



MAHLER CHAMBER  
ORCHESTRA

## “Feel the Music” Festival Project at the Beethovenfest Bonn

### What is “Feel the Music”?

“Feel the Music” is a project series run by the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. In selected cities across the world, the MCO invites hearing-impaired children into the world of the orchestra, encouraging them to discover music on their own terms. In interactive workshops at schools for the deaf and at the concert halls, children and musicians explore how music can be experienced with all their senses.

The programme was developed as part of the *Beethoven Journey* (2012-2015) with Leif Ove Andsnes, tying in with Beethoven’s hearing loss. Since then, projects have been carried out in 9 countries across Europe and in Asia. With *Feel the Music* we aim to set an international example for inviting and integrating deaf people into the music world. We hope to inspire many more musicians, ensembles and promoters to create such opportunities for the deaf.

### International Festival Project in Bonn

#### “Feel the Music” Family Concert

In September 2014, “Feel the Music” moved to the next level: Partner classes which took part in previous projects came together at the Beethovenfest Bonn and performed in a Family Concert with the MCO on World Deaf Day 2014. 50 hearing-impaired children from Brescia, Cologne, Prague and Dublin shared the stage with the orchestra and Leif Ove Andsnes. Together with the Mädchenchor am Essener Dom, they presented children’s and folk songs from their countries in signed song. Aside from the song performances, the concert was translated into German Sign Language and welcomed deaf and hearing audiences alike.

#### Symposium “Mit allen Sinnen Hören“ (Listen with all Senses)

The combination of music and deafness was discussed at the symposium “Mit allen Sinnen Hören” which was part of the festival programme. What is music? How manifold are the ways of music perception? And how can we create musical experiences which go beyond the ear and speak to all senses? The symposium invited actors from the fields of arts, education and politics to examine these questions with a look at current research and practical examples, and to discuss ideas and possibilities of making music accessible for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

#### “Feel the Music” Painting Exhibition

The “Feel the Music” exhibition displayed paintings from all projects, in which the children have expressed their experiences with the orchestra. The paintings will be shown in the foyer of the Beethovenhalle.





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## Dates

SUN 28. September 2014, 11H

BEETHOVENHALLE

»FEEL THE MUSIC« FAMILY CONCERT

**Mahler Chamber Orchestra**

**Leif Ove Andsnes** Piano

**Signing Choirs**

(children from Brescia, Dublin, Cologne and Prague, Paul Whittaker)

**Mädchenchor am Essener Dom**

**Raimund Wippermann** Conductor

**Ralph Caspers** Presenter

SAT 27. September 2014, 17 - 19H

SUN 28. September 2014, 11 - 17H

BEETHOVENHALLE

SYMPOSIUM

»Mit allen Sinnen hören« (Listen with all Senses)

**A Symposium on Music and Deafness**

**Martina Taubenberger** Presenter

THU 25. - SUN 28. September 2014

BEETHOVENHALLE

EXHIBITION

»Feel the Music«

Paintings from Cologne, Brussels, Prague,  
London, Dublin and Bergen.



The Feel the Music Festival was kindly supported by

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**Kämpgen~Stiftung**



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