

Press Release of the Salzburg Whitsun Festival, 6 April 2020

## Cancellation of the Salzburg Whitsun Festival (29 May - 1 June 2020)



*Dear Friends,*

*I am so terribly sorry that, due to the current situation, we are obliged to cancel this year's Whitsun Festival in Salzburg!*

*I was so much looking forward to starting the rehearsals together with the fantastic Salzburg team, with my artist colleagues and to meeting our faithful public and friends who come to Salzburg every year or those who wanted to be there for the first time this year!*

*This decision breaks my heart, but one thing is evident - health comes first! There is no question that we, our whole society, must pull together and protect ourselves and our loved ones. These are difficult times for all of us but I am sure that the power of music will help us get through this.*

*Together with the Directorate of the Salzburg Festival we are already working on the exciting future, and I look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible! Until then, take good care of yourself, stay healthy and strong!*

*Yours, Cecilia Bartoli*

With these words, Cecilia Bartoli, the Artistic Director of the Salzburg Whitsun Festival, expressed her profound regret at the cancellation of "her festival". The Directorate, Helga Rabl-Stadler, Markus Hinterhäuser and Lukas Crepaz, share her sentiments with all their heart.

The plan was originally to make a decision on 15 April about the Whitsun Festival. Today's press conference by Chancellor Kurz, however, in which the authorities announced a ban on all public events in Austria through the end of June, made it reasonable to reach a decision earlier.

Of course the Salzburg Festival particularly regrets having to disappoint the many fans of Salzburg and of Cecilia Bartoli. However, health takes precedence even over the most beautiful artistic projects, and over important financial considerations too.

All customers will receive a refund of their ticket prices for the cancelled 2020 Whitsun Festival as a matter of course. Each customer will receive an email with the details of ticket refunds shortly, and the same information will be available on our website, [www.salzburgfestival.at](http://www.salzburgfestival.at).

Cecilia Bartoli is full of ideas for Whitsun 2021, and of course we all, the Directorate and Cecilia Bartoli, hope that the summer festival can take place.

Photograph: Cecilia Bartoli Decca/Uli Weber

Kind regards,

Press Office of the Salzburg Festival  
+43-662-8045-351  
[presse@salzburgfestival.at](mailto:presse@salzburgfestival.at)  
[www.salzburgerfestspiele.at](http://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at)

If you prefer not to receive our emails in the future, please send us an email to [presse@salzburgfestival.at](mailto:presse@salzburgfestival.at). Our General Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy are available anytime from our Press Office and are online at <https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/en/terms-conditions> and <https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/en/privacy-policy>.