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# FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY FOUNDATION

## INFORMATION

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FELIX-MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY-STIFTUNG

PRÄSIDENT KURT MASUR

November 2008

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### *Celebration of the re-creation of the Mendelssohn Monument*

A remarkable event has taken place in Leipzig: the Mendelssohn Monument, which was destroyed by the Nazis in 1936, has been re-created and, as a prelude to the Mendelssohn Bicentenary Year 2009, was presented to the public on 18th October 2008. With the enthusiastic participation, not only of the people of Leipzig, but also the German and international media and many music-lovers from all over the world, Maestro Kurt Masur and Leipzig Lord Mayor Burkhard Jung honoured the re-created Monument, which has been restored to its former state – the original Monument was build and dedicated in 1892. Among the guests were the President of the Leipzig City Council Mr Steinbach, Mendelssohn's great-grandson Dr Wach, and Dr Goerdeler whose grandfather had resigned his post as Lord Mayor as a protest against the destruction of the original Monument. Many representatives of Mendelssohn Societies in Germany and Switzerland came to Leipzig to experience this event at first hand. The widely renowned Thomaner Choir, under the direction of Thomaskantor Professor Georg-Christoph Biller, provided a

musical setting for the ceremony, honouring Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy with performances of his works. The re-creation of the Monument again highlighted the debt which history owes to the composer and world-citizen Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

The Chairman of the Board of the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation, Burkhard Jung, invited members of the Foundation's Kuratorium to meet in the musical city of Leipzig over the weekend of the ceremony. At a meeting on the same day, the Kuratorium's discussed the Foundation's activities for 2009, as well as co-ordination and harmonisation of the activities of friends and supporters. In addition the Kuratorium and Board reviewed future prize-winning candidates for the important Leipzig Mendelssohn Prize, which will again be awarded in various categories in 2009.

The next Mendelssohn Gala will take place in the Leipzig Gewandhaus on 2nd February 2009. The Gala guests will enjoy a concert given by the

Gewandhaus Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Riccardo Chailly, followed by a Gala Dinner. Music-lovers who would like more information about the programme or about tickets for the Gala are invited to contact the Leipzig Gewandhaus – Ms. Peggy Knietsch, telephone +49 (0)341 1270420.



#### **Members of the Kuratorium**

Dr Wulff Aengevelt  
Tomoko Masur und Prof. Kurt Masur  
Hélène Mercier-Arnault  
Professor Hermann Rauhe  
Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee  
Emiko Tsuji  
Kurt Viermetz

#### **Supporters' Circle**

Dr Jürgen Friedel  
Ulrike Krill de Capello  
Karin Martin  
Dr Clauss Riedberg  
Heide Schwarzweller  
Dr Undine Nash

#### **Friends' Circle**

Elisabeth Augereau  
Elke Weber-Braun

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## *Mendelssohn Society founded in Japan*

On 14th October 2008, on the initiative of Mrs Tomoko Masur, the Mendelssohn Society of Japan was founded. Mrs Masur was unanimously elected to be Chairman of the Board.

The new organisation will bring together many friends with the common goal of honouring Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy and carrying forward his legacy in Japan. The main object of the Society's work will be support for young artists, including with workshops at home and abroad, through the provision of scholarships for further study, for example in Leipzig, the capital of romantic music. The first steps will be taken in Mendelssohn Bicentenary Year 2009. The Japanese Mendelssohn Society plans a wide range of activities in various towns – a master-class for conductors, concerts including with the Gewandhaus Quartet, a special exhibition about Mendelssohn's life together with the Goethe-Institute, open discussions and lectures. More detailed information can be found on the website [www.mendelssohn.jp](http://www.mendelssohn.jp)

### *Tomoko Masur elected to the Board*

The Board of the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation, with its Chairman, Leipzig Lord Mayor Burkhard Jung, has formally elected Mrs Tomoko Masur as a member. She was unanimously elected at the Board's meeting on 30th June 2008 – this was welcomed as an important support for the international work of the Foundation.

### *The Foundation supports a concert in Israel*

The launch of a new cultural exchange programme between the Jerusalem Academy for Music and Dance (Israel) and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" (Leipzig conservatory, Germany) was celebrated with a concert. This was the high point of a visit to Israel by Leipzig Lord Mayor Burkhard Jung, together with Leipzig economic, cultural and political representatives, to encourage the planned partnership between Leipzig and Herzliya, and to develop exchange possibilities between the two cities. Naturally music will play a very important role in the dialogue – that's why the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation supported the concert with a financial contribution.

The young artists – Julia Kirchner and Anastasia Peretyahina (sopranos), Marius Urba (violoncello) and Andreas Reuter (piano) – demonstrated the very high level of training at the Leipzig conservatory (Musikhochschule), which was founded by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy in 1843, and proved to be worthy ambassadors for the musical city of Leipzig.

### *Donors and Supporters since June 2008*

Generous donations were made to the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Foundation, also in the second half of 2008, thereby enabling its successful work. Grateful thanks are due to the following contributors

Dr Wulff O. Aengevelt  
Fritz Baumann  
Dr Hans-Günter Klein  
Stadt Leipzig  
Tomoko Masur  
Professor Kurt Masur

*Titel:* The new Mendelssohn Monument near  
St Thomas Church; reconstructed after the original  
by Werner Stein from 1892.

### *Imprint*



FELIX-MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY-STIFTUNG  
PRÄSIDENT KURT MASUR

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
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| » Board:             | Dr. Peter Krüger       |
|                      | Tomoko Masur           |
|                      | Prof. Andreas Schulz   |
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