

issued by Siemens AG and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities Berlin, October 2, 2024

Siemens presents the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra in concert to mark the opening of the Reclaiming Europe conference

- **Opening concert performed by the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra in the presence of two Nobel laureates**
- **Public opening event for the conference at 100cznia in Gdansk, 6 p.m. October 13, 2024**

The Kyiv Symphony Orchestra will be performing an opening concert to mark the start of the three-day Reclaiming Europe conference in Gdansk for the first time. The Siemens Arts Program is responsible for the artistic direction of the opening event, which takes place at 100cznia in Gdansk at 6 p.m. on October 13, 2024, and is open to the public. Tickets to the event are free of charge. Organized by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, *Die Junge Akademie* and other partners, the Reclaiming Europe conference will address the resilience and future of democracy in Central and Eastern Europe.

"Art brings people together and reinforces shared values", says Stephan Frucht, Artistic Director of the Siemens Arts Program. "This collaboration with the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra and our support for the Reclaiming Europe conference help to demonstrate our conviction that Ukrainian science and culture are integral to the intellectual landscape of Central Europe. Returning to the Gdansk shipyard, the

SIEMENS

Siemens AG
Werner-von-Siemens-Strasse 1
80333 Munich
Germany



berlin-brandenburgische
AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
Jägerstraße 22/23
10117 Berlin
Germany

birthplace of such a prominent freedom movement, for the event seems most appropriate."

The sole musical item on the program is Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 8 in C major ("The Great") with the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra conducted by Stephan Frucht. The concert will also be attended by two past winners of the Nobel Peace Prize: Former President of Poland Lech Wałęsa and Ukrainian human rights lawyer Oleksandra Matviichuk.

Reclaiming Europe has been granted substantial financial support by the office of Federal Government Commissioner for Eastern Germany, Minister of State Carsten Schneider. The agenda for the conference is based on the eponymous manifesto. The founding members of the Young Network TransEurope, 17 particularly outstanding and committed young scientists from a range of different disciplines, have drawn up the program, which will see them discuss the subjects of democracy, freedom and prosperity with guests representing academia and civil society from 14 countries across Europe. These discussions will give rise to a series of interdisciplinary projects to be launched over the next few years to address the consequences of the attack on Ukraine – and what it means for the future – with the ultimate objective of developing new perspectives in relation to Central and Eastern Europe that challenge the long-established narratives.

The Kyiv Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1979 in the Ukrainian capital and ranks as one of the country's most significant cultural institutions. The orchestra, with 130 musicians, relocated to Germany in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It has since performed at numerous prestigious festivals, including the Schleswig-Holstein Festival and Vienna Festival, and at the Berliner Philharmonie (Berlin) and Elbphilharmonie (Hamburg) concert halls, and has now settled in Monheim am Rhein as part of the town's lively cultural program.

Joint press release

issued by Siemens and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Active in the fields of music, the visual arts and cultural education, the Siemens Arts Program regards itself as a creative platform for corporate arts and cultural projects. It creates innovative projects with prominent individuals and institutions throughout the arts and culture scene.

One of the program's priorities is to support outstanding young artists all around the world, an objective it pursues through scholarships, its own young talent competitions and a scheme to introduce young artists to established international cultural institutions such as the Bavarian State Opera, Carnegie Hall New York, The Hallé, Salzburg Festival and the ARD International Music Competition.

More about the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities:

www.bbaw.de

More about the Siemens Arts Program: www.siemens.com/artsprogram

This press release is available at: <https://sie.ag/2b1TG7>

Contact for journalists

Siemens AG

Florian Martini, Tel.: +49 (0)174 1552072

E-mail: florian.martini@siemens.com

Siemens Arts Program

Katharina Schweinsberg, Tel.: +49 (0)173 2058803

E-mail: katharina.schweinsberg@siemens.com

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Dr. Ann-Christin Bolay, Tel.: +49 (0)30 20370 657

E-mail: bolay@bbaw.de

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Siemens AG
Werner-von-Siemens-Strasse 1
80333 Munich
Germany

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Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a leading technology company focused on industry, infrastructure, transport, and healthcare. From more resource-efficient factories, resilient supply chains, and smarter buildings and power grids, to cleaner and more comfortable transportation as well as advanced healthcare, the company creates technology with purpose, providing customers with tangible benefits. By combining the real and the digital worlds, Siemens empowers its customers to transform their industries and markets, helping them to improve everyday life for billions of people. Siemens also owns a majority stake in the publicly listed company Siemens Healthineers, a globally leading medical technology provider shaping the future of healthcare.

In fiscal 2023, which ended on September 30, 2023, the Siemens Group generated revenue of €77.8 billion and net income of €8.5 billion. As of September 30, 2023, the company employed around 320,000 people worldwide. More information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.

The **Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities** (BBAW), formerly the Prussian Academy of Sciences, traces its origins back almost 325 years. A major driver of research in the humanities and the force behind a number of world-famous research projects, it brings together a network of outstanding members spanning multiple disciplines and national frontiers. It also provides evidence-based advice to policymakers as well as being very active in science communication. Past members include many renowned scholars, among them its founder Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, brothers Alexander and Wilhelm von Humboldt, Albert Einstein and Max Planck. Academy members have together received more than 80 Nobel Prizes.

Siemens AG
Werner-von-Siemens-Strasse 1
80333 Munich
Germany

**Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences
and Humanities**
Jägerstraße 22/23
10117 Berlin
Germany