

Guitarorama – A Feast for All the Senses from Stradivari to Stratocaster

Special exhibition at the Museum of Music from January 16 to April 26, 2015

Basel, January 8, 2015. – **How about the famous Stradivari? Or would you prefer an iconic Stratocaster? - Guitarorama, the special new show at the Museum of Music, invites visitors to relive the legends of 350 years of guitar-making as sound installation, Chladni figures, films, recitals, symposia and lectures.**

The Historical Museum Basel, with the cooperation of Basel Music Academy, the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis and University of Early Music, the bird's eye jazz club and Museo del Violono Cremona, has succeeded in assembling a panorama of the most diverse instruments, giving visitors a chance to experience the guitar in all its many different facets from the 17th century onwards. One special highlight is an instrument as rare as it is costly: a Baroque guitar of 1679 made by no less a luthier than Antonio Stradivari, whose creations now count among the most coveted worldwide. At the other end of the spectrum is the iconic Stratocaster electric guitar of 1954. Between these two poles, Guitarorama scans the whole gamut of guitar-making history from the simple folk guitars made for campfire sing-alongs and the ladies' lyre-guitars of the 18th century to the Stratocaster's archrival, the legendary Les Paul.

The instruments from various private collections and museums are presented in their larger context together with fascinating "biographical" details. A sound installation with samples of different guitars, photographic Chladni figures, films (on guitar-making, for example), music samples and hands-on exhibits demonstrating how materials influence sound conspire to bring the instruments alive – audibly, visibly and palpably.

The exhibition will be flanked by a range of events organized in cooperation with our partners: concerts of rock, pop, jazz, classical and early music, a symposium on Stradivari guitars, a talk by the photographer Alexander Lauterwasser and an "instrument clinic" specially for guitars.

Exhibition venue: HMB - Museum of Music, Im Lohnhof 9, CH-4051 Basel
Exhibition dates: January 16 – April 26, 2015
Opening hours: Wed.–Sat. 2–6 pm, Sun. 11 am–5 pm; closed Mon. and Tue.
Press info: <http://www.hmb.ch/de/sonderausstellungen/Guitarorama/Presseunterlagen>

For further information and photos:

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