

BRATISLAVA MUSIC FESTIVAL

47th Year

BRATISLAVSKÉ HUDOBNÉ SLÁVNOSTI • FESTIVAL DE MÚSICA DE BRATISLAVA



FÊTES DE MUSIQUE DE BRATISLAVA • MUSIKFESTSPIELE BRATISLAVA

25. 11. – 10. 12. 2011



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Slovak Philharmonic as delegated by and with financial support
from the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic



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The festival is held under the patronage of Ivan Gašparovič,
the President of the Slovak Republic

Honorary President of the BMF – Edita Gruberova

Friday, 25th November

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Opening Concert of the 47th year of the BMF Slovak Philharmonic

Emmanuel Villaume, conductor Alexander Kniazev, cello

Ján Cikker Memories for chamber orchestra, Op. 25

Antonín Dvořák Cello Concerto B Minor, Op. 104

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Romeo and Juliet, overture-fantasia

Igor Stravinsky The Firebird



The 47th year of the BMF will be opened by the Slovak Philharmonic with a concert remembering Maestro Ján Cikker through his Memories for chamber orchestra expressing an idyll of pre-war times and craving for its comeback. A lot of desires and remembrances are coded also in Antonín Dvořák's world-famous Cello Concerto, performed by cellist Alexander Kniazev, a 'mysterious' personality, as some reviewer has called him. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky suffered incessantly and yearned for stillness – a story of a pair of lovers from Verona has become a rewarding idea for bravura orchestral fantasia Romeo and Juliet. In his lavish ballet The Firebird Igor Stravinsky, too, remembered not only gorgeous Russian 'skazki' (fairytales), but also his teacher Rimsky-Korsakov. The night of memories and desires conducted by the chief conductor of the Slovak Philharmonic Emmanuel Villaume will thus become the 'stepping stone' for the marathon of this year's BMF.

Saturday, 26th November

4.00 p.m. St. Martin's Cathedral

Slovak Philharmonic Choir

Blanka Juhaňáková, conductor

Edita Gruberova, soprano

Jozef Benci, bass

Bernadetta Šuňavská, organ

Works by Antonín Dvořák, Charles Gounod, Max Reger, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart,
Franz Liszt and others will sound at the concert.



The spiritual depth of devotional music and the angelic voice of Edita Gruberova – these are two distinctive symbols. The diva's vocal rendering itself is elating. Whether they are simple songs or noble mass inspirations, spiritual purity and genuine professionalism always come to the foreground, unattainable by an individual lacking the humbleness towards the music as an echo of the eternity. Besides, the monumental interior of the St. Martin's Cathedral serving as a concert hall will still more enhance this interlocking of performing mastery and ritual character of the moments.

7.00 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Opera of the Slovak National Theatre

Ján Cikker Mister Scrooge, opera in 4 acts



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Sunday, 27th November

4.00 p.m. Moyzes Hall

Piano Recital

Josef Bulva

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Ludwig van Beethoven | Piano Sonata No. 13, E Flat Major, Op. 27 No. 1, Quasi una fantasia |
| | Piano Sonata No. 14 C Sharp Minor, Op. 27 No. 2, Moonlight |
| Fryderyk Chopin | Polonaise F Sharp Minor, Op. 44 B. 135 |
| | Scherzo C Sharp Minor, Op. 39 B. 125 |
| Karol Szymanowski | Masks, Op. 34 |
| Roman Berger | Toccata for piano |

Josef Bulva, a globe-trotter and spiritual nobleman, returns after long years to the city of his studies and his second home city, as he himself designates Bratislava, to perform the works of his favourite composers.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI Torino

Juraj Valčuha, conductor

Evgeni Bozhanov, piano

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Gioachino Rossini | Guillaume Tell, opera overture |
| Fryderyk Chopin | Piano Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op. 11 |
| Sergey Rakhmaninov | Symphony No. 3 in A Minor, Op. 44 |

Juraj Valčuha is a phenomenon – the young Slovak conductor has conquered the world. He has won heart and musician's soul of both the players and listeners; at his concerts he is awarded by applause from the audience as well as orchestra and has won affections of promoters of the most prestigious European and American halls. He comes to Bratislava as the chief conductor of the Rai Torino orchestra – as if symbolically to round off the year in which Italy commemorates 150. anniversary of its unification.

Monday, 28th November

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra

Zoltán Kocsis, conductor

Gábor Farkas, piano

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Franz Liszt | Les Préludes, symphonic poem, S. 97 |
| | Piano Concerto No. 2 in A Major, S. 125 |
| Gustav Mahler | Symphony No. 1, in D Major, Titan |



Balassi Institute
National Institute of Music and Theatre

Hungarian artists belong to regular and awaited guests of the BMF. The programme of tonight concert presents works by two personalities, whose anniversaries we commemorate this year: 200 years since the birth of Liszt and a centenary since Mahler's death. Liszt has composed two piano concerti for his own virtuoso performances. It is also owing to them that Europe was seized by hysterical demonstrations of admiration by the fans of this piano magician, it was a genuine 'Lisztomania'. Apparently the frames of existing symphonic forms were not sufficient for another giant, Gustav Mahler. He needed a massive space and devices to embrace the whole world, the whole universe. Thus Mahler's Titan originated in his Symphony No. 1 D Major.

Tuesday, 29th November

5.00 p.m. Dvorana of the University of Performing Arts

Viola Sonatas Evening

Milan Paľa, viola

Magdaléna Bajuszová, piano

Alexander Winkler

Sonata for viola and piano Op. 10

Bohuslav Martinů

Sonata for viola and piano

Dmitry Shostakovich

Sonata for viola and piano Op. 147

In recent years excellent violinist and performer of contemporary music Milan Paľa has enriched his repertory with viola works. At his recital he will perform three significant sonatas. Russian-German composer Alexander Winkler was one of Saint Petersburg's distinguished composition teachers, Bohuslav Martinů wrote his viola sonata while in New York exile during the WW2 and Shostakovich's piece is the composer's last piece finished literally a few days before his death.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra

Vasily Petrenko, conductor **Joshua Bell**, violin



Rolf Wallin

Act (2004)

Jean Sibelius

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 36

In the northern part of Europe the Norwegian composer Rolf Wallin belongs to notable figures. His northern disposition for mythical perception of the world is combined with application of noncompromising mathematical operations, his piece Act being the evidence.

The Violin Concerto was a crucial work for another Nordic man – Finnish Jean Sibelius. It will be played on Stradivari violin from 1713 by American Joshua Bell, described by the critique as ‘the violinist of the century – a modern Paganini’. Tonight’s concert will be closed by Tchaikovsky and his Symphony No. 4 – the work filled by fatefulness, hopes and their destruction, fantasies and rude reality, illusive rollicking and genuine raving pleasure. For the first time at the BMF we will welcome the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra from the country which generously contributed to the reconstruction of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra residence – the Reduta building.

Wednesday, 30th November

5.00 p.m. Mirror Hall of the Primate’s Palace

Homage to Paul Robeson

Tomáš Šelc, bass-baritone **Dana Hajóssy**, piano



Not only did Paul Robeson belong to the most significant stage artists (singers and actors) of the first half of the 20th century, he was also a prominent relentless human rights fighter for Afro-American residents of the USA, and for the general equality of people. His inimitable bass had found its audience in his native America as well as in Europe. The vocal recital of Tomáš Šelc, the great promise for Slovak vocal art, is based on Paul Robeson’s repertoire. The concert will present songs and opera arias by American and English composers; Of Man River by Jerome Kern among them.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Nordic Symphony Orchestra

Anu Tali, conductor **Mihkel Poll**, piano

Arvo Pärt

Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten

Edvard Hagerup Grieg

Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16

Jean Sibelius

Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 43

Arvo Pärt turned away from the trends to subject the act of composing and comprehension of music regardlessly to the will of technocrats and experimentalists. Also his inwardly tensive tribute to Britten is maximally concentrated on passionate content instead of form. The Piano Concerto by Edvard Hagerup Grieg does not need a special introduction: the work is a legend, the only cyclic orchestral work by this Nordic author is one of the most performed concert pieces ever. The Symphony No. 2 by Jean Sibelius is a work of fortune and positive emotions as well.

Tonight’s guest appearance of the Nordic Symphony Orchestra at the BMF is an eloquent proof of connecting music – in this case connecting musicians from 15 countries. The idea has originated in Estonia – an important crossroads of nations, of commercial and cultural routes. The initiator was a conductor Anu Tali in 1997, who has been awarded the title ‘Musician of the Year’ in her native country.

Thursday, 1st December

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Lithuanian National Filharmonia Orchestra

Robertas Šervėnikas, conductor **Mischa Maisky**, cello

Algirdas Martinaitis

Unfinished Symphony

Dmitry Shostakovich

Cello Concerto No. 1 in E Flat Major, Op. 107

Sergey Prokofiev

Symphony No. 5 in B Flat Major, Op. 100

Dmitry Shostakovich's concerti speak about a struggle of a creative individuality with unscrupulous political system; his Cello Concerto No. 1 dominates them. The soloist's personality – charismatic Mischa Maisky – guarantees a deep experience at the BMF concert. Sergey Prokofiev was dealing with the hardship of Stalin's terror in a way different from expressive Shostakovich – he put on a mask of a lyric, fairy tale narrator. However, a face of a suffering man was hidden below it, waiting for the end of the period. It is what his Symphony No. 5 retells, too.

Friday, 2nd December

Dvorana of the University of Performing Arts/International Forum of Young Performers

NEW TALENT 2011 – SPP Foundation Award



5.00 p.m. 1st chamber concert/semifinal of the competition

Krzysztof Garstka, harpsichord/Poland **Ivett Gyöngyösi**, piano/Hungary
Jan Mráček, violin /Czech Republic **Elina Buksa**, violin/Latvia

8.00 p.m. 2nd chamber concert/semifinal of the competition

Miguel Colom, violin/Spain **Karol Daniš**, violin /Slovakia
Kiril Stoyanov, percussion/Bulgaria **Balázs Tóth**, trumpet/Hungary

The competition New Talent – SPP Foundation Award takes place annually in a cooperation of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Slovak Radio and Slovak Philharmonic together with BMF. In the first round the international jury has chosen 8 semifinal participants out of more than 30 radio recordings. They will perform semirecitals of variegated programme at two chamber concerts, broadcast live or from the record by dozens of radio stations – EBU members. Three young artists will qualify for the finals on December 5, 2011.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Slovak Philharmonic Hungarian National Choir

Andriy Yurkevych, conductor **Mátyás Antal**, choirmaster
Edita Gruberova, soprano **Pavol Bršlík**, tenor
Terézia Kružliaková, mezzo-soprano **Jozef Benci**, bass, and others

Gaetano Donizetti **Lucrezia Borgia**, concert performance of the opera



Gaetano Donizetti was one of impressive bel canto kings. His opera stories – with several exceptions – belong to more gloomy ones, but his music spreads light and positive energy, like his lyrical drama *Lucrezia Borgia*. Nevertheless, diffusion of musical brightness is determined by the performing personalities; the presence of Edita Gruberova and other festival guests is a guarantee of a real Donizetti-like experience. BMF in the cooperation with the opera diva continues in concert presentations of operas with international cast – with Slovak Philharmonic, Hungarian choir and renowned soloists. (In 2009 it was Bellini's *Norma*, in 2005 Donizetti's opera *Roberto Devereux*.)

Saturday, 3rd December

4.00 p.m. Moyzes Hall

Dalibor Karvay, violin
Stefan Stroissnig, piano

österreichisches kultur forum^{hts}

Johannes Brahms Sonata for piano and violin No. 1 G major, Op. 78
Franz Schubert Rondeau brillant for violin and piano B Minor, D. 895
Franz Liszt Bénédiction de Dieu dans la solitude S. 173/3
 (from *Harmonies poétiques et religieuses*)
Alfred Schnittke Violin Sonata No. 1

The modern sonata is firmly joined with the principles of dialectic evolutionism and this obviously satisfied the contemplative mentality of Johannes Brahms. His sonatas embody the essence of a pure human spirit. Alfred Schnittke approached sonata and the sonata principle differently: they reveal a dialectics of desperation, dialectics of a useless struggle of an individual with the stupidity of the contemporary society. This expressionist attitude was asserted long ago by Franz Schubert – although he was able to address us also by more optimistic parlour display pieces of a 'rondo brillante' kind. And Franz Liszt has been enchanted by sophisticated sonorous impressions and spectacular harmonies – either genuinely poetic or poignantly religious.

Two mature though young artists joining Bratislava and Vienna will present themselves at tonight concert. Dalibor Karvay is welcomed at the BMF also as the winner of the 2005 New Talent – SPP Foundation Award competition.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Piano Recital Grigory Sokolov

Due to his special tone inspired by individual imagination and personal opinion Grigory Sokolov belongs to the performing acme of the world. Today Sokolov is considered one of the greatest pianists and his recitals are triumphantly acclaimed. His rendering, though always different, is recognizable at once, as each of his performances is an adventure – for him, but most of all for his listeners! The programme of the recital includes works by Johann Sebastian Bach and other composers, depending on the particular humour of the pianist in the days preceding the performance.

Sunday, 4th December

4.00 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

The Bratislava City Choir



Ladislav Holásek, conductor Peter Mikula, organ

Tomáš Nemec, piano Marcel Štefko, piano

Peter Kosorín, percussion

Antonín Dvořák Mass in D Major, Op. 86, for choir and organ (original version)

Carl Orff Carmina Burana – selection of choral movements
(version for 2 pianos and percussion)

Antonín Dvořák's religious output reflects the mind of the genuinely Czech musician and thinking of the composer who would later become a famous musical symbol. The personality of Carl Orff was developing totally differently. The composer had not forgotten the value of the childhood and childish ideas about music, neither the resonances of music with the deepest byways of the human soul; hence the popularity of the cantata Carmina Burana.

The concert is held under the auspices of the Bratislava mayor Milan Ftáčnik on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the foundation of one of the most distinctive Slovak choral ensembles. It was initiated and has been led since by the learned exponent Prof. Ladislav Holásek. Conducted by him the choir performs with high artistic mastery even the most demanding vocal-instrumental works and acquires appreciation at home as well as abroad.

7.30 p.m. Moyzes Hall

Slovak Sinfonietta Žilina

Oliver Dohnányi, conductor

Ján Slávik, cello

Juraj Tomka, violin

Karl Jenkins

Peter Martinček

Štefan Németh-Šamorínsky

Arvo Pärt

Choir Technik

Iveta Viskupová, choirmaster

Ivana Pristašová, violin

Ladislav Fančovič, piano

Palladio, concerto grosso for strings

Symphony No. 3 Venetian

commissioned by the Festival Committee of the BMF

Slovak Rhapsody No. 2 for cello and orchestra

Tabula rasa, for two violins, strings and prepared piano

Slovak premiere

premiere

Four premieres of works by Slovak composers will be performed by Slovak Sinfonietta orchestra. Peter Martinček has composed a piece commissioned by the Festival Committee of the BMF. Németh-Šamorínsky's Slovak Rhapsody No. 2 originated closely to Bohuslav Martinů's Variations on a Slovak Folk Song, although in the time of its origin presumably no Slovak cellist was able to cope with its solo part. Welsh composer Karl Jenkins entered the music life in the early 1970s as a member of a vanguard rock group Soft Machine, the main British representative of a jazz-rock fusion. In 1990s he redefined his musical world anew and today he ranges among the most popular British composers and bearers of the highest British awards. Estonian composer Arvo Pärt also belongs to significant creators of music post avant-garde. His revolutionary piece Tabula rasa has become world-famous due to mastery of Gidon Kremer and Tatiana Grindenko; in Slovakia it will be performed for the first time.

Monday, 5th December

8.00 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

International Forum of Young Performers

NEW TALENT 2011 – SPP Foundation Award final



slovenská filharmonia



Slovenský rozhlas



PRE BUDÚCNOSŤ

Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra

Petr Vronský, conductor

Performances of 3 finalists of the competition in the first part of the evening

Ján Cikker

Variations on the Slovak Folk Song for large orchestra



While the international jury makes a decision about the winner from three finalists, a brilliant work by Ján Cikker will sound as the BMF's commemoration of a centenary of his birth. The piece will be broadcast by many European radio stations of EBU.

Tuesday, 6th December

5.00 p.m. Moyzes Hall

Natalia Gutman, cello

Elisso Virsaladze, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven

Cello Sonata in G Minor, Op. 5 No. 2

Cello Sonata in D Major, Op. 102 No. 2

Sergey Rakhmaninov

Cello Sonata in G Minor, Op. 19

Although the structure of Ludwig van Beethoven's Sonata for Cello and Piano No. 2 suggests the earlier, Baroque tradition, its content brings a fully Beethovenian stridence. In his Opus 102, also dedicated to the fatal partnership of cello and piano, Beethoven presented himself as a real innovator. Nor did Sergey Rakhmaninov miss the sensualizing charge of the cello-piano combination – in one of his few pieces for other instruments than piano.

Two ladies will perform at the concert – former winners of many competitions, in whose juries they work today as worldly acknowledged artistic personalities. The Russian Natalia Gutman with Georgian Elisa Virsaladze – the ideal of harmony in itself.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

China National Symphony Orchestra

Michel Plasson, conductor

Sa Chen, piano

Guan Xia

Gazing at the Stars (1st movement from Earth Requiem)

Maurice Ravel

Piano Concerto in G Major M. 83

Ludwig van Beethoven

Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92

Thrilling mysteries of Chinese symbolism and Western-European music tradition are striking elements blending in Guan Xia's output. His Earth Requiem from 2008 originated as a reaction to a devastating earthquake in Sichuan. Maurice Ravel's Piano Concerto in G Major is a quintessence of the author's way of composing – airy, poetical, playful, virtuoso, bravura.

Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 was praised even by Richard Wagner as an invigorating, ludic and literally ritual work.

The programme of the concert and the performers link up two continents as well as two performing attitudes – excellent personality of French conductor Michel Plasson and the most striking talent Sa Chen, the first Chinese pianist acquiring prizes at three important international competitions: in Leeds, at F. Chopin's competition in Warsaw and at Van Cliburn competition in Fort Worth, Texas.

Wednesday, 7th December

5.00 p.m. Dvorana of the University of Performing Arts

Trio Faces

Ivana Pristašová, violin **Boris Bohó**, cello **Ladislav Fančovič**, piano

Robert Volkmann

Piano Trio No. 2 in B Flat Minor, Op. 5

Claude Debussy

Piano Trio No. 1 in G Major

Martin Burlas

Hymn to the Forgotten Ones

Anton Stepanovich Arensky

Piano Trio D Minor, Op. 32

A la Mémoire de Charles Davidoff

Piano trio moulded in the works by Haydn, Kozeluch and Mozart in Vienna has preserved its attraction also during the periods of music transformation in the following era of Romanticism and the 20th century. Tonight's concert of Trio Faces ensemble presents various appearances of this medium, created by German, French, Russian as well as domestic composers.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Lille National Orchestra

Jean-Claude Casadesus, conductor

Hyeyoon Park, violin

Maurice Ravel

Ma mère l'oye

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op. 64

Georges Bizet

Symphony in C Major



Experienced Maurice Ravel resolved to dream a fairy tale in his delicious suite consisting of paraphrases of famous stories. Even poetic Violin Concerto by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy may be considered a fragile fairy tale. It is one of the latest works of the prematurely late composer, in which not only esprit but also more elegiac tones come into the foreground. The beginning of the career of Georges Bizet, a riveting and prematurely closed one, too, was marked by his youthful Symphony in C – the work of the 17-year old student of the Paris Conservatory tutored by Charles Gounod. This concert gives place for today frequently connected worlds of Asia and Europe. Under the baton of a renowned personality, who has been moulding the orchestra from the north of France for many years, young Hyeyoon Park from Seoul will perform. She has studied at prestigious American and European universities and acquired the international acclaim at the age of 17, winning the ARD competition in Munich (2009), where she was awarded two special prizes as well, as the youngest winner in the history of the competition.

Thursday, 8th December

7.30 p.m. Dvorana of the University of Performing Arts

Musica Aeterna

Peter Zajíček, artistic leader/violin

Marie Fajtová, soprano

Jean-Féry Rebel

Les Eléments, choreographed sinfonia

Georg Philipp Telemann

Ino, dramatic cantata

Cosmographical visions and projects have undoubtedly inspired man since time immemorial. The choreographed sinfonia Les Eléments makes use of an older French tradition of court ballets, however, its content is more full-blooded than typical projects of the composer's contemporaries. Similarly to Rebel in France, Georg Philipp Telemann was the innovative composer in Germany contributing much to the revision of some basic principles (e.g. basso continuo), heading for new ages – similarly to the mortal queen of Thebes Ino from Greek mythology who has become the immortal queen of the seas...

Friday, 9th December

5.00 p.m. Dvorana of the University of Performing Arts

Quasars Ensemble

Ivan Buffa, conductor

Eva Šušková, soprano

Petra Noskaiová, mezzo-soprano

This concert follows the previous 'Song Cycles' programmes of the BMF, today presenting works by **Igor Stravinsky, Maurice Ravel, Francis Poulenc, Miloslav Kabeláč, Ilja Zeljenka and Witold Lutosławski.**

The premiere of the song cycle Pierrot lunaire by Arnold Schoenberg in Berlin on October 6, 1912 was an event which would influence composers of most diverse nationalities and stylistic orientations. The composers were inspired namely by the interlocking of vocal element with a small chamber ensemble of soloists, which had existed perhaps in cabaret, but was a novelty in classical music.

Several song cycles by Stravinsky, Ravel and other European composers originated under the influence of precisely this premiere and later served as compositional models for other authors. This resulted in a specific vocal lyrics, which has opened new spaces for modern poetics besides a song accompanied by a piano or orchestra.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Ensemble Orchestral de Paris

Lawrence Foster, conductor **Jean-Yves Thibaudet**, piano

Gabriel Fauré

Pelléas et Mélisande, Op. 80

Camille Saint-Saëns

Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, Op. 22

Franz Schubert

Symphony No. 2 B Flat Major D 125



The miserable story of a loving couple Pelléas and Mélisande written by the Belgian Maurice Maeterlinck has enjoyed several musical elaborations – Gabriel Fauré conceived it with special lyrics and elegy. Concertante works by Camille Saint-Saëns make much more pragmatic impression than the images of never-ending love. He wrote his piano concertos for himself – hence their ample virtuosity for which the pianists of today are grateful.

'Bravo Jean-Yves!' these words may be heard in most prestigious halls when the former 'prodigious child' – today a stylish piano virtuoso and one of the most respected artists of our times – sits at the black and white keyboard.

The concert will be closed by music of Franz Schubert, the first genuine music expressionist, rendered by Parisian guests under the baton of an inspirational American conductor.

Saturday, 10th December

4.00 p.m. Dvorana of the University of Performing Arts

Guarneri Trio Prague

Čeněk Pavlík, violin **Marek Jerie**, cello **Ivan Klánský**, piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Piano Trio No. 6 in G Major K 564

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor Op. 49

Ludwig van Beethoven

Piano Trio No. 7 B Flat Major, Archduke, Op. 97

Indubitably the genetic tests of the 'piano trio' ensemble would lead us to 17th century, when trio sonata or solo sonata for an instrument with continuo was cherished. Joseph Haydn and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart after him reviewed the line-up and launched a new form. It domesticized very quickly in the hands of great maestros what resulted in a variegated literature for piano trio, embellished by majestic and quasi-symphonic works, e.g. Beethoven's ones, or more intimate, escalating through tensive emotion of a strong individuality of the 19th century – Mendelssohn-Bartholdy.

The guest of the concert is Guarneri Trio Prague, one of distinguished and sought-after chamber music ensembles for recent 25 years.

7.30 p.m. Historical Building of the Slovak National Theatre

Slovak Philharmonic

Slovak Philharmonic Choir

Alexander Lazarev, conductor

Sophia Jaffé, violin

Blanka Juhaňáková, choirmaster

Olesya Petrova, mezzo-soprano

Igor Stravinsky

The Fairy's Kiss, divertimento

Alexander Glazunov

Violin Concerto in A Minor, Op. 82

Sergey Prokofiev

Aleksandr Nevskiy, cantata for mezzo-soprano, choir and orchestra, Op.78

Alexander Glazunov was an extraordinarily disposed musician and teacher. Even sarcastic Stravinsky commented on him with compliments. Glazunov's Violin Concerto has belonged to the most sought-after pieces. Sergey Prokofiev acquired outstanding achievements both as a composer and pianist. The nimble musician was spotted by film director Sergei Eisenstein, who offered him a collaboration on his monumental projects Aleksandr Nevskiy and Ivan The Terrible. Prokofiev thus succeeded in a fully new composing task of his time – a film score. The 47th BMF will be closed by a monumental work, presented still more frequently at the world concert stages.

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The programme and the featured artists are subject to change without prior notice.

SLOVAK 20TH CENTURY MUSIC THROUGH THE PRISM OF PERSONALITIES' CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

*Musicological conference dedicated to the anniversaries of Slovak personalities
– composers, performers and musicologists in 2011*

6th – 7th December 2011

Faculty of Philosophy of the Comenius University in Bratislava

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Published by: **Slovenská filharmónia** • Translation: **Katarína Godárová**

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Layout **PROGRESS PROMOTION BRATISLAVA** ©

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