

# RWVI Congress 2026 in Amsterdam

## Experience it together



Wageningen  
Nederland

P R O G R A M

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### Experience it together

From **19 to 22 February 2026**, the Wagner Society of the Netherlands warmly welcomes you to Amsterdam for the international RWVI Congress. Following the well-attended and inspiring Delegates' Meeting in Bayreuth (May 2025), this marks the first full congress since 2023 – offering a rich and diverse programme.

This edition brings together delegates, members and Wagner enthusiasts from all over the world in a city brimming with culture, history and music – where Wagner's spirit can resonate in a special way.

At the heart of the congress lies the Delegates' Meeting, where strategic and budgetary decisions are made for the future of RWVI. Around this core, the Wagner Society of the Netherlands is hosting an inspiring programme – a celebration of Wagner, of the Netherlands, and of connection.

A definite highlight will be the performance of *Tristan & Isolde*, directed by the recently deceased and internationally acclaimed Pierre Audi. This production, eagerly awaited across the globe again, forms the centrepiece of a musical and cultural programme that also includes a mini-symposium, a scholarship holders' concert, and several inspiring excursions.

Those wishing to experience the Netherlands through a historical and cultural lens can take part in a carefully curated programme:

- Visit to the Rijksmuseum or the Van Gogh Museum
- Canal cruise through Amsterdam's historic waterways
- Excursion to the Zaanse Schans with its iconic windmills
- Or a journey of discovery to the Cruquius Steam Pumping Station

Naturally, there will be ample opportunity for meeting, reflection and hospitality. We will enjoy excellent lunches and dinners – with a Dutch Touch – including the traditional gala dinner on Saturday evening.

It promises to be a memorable long weekend, where music, culture, substance and connection reinforce one another. The Wagner Society of the Netherlands looks forward to welcoming you to Amsterdam!



## Thursday – 19.02.2026

### > 17:00

A short informal welcome and reception at the Holiday Inn Noord, hosted by the board of the Wagner Society of the Netherlands and the RWVI Presidium, for participants arriving the day before.

## Friday – 20.02.2026

### > 10:00 – Cultural Programme

In the morning, participants may choose to join one of the following cultural activities:

- **Rijksmuseum** – [www.rijksmuseum.nl](http://www.rijksmuseum.nl)
- **Van Gogh Museum** – [www.vangoghmuseum.nl](http://www.vangoghmuseum.nl)
- **Canal cruise through Amsterdam** – [www.lovers.nl](http://www.lovers.nl)

Cost: €40 per person (per activity)

### > 16:00 – Welcome Reception

This reception marks the official opening of the congress and will take place near the opera house. In a welcoming atmosphere, with drinks and a selection of typical Dutch snacks (bittergarnituur), participants will be greeted. It's a moment for new encounters, reconnecting with old contacts, and continuing ongoing conversations.

Cost: €25 per person

### > 18:00 – Opera: Tristan & Isolde

A special performance of Tristan & Isolde will be staged tonight, in a production by the late director Pierre Audi (1959–2025). The musical direction is in the hands of Tarmo Peltokoski, with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra.

Cost:

1st tier: €185 | 2nd tier: €160 | 3rd tier: €135

A **two-course dinner in the theatre**, served during the intermissions, is available as an additional option.

Cost: €75 per person



## Saturday – 21.02.2026

### > 10:00 – 15:00 – **Delegates' Meeting**

Further information and the official invitation will be provided by the RWVI Presidium. The procedures are laid down in the RWVI Statutes. Additional details will be shared in December.

### > 10:00 – 15:00 – **Alternative Day Programme for Non-Delegates**

For those not attending the Delegates' Meeting, an attractive alternative day programme is offered. Participants may choose from a range of cultural excursions, including visits to the Rijksmuseum, the Van Gogh Museum or a canal cruise. For those who prefer to explore the Dutch countryside, excursions to the Zaanse Schans or the impressive Cruquius Museum are available.

- **Rijksmuseum** – [www.rijksmuseum.nl](http://www.rijksmuseum.nl)
- **Van Gogh Museum** – [www.vangoghmuseum.nl](http://www.vangoghmuseum.nl)
- **Canal cruise** – [www.lovers.nl](http://www.lovers.nl)
- **Zaanse Schans** – [www.dezaanseschans.nl](http://www.dezaanseschans.nl)
- **Cruquius Museum** – [www.cruquius-museum.nl](http://www.cruquius-museum.nl)

Cost: €40 per person (per activity)

### > 17:30 – **Cocktail Party & Recital**

Before the gala dinner, an exclusive cocktail party will take place, featuring sparkling orange bubbles, refined hors d'oeuvres and the enchanting sounds of Richard Wagner on the grand piano. As a special surprise, his music will also be played on a unique Dutch instrument – a true cultural icon that adds a special touch to the evening.

Cost: €40 per person

### > 19:00 – **Gala Dinner**

In the evening, the traditional gala dinner will be held – one of the congress's highlights. A festive occasion to raise a glass, dine together and connect in an atmosphere of harmony and warm companionship. Refined dishes, excellent wines and meticulous attention to detail make the evening complete. There is no dress code, but festive attire is certainly appreciated.

Cost: €130 per person



**Sunday – 22.02.2026**

**> 10:30 – 13:00 – Symposium: “Wagner and the Low Countries”**

The Dutch Wagner Society, originally founded in 1883 as the “Wagnervereeniging”, was one of the first Wagner societies in the world. In 1959, this association was incorporated into the Dutch National Opera. However, the desire remained for a society dedicated to the study of Wagner’s work. Thus, in 1961, the current Wagner Society of the Netherlands was established – essentially a refounding.

There is much to tell about Wagner in the Low Countries, from both a historical and scholarly perspective.

As a tribute to Pierre Audi – who served as artistic director of the Dutch National Opera for 25 years and was an honorary member of the Wagner Society – this will also be highlighted in a surprising and educational manner.

The **scholarship holders' concert** is integrated into the symposium.

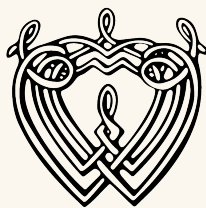
Cost: €50 per person

**> 13:00 – ca. 14:30 – Farewell Lunch**

After an intensive and enriching weekend, the inevitable moment of parting arrives. In Dutch tradition, this happens informally yet with dignity: with a shared lunch, one last table gathering and a brief closing word to round off the congress.

And naturally, there will be a toast – to life, to art, and to one another!

Cost: €35 per person



**See you in Amsterdam!**



Wagnergenootschap  
Nederland