

PRESS RELEASE

OVERTURE II – 2nd International Festival for Classical Saxophone Leipzig 2026

Following the enthusiastic response to its premiere in February 2024, the International Festival for Classical Saxophone Leipzig – **OVERTURE II** – returns in February 2026 for its second edition.

Once again, the festival is dedicated to the rich sound world of the classical saxophone, bringing together renowned artists from various countries. The program features works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Franz Schubert, Claude Debussy, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, and others, presented in refined arrangements for saxophone ensemble and solo saxophone.

Among the participating artists are internationally acclaimed saxophonists **Henk van Twillert** and **Frank Liebscher**, as well as the ensembles **Vento do Norte** and **Rosa dos Ventos**, captivating audiences with brilliant virtuosity and refined musical expression.

A special highlight is the participation of French saxophonist **Claude Delangle**, longtime professor at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris and one of the leading figures of his instrument. He will take part in the **opening concert on Tuesday, 17 February 2026**, in the Great Hall of the University of Music and Theatre Leipzig, and will also appear in the **evening concert on Wednesday, 18 February 2026**, at the **Alte Börse**.

In addition, Claude Delangle will give workshops for students on both days, which will be **open to interested listeners for passive attendance free of charge**.

Alongside the opening concert, further events are planned at some of Leipzig's most beautiful venues, including the Old Town Hall, the Alte Börse, the Monument to the Battle of the Nations, the HMT Blackbox, and the world-famous St. Thomas Church.

With **OVERTURE II**, Leipzig once again becomes a meeting point for international saxophone artistry – a festival that unites artistic excellence, musical exchange, and a vibrant curiosity for the classical saxophone.

Internationales Festival für Klassisches Saxophon – OVERTURE Leipzig

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