göttingen, Sarah Willis meets scientists who are analyzing musicians’ movements with the help of magnetic resonance tomography and motion capture technology. She even allows herself to be used as a guinea pig.
- 16 Håkan Hardenberger from Sweden is widely considered to be the greatest living trumpet soloist. Sarah Willis meets him at a concert with the Berlin Philharmonic conducted by Andris Nelsons.
- 17 At the 4th Opera Gala of the German AIDS Foundation in Bonn, 11 renowned young singers perform for a good cause. Of all the different genres, why is classical music so well suited to benefit events such as these?
- 18 Sarah Willis meets the Austrian star percussionist Martin Grubinger at the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest in Vienna. What does it feel like to perform for 200 million television viewers worldwide?
- 19 Once a year, the Berlin Radio Choir and conductor Simon Halsey stage a sing-along concert at the Philharmonie hall. The concerts are always a huge hit, involving 1,300 singers from all over the world. Sarah Willis is among them.

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- 20 Classical music is intensive training for the brain. The neurologist Eckart Altenmüller, who is professor at the Institute of Music Physiology and Musicians' Medicine at Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media, explains why.
- 21 An iconic portrait of Johann Sebastian Bach, painted by Elias Gottlob Haussmann probably in Leipzig, has returned to that city from the United States. Sarah Willis goes to Leipzig to meet the conductor and Bach specialist Sir John Eliot Gardiner, who has a longstanding and surprising connection with this picture.
- 22 Sarah Willis joins the Israeli mandolin player Avi Avital for a stroll through Berlin. They jump on a rickshaw and organize a musical picnic. What is more, Avi Avital convinces some techno fans that the mandolin is a cool instrument.
- 23 Sarah Willis travels to the Japanese city of Sapporo for the Pacific Music Festival. This international festival of classical music was founded by the legendary conductor Leonard Bernstein. Every year world-renowned artists from all corners of the globe take part.
- 24 In 2015 the Australian World Orchestra performed at the famous Sydney Opera House under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle. The ensemble is made up of Australian musicians who play in some of the best orchestras at home and abroad, Sarah Willis flew to Sydney to have a listen and to talk with instrumentalists and the conductor.
- 25 This episode is aimed first and foremost at very young music fans! Sarah Willis goes to Beethoven's hometown of Bonn, to join a group of children walking in the footsteps of the great composer. Together they visit the house where he was born and undertake an interactive journey.
- 26 Sarah Willis talks to the cellist Sol Gabetta and the violinist Daishin Kashimoto about chamber music and its very special charms. And we hear excerpts from the concerts performed by the two at the Beethoven Festival in Bonn.
- 27 In this episode of Sarah's Music, find out what it feels and sounds like to experience a concert sitting among the musicians themselves. Sarah attends a Mittendrin ("right in the middle") concert in Berlin, part of a special series of performances. The conductor Iván Fischer talks about the genesis of his idea. The Konzerthaus orchestra plays the Firebird Suite by Igor Stravinsky.
- 28 The French Horn was Germany's Instrument of the Year in 2015. Sarah explores the path from animal horns to musical instrument – with the help of a rhino and 70 horn players!
- 29 Sarah spends the day backstage at the famous Theater des Westens in Berlin, as it puts on Chicago The Musical. She meets the cast and musicians and finds out how the musical theater prepares to perform the Broadway classic.
- 30 Sarah is in Vienna to discover the secrets of the Viennese Waltz. Dance instructor Thomas Schäfer-Elmayer sweeps her off her feet, and live waltzes are provided by the ensemble The Philharmonics.
- 31 Sarah spends the day at the Deutsche Oper in Berlin watching the rehearsals of everyone's favorite Christmas ballet, The Nutcracker.

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- 32 Sarah delves into the Sarah's Music archives with editor Kevin to find and share some of her favorite moments so far. But how to choose? There have been so many over the past 18 months! See which moments she selects in this special episode.
- 33 Peter Sellars from the United States is one of the most exciting opera and theater directors of our time. Sarah Willis watches him work on a production of Debussy's opera *Pelléas and Mélisande* at the Berlin Philharmonic.
- 34 The famous Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela is on tour in Berlin. Sarah holds a Horn Hangout with the horn section live online, answers questions from all over the world and attends the orchestra's concert in the Philharmonie.
- 35 Sarah visits the world's only Ice Music Festival, in Geilo, Norway, where all the musical instruments are made out of ice and the concerts are held outdoors. We had to dress warmly for this one!
- 36 Sarah meets the great Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov. She finds out how he chooses a piano for important concerts and is thrilled to hear him live for the first time.
- 37 Germany's top electronic and club music composer and DJ Henrik Schwarz blends techno and classical music in his work. What are the challenges facing classic musicians who perform his tracks?
- 38 From New York to Japan to Australia – every place Sarah Willis visits with her horn becomes the subject of an episode of Sarah's Music. See some of her favorite locations during the making of the program so far.
- 39 Renowned tenor Ian Bostridge and pianist Julius Drake perform "Winterreise" in Berlin. The two British musicians have specialized in the Lieder genre for many years now, and Ian Bostridge has written a book about Schubert's glorious song cycle.
- 40 The German National Youth Orchestra is on tour in Germany with talented young musicians aged 14-19. Sarah is delighted to spend time with them and reminisce about how wonderful it is to play in a youth orchestra.
- 41 The Lufthansa Orchestra is made up of 60 musicians who all work for the company – as pilots, flight attendants, technicians and office staff. They gather two or three times a year for some very special concerts. Sarah joins them to make music and talk about their two great passions: music and flying.
- 42 Daniel Hope – violinist, author, broadcaster, musical activist and festival director – talks to Sarah Willis during a festival at the Konzerthaus Berlin celebrating the life and work of his mentor, Yehudi Menuhin.
- 43 This very British episode features the Band of the Coldstream Guards, one of Britain's oldest and best known military bands. Sarah gets an exclusive, behind the scenes insight into a day in the life of the band.
- 44 Sarah spends the day with Brooklyn Rider, one of New York's finest and most experimental string quartets. In this episode they play a concert at the National Sawdust venue in Brooklyn as part of the New York Philharmonic Biennial.

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- 45 Sarah spends the day in New York with the multi-talented musician Damien Sneed, exploring and experiencing first-hand the power of gospel music.
- 46 384 trombone players gather in New York to try and break a flashmob world record during the 2016 International Trombone Festival. And Sarah is in the middle of it all.
- 47 Sarah spends a day at the inspiring Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California, where every summer, the halls and the beach are filled with music played by talented young musicians from all over the world.
- 48 Revisit five of Sarah's favorite music communicators from the series. These important people in the classical music world are passionate about what they do and each one has unique ideas for communicating their love of music.
- 49 Sarah Willis meets the famous jazz musician Wynton Marsalis in New York. She accompanies him to a rehearsal and a concert of his music with the Lincoln Center Orchestra. Only the best of the best play in this ensemble.
- 50 The US choreographer Lucinda Childs and her dance company attend the Beethovenfest in Bonn, where they perform her famous piece DANCE. The background videos are the work of Sol LeWitt, and Philip Glass composed the music.
- 51 Sarah Willis meets John Wilson and his orchestra at the Music Festival Berlin. The musicians play hits from American film musicals of the 1930s, '40s and '50s. Wilson has reconstructed the lost orchestrations of many classic shows.
- 52 Why is Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 one of the most important pieces of music in the world? Sarah Willis examines this question along with François-Xavier Roth and his Les Siècles Orchestra at the Beethovenfest in Bonn.
- 53 Sarah Willis attends the Echo Klassik awards ceremony. She meets many established stars and newcomers, including the countertenor Philippe Jaroussky and the members of the German Brass ensemble.
- 54 The harp is considered the instrument of angels. In 2016, it was declared instrument of the year in Germany. Sarah Willis and Marie-Pierre Langlamet, harpist with the Berlin Philharmonic, present this very special string instrument.
- 55 Katia and Marielle Labèque, seven breakdancers, an electric guitarist and a percussionist perform together at the Beethovenfest in Bonn Star Cross'd Lovers by David Chalmin – a modern version of Romeo and Juliet.
- 56 Viewers of Sarah's Music have been sending Sarah Willis samples of their favorite Christmas music. She presents a selection of works from around the world – as well as her own favorites.
- 57 For Sarah Willis, music does not always have to be classical. This time it is all about jazz, gospel, house and musicals, as performed by world-famous musicians.
- 58 Five-year-old Clemi, Plácido Domingo and Wynton Marsalis are among the many who have accepted the Sarah's Music Horn Challenge and tried to play the instrument. Here is a selection of the best moments!

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- 59 John Adams was the 2016/2017 Composer in Residence at the Berlin Philharmonic. In this episode he talks to Sarah Willis about composing, conducting and creative thinking.
- 60 Zohra, the Afghan Women's Orchestra, plays in Berlin for the first time. Sarah Willis meets these brave and inspiring young musicians and speaks to the two female conductors about fighting for the right to play music.
- 61 Sarah Willis visits the New World Symphony in Miami and follows the preparations for a concert. She talks to conductor and co-founder Michael Tilson Thomas and explores the stunning New World Center designed by Frank Gehry.
- 62 Sarah Willis meets violinist Lisa Batiashvili as she prepares for her first performance in the new Pierre Boulez Saal in Berlin. Renowned acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota reveals how he creates excellent acoustics in a concert hall.
- 63 Sarah Willis meets singer Thomas Hampson as he coaches young singers in the art of singing Lieder at his Lied Academy in Heidelberg.
- 64 Sarah Willis gets to look behind the scenes at the Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv during preparations for a performance of Gounod's Faust, and she meets Israeli musicians Na'ama Goldman and Dan Ettinger.
- 65 Sarah Willis savors the Sound Unbound Festival with all kinds of exciting music at the Barbican in London. The London Symphony Orchestra performs and Sarah even leads her own horn flashmob!
- 66 Sarah Willis presents highlights of a big fundraising event in Bonn – the 6th German AIDS Foundation Opera Gala. International opera singers perform, accompanied by the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn.
- 67 Renowned classical musicians show their support for a united Europe at a benefit concert at Radialsystem in Berlin. Sarah Willis is passionate about the message of this newly formed group, Musicians4UnitedEurope.
- 68 Salut Salon is a classical quartet with a difference who delight their audiences with a mixture of music, charm, humor and instrumental acrobatics. Sarah Willis meets the quartet while it is rehearsing for a concert in Hamburg.
- 69 Sarah Willis revisits some of the soloists she has already featured on Sarah's Music.
- 70 Germany's capital Berlin is full of music and many episodes of Sarah's Music have been filmed here. Sarah Willis shares some of her favorite Berlin episodes so far.