# Winter in Salzburg:

# Magical moments and lots of Mozart

***“Mozart is man’s best friend” – this is how Rolando Villazón describes Salzburg’s most famous son. Beginning in 2019, the Mexican tenor will serve as director of Mozart Week and is set to transform this festival on and around the composer’s birthday (on January 27) into a true spectacle. In addition to this highlight, the upcoming winter greets us with circus artistry of the finest, a musical New Year’s and relaxing hours spent browsing Salzburg’s numerous exhibitions.***

Just as summertime in Salzburg goes hand-in-hand with the Festival, winter here very much revolves around Advent. The city’s beloved Advent markets will once again enchant visitors from November 22 through December 26, 2018 with arts & crafts along with a mouthwatering selection of festive delicacies. A sparkling fireworks show above Hohensalzburg Fortress will herald the arrival of the New Year. Once the celebrations are over and the final echoes of the New Year’s concerts at some of the most beautiful event venues in Salzburg have faded, that’s when the quieter weeks begin in the city of Mozart.

Salzburg city of music: Mozart in focus

**Contemporary circus artistry during Winterfest – November 28, 2018 until January 6, 2019**

Winterfest Salzburg is the biggest festival of *Nouveau Cirque* in the German-speaking world, captivating around 30,000 visitors every year. Its story began back in 2001, the vision of a single man and with a single piece. Through his idea of creating a platform for modern circus art, founder Georg Daxner didn’t only change the cultural landscape of Salzburg in the long term, he also injected new life into the Volksgarten itself, the place where, a century before, traveling circus troupes had set up their tents and astonished local residents. In addition, Georg Daxner managed to make Austrians more keenly aware of what the new approaches to circus performance were all about. The companies that appear during Winterfest are primarily from francophone countries and entrance audiences with their acrobatics, theatrics, dance and unmatched magic. The side program also offers concerts, food and drink as well as film evenings. Event details will be published towards the end of October 2018. [www.winterfest.at](http://www.winterfest.at)

**DIALOGUES and modern music - November 30 until December 2, 2018**

Aside from Mozart Week and its regular concert program, since 2006 the musical offerings of Mozarteum Foundation Salzburg have included the DIALOGUES Festival. Taking center stage in this interdisciplinary and contemporary festival is Mozart – distancing itself completely from any hint of being nothing more than another form of run-of-the-mill concert promotion. In this year’s DIALOGUES, and true to its motto “Interlude”, new artistic director Andreas Fladvad-Geier brings together new music from different generations of artists, genres, institutions and places. Ensembles appearing on stage will include oenm, Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, Camerata Salzburg, the Bach Choir and author Franzobel. As is customary, the ending of DIALOGUES will be marked by a performance of Mozart’s “Requiem” in the Great Hall of the Mozarteum Foundation. [www.mozarteum.at](http://www.mozarteum.at)

**Mozart Week under new leadership - January 24 until February 3, 2019**

In 2019, Mozart Week will have a new director in the person of Rolando Villazón. The underlying leitmotif of the next five iterations of Mozart Week under Villazón will be “Mozart lives!”. In his first season, the Mexican star tenor will capture the astonishing variety of Mozart in the form of opulent stage productions, concerts as well as other formats even extending to dance and cabaret. More than 60 events between January 24 and February 3, 2019 are intended to show how current and alive Mozart continues to be to this day. To this end, new co-operations, combinations, formats and venues are integrated into the program so as to reflect the diversity of Mozart. World-acclaimed stars like Daniel Barenboim, Cecilia Bartoli, Andras Schiff, the Vienna Philharmonic and Mitsuko Uchida further underscore Mozart’s genius. The musical focal point is a spectacular production of “Thamos, King of Egypt” at the Felsenreitschule. This is complemented by two other stage performances: In collaboration with the Salzburger Landestheater, a ballet gala has been developed, while the Marionette Theater will be showing its successful production of “Bastien und Bastienne” as well as “Der Schauspieldirektor” from Mozart Year 2006. Villazón celebrates Mozart’s birthday with a mariachi band, with which, in typical Mexican manner, the public will be encouraged to sing along and celebrate right outside the composer’s birthplace, his former family home and on Mozart Square. [www.mozartwoche.at](http://www.mozartwoche.at)

**Salzburg City of Culture: Multifaceted exhibitions for everyone**

**New museums for the cold months**

Winter lends itself splendidly to museum visits. In Salzburg, a few new and exciting exhibitions have now been added to your choices. The **Sound of Music exhibition** on Getreidegasse successfully manages to bridge the gap between the film plot and the real-life story of the von Trapp family. Open daily, “Sound of Music World” also features a souvenir shop where fans of the musical are certain to find something that appeals. [www.soundofmusicworld.com](http://www.soundofmusicworld.com)

The **“Museum of the Lost Generation”** in the heart of the historic district presents approximately 300 works by artists who were born between 1880 and 1915 and became victims of the National Socialist regime. The exhibition is essentially the expanded living room of collector Prof. Dr. Heinz Böhme, who is for the most part personally present on the Thursday and Friday opening days (in both cases between 1 and 5 p.m.).

[www.verlorene-generation.com](http://www.verlorene-generation.com)

**Salzburg as a center of Austrian photography**

From December 1, 2018 until March 24, 2019, Museum der Moderne – Rupertinum will be showing an exhibition entitled **“Lisl Ponger. Professione: fotografa.”** Lisl Ponger was the recipient of the Otto Breicha Prize for Photography, which is awarded every other year to artists who have made a significant contribution to fine-art photography. The show is divided into three parts: In addition to early films by Ponger, it presents new photographic tableaus as well as the installation “The Master Narrative and Don Durito”, which Ponger developed in 2017 for Weltmuseum Wien. The Rupertinum is an ideal venue for this exhibition, not least because the collection of this museum of modern art also comprises more than 22,000 works from the field of photography, including the Salzburg State Collection (10,000 pieces) as well as the National Photo Collection (12,000 photographic works).

**Further Information:**

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