

Concert: The Music of Izzy Fuhrmann and Walter Arlen

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"Verfemte Musik 2008" competition winners and supporters. (© Consulate General Los Angeles)

The winners of the 2nd "Verfemte Musik" competition performed music by ostracized musicians Izzy Fuhrmann and Walter Arlen at a concert given under the auspices of German Consul General Dr. Christian Stocks on Monday, April 20, 2009 at the Goethe-Institut Los Angeles.

In an annual festival and competition for young instrumentalists and vocalists, the Music Academy Schwerin has been celebrating the music of composers, who suffered under the Nazi regime. The idea of memorializing not only the works, but also the lives and fates, of the Jewish composers was conceived by Volker Ahmels, the director of the music academy and noted pianist Friederike Haufe.



Volker Ahmels, director of the Music Academy Schwerin, Consul General Dr. Christian Stocks and Bernd Desinger, director, Goethe-Institut Los Angeles. (© Consulate General Los Angeles)

In 2008, a research project into the music of the Fuhrmann composer and conductor Walter Arlen was started. Its winners of the *Izzy Fuhrmann Award 2008* celebrate the Helge Aurich/piano, Daniel Beider/piano, Sonja Bisgiel/piano, Li Jing/piano, Sumi Sefuri/soprano, Albrecht von Stackelberg/baritone and Claudia Roick/soprano.



Composer Walter Arlen and Volker Ahmels during Q & A. (© Consulate General Los Angeles)

At the concert, never before heard compositions by composer Walter Arlen were performed. He participated in an Q & A between performances, moderated by Volker Ahmels.

During their visit to Los Angeles, the winners will also perform at the Simon Wiesenthal Center on April 21 and at the American Jewish University on April 26, 2009.



The project is supported by the American Jewish University, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, the L.A. Opera and the German Consulate General. With special thanks to Brigitte Medvin, daughter of musician Izzy Fuhrmann.

Brigitte Medvin, daughter of Izzy Fuhrmann, speaks about her father's works performed at the concert.
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