



»Russlandia«: Russian Music Headlines the 2010 Dresden Music Festival

Dresden, October 29, 2009....Renowned cellist and Intendant of the Dresden Music Festival, Jan Vogler, announced details of the 2010 Dresden Music Festival at a press conference held today. The theme of this 33rd Festival, which runs from May 19 to June 6, 2010 is »Russlandia« – the music of Russia.

In making the announcement, Jan Vogler commented »the Dresden Music Festival was created during the Cold War when the influence of the then-Soviet Union permeated every aspect of life in the city. Dresden lies geographically and culturally between east and west and I felt it was natural to focus on the music of Russia 20 years after the fall of the iron curtain and the end of the Cold War. The tension between east and west was a particularly creative impetus for Russian composers and performers. And so, it is with great excitement and enthusiasm that the 2010 Dresden Music Festival explores this link with our past.«

World famous orchestras, ensembles and performers will grace the many stages of Dresden including the Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre conducted by Valery Gergiev with soloist H el ene Grimaud, the Russian National Orchestra with Emanuel Ax led by Mikhail Pletnev, the celebrated orchestra and chorus of the Bolshoi Theatre under Vassily Sinaisky, the Dresden Philharmonic led by Kurt Masur as well as by Gennadi Rozhdestvensky in a concert featuring violist Yuri Bashmet. Jan Vogler joins the WDR Sinfonieorchester K oln conducted by Semyon Bychkov as soloist, violinist Vadim Repin performs in recital in the Semperoper and the Borodin Quartet appear in the unique setting of the Palais im Gro en Garten.

In addition to the theme of »Russlandia«, the Festival will present celebrated artists and works that have a particular connection with Dresden. Under the banner of "Schumann 200, the Festival welcomes such renowned artists as Juliane Banse, Andr as Schiff, Murray Perahia and the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. To mark the composer's bicentennial, the Dresden Staatskapelle led by Leonidas Kavakos, the Pittsburgh Symphony with soloist Jan Vogler, Frans Br uggen and The Orchestra of the 18th Century and the Hagen Quartet will also perform.

Rising stars such as conductors Yannick Nezet-Seguin and Mikhail Tatarnikov will join young artists Baiba and Lauma Skride, Alice Sara Ott, and Mikhail Simonyan on stage during the Festival.

The Dresden Music Festival will also explore the diversity of human musical communication through two special projects in 2010; the first »Let's dance! The Firebird« unites renowned choreographer Royston Maldoom, artistic director and choreographer Joseph Eder and the MDR Sinfonieorchester to produce an event featuring 120 Dresden students from all walks of life; the second project »Anatevka«, co-produced with the City of Dresden, brings together a team of professional artists in collaboration with a group of Dresden citizens to present the history of »Anatevka« on stage.

On March 8, 2010 a concert featuring the incomparable Cecilia Bartoli and the Chamber Orchestra of Basel will provide an advance taste of the Festival.

The highly successful »U-30« subscription package will once again offer audience members under 30 four opportunities to experience the Festival.

The Dresden Music Festival gratefully acknowledges and thanks their partners and sponsors without whom it would not be possible to maintain the exceptionally high artistic level for which the Festival is renowned. The partnership with the Gläsernen Manufaktur Volkswagen, now in its second year, offers a unique performance space in its Transparent Factory in addition to its major support. The Festival also welcomes back Glashütte Original whose ongoing commitment includes the presentation of the Glashütte Original Prize, presented last year to Gustavo Dudamel for his contribution to the advancement of music for young people through el Sistema. The Festival also welcomes new partner Sparkassen-Versicherung Sachsen for the 2010 season.

Please join us for this exceptional musical adventure. Complete performance details and a film of the press conference will be available online in German and English at www.musikfestspiele.com.