

If it is a pleasure to enjoy the good, it is a greater pleasure to feel the better, and in art the best is good enough.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

With excitement and great anticipation, we are in the midst of preparing the next edition of the Concours Géza Anda, which we are organising for the 16<sup>th</sup> time in Zurich and Winterthur from 30<sup>th</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024. With conductors Mikhail Pletnev for the Mozart round in Winterthur and Paavo Järvi at the Zurich Tonhalle for the final, we have secured two outstanding musical personalities for this year's edition of the competition. As a partner, Steinway & Sons, in collaboration with Musik Hug, once again provides us with the competition instrument.

Due to the pandemic, which imposed major restrictions on the entire music world, the direct contact between young artists and the audience, which was always so important to us, had been severely limited in 2021. We want to quickly forget this disappointment and hope to share wonderful encounters and musical experiences with everyone who is able to attend this time.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to our long-standing and new host families who have agreed to welcome and accommodate our young competition participants!

Last November 2023, we received the unexpected news of the tragic death of our Jury Chairman-designate, Prof. Franz Xaver Ohnesorg. Over the past few weeks, we endeavoured to continue working in the spirit of Géza Anda's musical legacy and in the spirit of the competition's founder, Hortense Anda.

We are now delighted that **Rico Gulda**, pianist and artistic director of the Vienna **Konzerthaus**, has agreed to chair the 2024 jury.

In view of this special situation, we also decided to extend the registration deadline for competition participants **up to and including 11th February 2024**.

With best wishes for a happy, healthy and successful 2024,

Sincerely

**Tobias Richter** 

President of the Géza Anda-Foundation