

BEETHOVEN AND ITALY

20 OCTOBER 2025
18.00 – 20.30

Beethoven
and His Music
in Nazi-Occupied
European Countries

Opening night
of the International
Conference



About the Project

The life and music of Ludwig van Beethoven binds the musical life in Nazi-occupied European countries in an extraordinary way. His works and nimbus permeated all cultural domains: Beethoven was honored not only in official propaganda and military events, as well as in innumerable public concerts, but was also venerated in clandestine and resistance music making and in enforced circumstances in concentration camps.

In 2022 an interdisciplinary research project based at the University of Münster with more than 30 participating scholars in 20 European countries set out to reconstruct this unknown and significant chapter in European music history.

For more information, please visit:

[https://musicandresistance.net/
beethoven-in-nazi-occupied-europe](https://musicandresistance.net/beethoven-in-nazi-occupied-europe)

Supported by



Venue

Goethe-Institut Roma

Via Savoia, 12
I-00198 Roma



Contacts

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! In-person event.
Free admission as long as seats are available.

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Greetings

Jessica Kraatz Magri | Goethe-Institute | Rome
Andreas Krüger | German Embassy | Rome
Petra Terhoeven and Vera Grund | German Historical Institute in Rome

Introduction

Michael Custodis | Leader of the International Research Project „Beethoven and His Music in Nazi-Occupied European Countries“

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sieben Variationen über Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen aus Mozarts Oper Die Zauberflöte (WoO46)

Performed by:
Alessio Pianelli (Violoncello), Eugenio Catone (Piano)

Panel Discussion: Beethoven and Italy

Michael Custodis | Münster
Friedrich Geiger | München
Lutz Klinkhammer | Roma
Elisa Novara | Roma
Susanna Pasticci | Roma
Christine Siegert | Bonn

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata for Piano and Violoncello in F-major (Op. 5.1)

Performed by:
Alessio Pianelli (Violoncello), Eugenio Catone (Piano)

Participants

Michael Custodis (Münster) is Professor of Musicology and specialized amongst others in the field of music and politics.

Friedrich Geiger (München) is Professor of Musicology and amongst others leader of the long-term project „Nazi Persecution and Music History“ at the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg.

Lutz Klinkhammer (Roma) serves as deputy director of the German Historical Institute in Rome and head of contemporary history and is specialized on Italian, German, and European history in the 19th and 20th century.

Elisa Novara (Roma) is senior researcher at the German Historical Institute in Rome and specialized amongst others on compositional methods in the 19th century, Ludwig van Beethoven, philology, and Digital Humanities.

Susanna Pasticci (Roma) is professor of musicology at Sapienza University. Her research focuses amongst others on 20th century music with a special interest in Italian repertoire.

Christine Siegert (Bonn) serves as the head of the Beethoven-Archive and the publishing branch of the Beethoven-Haus. Besides her interests for music history around the 1800 years she is specialized on digital editions.

Alessio Pianelli is a Sicilian cellist and composer pursuing an international performance and recording career as soloist with orchestras and in various chamber music ensembles. Additionally, he is teaching in Rome and Trapani.

Eugenio Catone gained important influences as a pianist by Annamaria Pennella and with studies in Amsterdam and Essen, while further completing his work as a conductor in Milan. Besides his work as a performing and recording artist he is professor for piano at the Trapani Conservatory.

Goethe-Institut Roma

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