



Two Awards for the Salzburg Festival

THE GREEK PASSION
elected
“BEST PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR 2023”



(SF, 30 January 2024) “The aspects of Nikos Kazantzakis’ novel which were so important and moving to the composer Bohuslav Martinů 70 years ago that he transformed the novel into an opera still concern us today: people seeking refuge, societies splitting in two, tragic escalations to violence. When the staging and musical rendition of such a relevant work reach the highest level, touching us profoundly, both the programmers and the creative team have done everything right. *The Greek Passion* at the 2023 Salzburg Festival, boisterously conducted by Maxime Pascal and thrillingly staged by Simon Stone, was the best performance of the year to our minds.” Thus the **jury statement** of the journal *OPER!*, naming *The Greek Passion* Best Performance of the Year 2023.

The Festival’s **Artistic Director Markus Hinterhäuser** personally attended the awards ceremony yesterday evening at the Amsterdam Opera House, and was grateful for this honour: “The opera *The Greek Passion* is truly a masterwork. The fact that its first performance at the Salzburg Festival was rewarded with this accolade confirms the high quality of Simon Stone’s directing and the outstanding musical achievements of the singers and the Vienna Philharmonic, all led by the wonderful conductor Maxime Pascal.”



Scene from *The Greek Passion* at the Felsenreitschule, 2023

Markus Hinterhäuser receives the “Trophée Radio Classique” in Paris on 6 February for BEST PROGRAMMING in 2023



Every year, the editors of the French station **Radio Classique** choose the winners of the “Trophées Radio Classique” in eight categories.

On 6 February, **Artistic Director Markus Hinterhäuser** will be honoured for his artistic leadership of the Salzburg Festival as an international music institution of excellence and worldwide renown. In its comments, the jury emphasized the richness and variety of programming, its expressivity and the high standards reflected by the artistic subjects chosen. “More than ever, Europe needs a festival such as the Salzburg Festival,” the **jury statement** continues.

Radio Classique reaches more than 1 million listeners every day. The “Trophées Radio Classique” are awarded in cooperation with the television station Mezzo, Radio Classique’s media partner.

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<https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/en/photos/the-greek-passion-2023>

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