
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation

Information



FELIX-MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY-STIFTUNG
PRÄSIDENT KURT MASUR

December 2010

New Successes for the Foundation in 2010

The collection of first printed editions expands

Donations from the successful Gala for the Award of the International Mendelssohn Prize in Leipzig on 12 June 2010 enabled the purchase of a further 63 precious first printed editions for the Mendelssohn House Museum this year. As a result the 2009 acquisition of probably the world's most complete collection of Mendelssohn first printed editions is being further extended.

In addition, three Mendelssohn manuscripts became the property of the Mendelssohn House Museum, which was able to expand its collection of manuscripts for research of important compositions. These included a dated and dedicated example, and a letter of 6 September 1833 from the composer to

his friend Julius Schubring, in which Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy expressed his thoughts about the Oratorio St Paul.

Pictured here is one of the splendid new acquisitions – the instrumental parts for Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 5 opus 44/3, MWV R 28, which the composer dedicated to the Swedish Crown Prince Oskar, who was himself an enthusiastic composer.

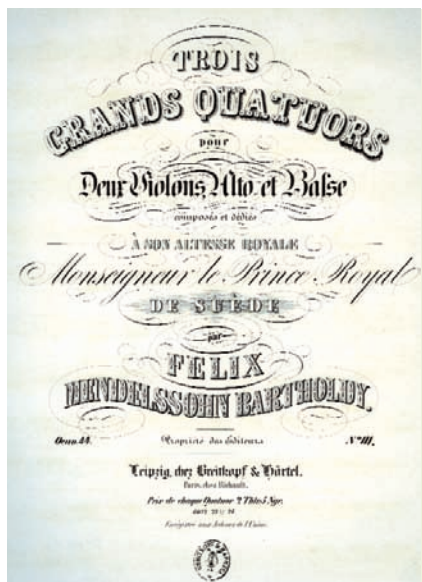
At present the first printed editions in the archives of the Mendelssohn House are being catalogued, and their condition carefully checked and documented. As soon as the necessary financial resources have been collected, we shall be able to proceed with the comprehensive, secure and quality digitalisation of the collection. In order to achieve this long-term goal and to continue this work, the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation needs to collect further financial resources. After digitalisation it will be necessary to put all the data onto the internet, in order to facilitate easy world-wide access.

Additional benefit events will be organised for this purpose; on 11 February 2011 an evening with Alfred Brendel and Kit Armstrong in the Mendelssohn House; on 24 September 2011 the Gala for the Award of the International Mendelssohn Prize in Leipzig – for which the names of the Prize winners have not yet been announced.

Tröndlin piano purchased

For some years we have planned to purchase a “Hammerflügel” made in the Leipzig workshop of Johann Nepomuk Tröndlin. However, financial support from donations at this year's Mendelssohn Gala in June finally enabled us to acquire from private ownership this valuable instrument dating from the time of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

Since October the piano has been in the Mendelssohn House Museum, where it brings a splendid and tuneful element to the collection of historic instruments. After careful work by the experienced Leipzig piano restorer Klaus Gernhard, the piano could be presented to the public for the first time at a special concert on 4 November, the 163rd anniversary of Mendelssohn's death. Eckhart Kuper played the “Hammerflügel”, accompanied by Thomas Fleck (violin) and Georg Zeike ('cello).



Birthday Donations

On her 95th birthday this year Ingeborg Stiehler invited her friends and family to the Mendelssohn House. She has long been connected with the House, for which she has done so much good work, including organising a benefit concert with Igor Oistrakh and his son to support the Mendelssohn House. Not only have significant donations been collected with her help, but she always promotes public awareness of the Mendelssohn House, its Museum and concerts, as well as of the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation – at lecture evenings with the *Grey Lions* or at events with the *Friends of the Gewandhaus*.

Ingeborg Stiehler also used the occasion of her 95th birthday to collect donations for the Foundation, which resulted in a particularly large sum being given to support the work of the Foundation – many warm thanks for this help!



Ingeborg Stiehler on her 95th birthday in the Mendelssohn House Leipzig

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Donators and Supporters since June 2010

Our very grateful thanks are due to those many donators and supporters, who with their contributions have made possible and enhanced the work of the Foundation.

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