

Vienna, November 2017

## BEETHOVEN MUSEUM

<b>Press conference:</b>	Thursday, 23 November 2017, 10 a.m.
<b>Open house:</b>	Saturday, 25 and Sunday, 26 November 2017, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
<b>Regular opening hours:</b>	from 28 November 2017: Tuesday to Sunday and public holidays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
<b>Location:</b>	1190 Wien, Probusgasse 6
<b>Press photos:</b>	<a href="http://www.wienmuseum.at/en/press/press-material-locations">www.wienmuseum.at/en/press/press-material-locations</a>

The life and work of Ludwig van Beethoven are inseparably bound up with Vienna. In 1787, the composer first came to the city to study with Mozart, from 1792 onwards he lived permanently here. Three apartments associated with Beethoven have long since featured among Wien Museum's sites. Yet, until now, the city in which he composed so many of his works has never had a comprehensive Beethoven Museum. This gap is now about to be filled: the Beethoven apartment in Heiligenstadt at Probusgasse 6 in the 19th district is to be converted from a small memorial site into a major Beethoven museum devoted to the life and works of the composer.

The location is directly linked to Beethoven's destiny, for it was here that he sought to cure, or at least alleviate, his hearing disorder. In the early nineteenth century, Heiligenstadt was an independent wine growing village. Its public baths brought an economic upswing to the area, located in what is today Heiligenstädter Park. The baths were supplied by a mineral-rich spring, the healing qualities of which attracted numerous spa visitors, including prominent figures of Viennese cultural life.

Probusgasse 6 is traditionally associated with a deeply moving testimony of Beethoven's. Here in 1802 he wrote the "Heiligenstädter Testament", the letter

addressed to his brother but never sent, in which Beethoven expressed his despair over his worsening deafness. At the same time, he worked in Probusgasse on some of his most important works, among them the Piano Sonata Op. 31, No.2 ("The Tempest"), the "Prometheus"-Variations, Op. 35, and first sketches for the Third Symphony ("Eroica").

The Beethoven Museum is to draw upon the latest scholarship in presenting the life and work of the classical composer. It is an honour to have the cultural scientist Lisa Noggler-Gürtler on board as the curator of the permanent exhibition. She is being advised by William Kinderman, Professor at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and one of the world's leading Beethoven experts, as well as by Alexandra Hönigmann-Tempelmayr (Wien Museum). The renowned exhibition designer Peter Karlhuber is creating a fascinating and artistically striking museum space.

The Beethoven Museum enables Wien Museum to offer a new attraction that will appeal to a broad public: those with a particular interest in Vienna's cultural history and Beethoven's works will have much to discover here. In addition to residents of Vienna, we expect to see many international guests at the Beethoven Museum, not least due to its ideal location in close proximity to the winegrowers' taverns of the 19th district. The intimate atmosphere of the garden will be a further highlight – besides the building itself – as a daytime oasis of peace.

**Admission:** Adults: € 7 / Discounted Rate € 5  
(senior citizens, Vienna Card, Ö1-Club, persons with disabilities, students up to 27 years of age, apprentices, groups of 10 or more)  
Visitors under 19 years of age – free admission!  
First Sunday of every month (all visitors) – free admission!

**Visitor information:** T +43 1 5058747-85173,  
[service@wienmuseum.at](mailto:service@wienmuseum.at), [www.wienmuseum.at](http://www.wienmuseum.at)

**Curator of the exhibition:** Lisa Noggler-Gürtler

**Specialist co-curator of the exhibition:** William Kinderman

**Exhibition designer:** Peter Karlhuber

**Exhibition graphics:** Gerhard Spring

**Partners:** MUK - Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna  
IFK Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften/The University of Art and Design Linz in Vienna  
Wiener Beethoven-Gesellschaft;

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