In 2020, it’s all about Ludwig van Beethoven! The composer was born in 1770 – and Vienna is celebrating his 250th birthday all year.

Our Beethoven Museum – created with the tremendous help of American Friends of the Vienna Museum and Lincoln Park Music Center Foundation – is front and center!
In June, we are hosting a two-week festival. We will feature lectures, tours, and performances — including a weekend of concerts by our friends from Chicago!

A special highlight for the festival is the presentation of one of Beethoven’s ear trumpets, one of a number of devices he used to cope with his worsening ailment.

These hearing aids are now in the collection of the Beethoven-Haus in the composer’s hometown of Bonn. We were able to persuade our German colleagues to lend one to us on the occasion of the anniversary.

It will bring our audience even closer to the musical genius!

Visit the Beethoven Museum

RICHARD NEUTRA: CALIFORNIA LIVING
In October of 1923, a young man from Vienna made his way to the United States – just a few years later, he created “Lovell Health House,” an icon of California Modernism. It made him one of the most famous architects of his time. His name: Richard Neutra (1892-1970).

His bright and airy houses, open to yards, gardens, and the landscape, became symbols for a new ideal of living – transparent and rational, at one with nature, tailored to residential needs.

Fifty years after Neutra’s death, the Wien Museum exhibits the work and significance of the architect on two levels:

Contemporary photographs by David Schreyer document select residences by Neutra. The photos not only convey California’s classic residential forms; they also show that Neutra’s homes continue to be exemplary in regard to spatial economy, design quality, and functionality.

Alongside, there is a historical account, focusing on Neutra’s intense and consequential relationship with his home city of Vienna. It is based on previously unpublished documents, including the 1969 film “The Ideas of Richard Neutra.” To this day, those ideas have lost nothing of their fascination.
Vienna’s students learn about „Living Together in the City“ through a specially developed portable exhibit. The topic is the history of Vienna, with special focus on the themes of play, food, movement, and work.

Thematic workshops and interaktive tours round out the mobile museum. Beyond that, students learn about the process of curation and ways of telling one’s stories through objects. At the end of the week, the kids present their own exhibits in a grand opening at the school.

To Visit the Website of the American Friends of the Vienna Museum, Click HERE.