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# FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY FOUNDATION

## INFORMATION

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FELIX-MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY-STIFTUNG

PRÄSIDENT KURT MASUR

## December 2006

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### *Meeting of the Kuratorium and the Sponsors-Circle in Leipzig*

On 17 and 18 November 2006 the Board, Kuratorium and Sponsors-Circle of the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Foundation met for a working weekend. They had been invited by the Lord Mayor of the City of Leipzig, Burkhard Jung, in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of the Foundation.

In the evening of 17 November the members of the three bodies met for a concert in the Gewandhaus, with Maestro Kurt Masur conducting the Gewandhaus Orchestra, of which he is Honorary Conductor and Honorary Member. The programme included two sparkling works, the well-known Violin Concerto in D major opus 77 by Johannes Brahms with Sarah Chang as soloist, and Peter Tchaikovsky's 6th Symphony in B minor opus 74, "Pathétique".

This was followed by a meeting in the Hotel Westin, which set out for everyone the future objectives for the Foundation until the Mendelssohn-Anniversary year 2009. Dr Girardet, Cultural Mayor of the City of Leipzig, took the opportunity – representing the Board Chairman – to thank everyone for their work to date and for the enor-

mous financial support. He gave an extremely positive resumé of the recent history of the Foundation. This included the news of the valuable support which the Foundation had already been able to give to the Mendelssohn House. In addition the Cultural Mayor thanked Herr Kurt Viermetz and Dr Wulff Aengevelt for their donations, and Dr Kazoi Watanabe for his support and for his outstanding donation, which would very soon facilitate a project with young artists.

The next day the members of the Board and the Kuratorium met for their annual meeting, to discuss among other things the further steps until

2009. They welcomed initial proposals for; an approach to the Federal Finance Minister for a commemorative medal and a special postage stamp in honour of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy; linking up the concert activities of the Gewandhaus, the Mendelssohn House, and the Mendelssohn Societies in Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland.

Mrs Tomoko Masur spoke about the next two Benefit Concerts and Gala Evenings in 2006 and 2007 in support of the Foundation (details overleaf).

The next meeting of the Kuratorium will take place in 2007.



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

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

#### **Supporters' Circle**

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

#### **Friends' Circle**

Elisabeth Augereau  
Elke Weber-Braun

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*Further Benefit Concerts for Mendelssohn*

Two further Gala events, with proceeds going to the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Foundation, are reported here.

On **10 December 2006** the Foundation organised a Gala Benefit in the Tokyo International Forum. Mrs Masur, as Ambassador for Mendelssohn, invited guests to a concert of the Student Orchestra of the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts & Music under the direction of Maestro Masur. The programme included some of Mendelssohn's best-known and best-loved works; the Overture to Ruy Blas opus 95, the Violin Concerto in E minor opus 64, and in conclusion the Symphony No. 4 in A major opus 90. Enthusiastic applause greeted the young musicians, who enormously appreciated the opportunity to follow Maestro Masur's direction and to be able to profit from his rich musical experience. After the concert Maestro and Mrs Masur were delighted to meet the many guests at a Festive Dinner, which allowed Mrs Masur to seek new sponsors and to win new friends of Mendelssohn.

Many grateful thanks are due to all those who contributed to the success of this Gala – thanks for the financial support, and also thanks for the no less important support for the excellent management and implementation of this event.

Warm thanks are due to Herr Ernst-Otto Nedelmann in Hamburg, who on the occasion of his birthday donated to both the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Foundation and the Mendelssohn House, and persuaded his guests to do likewise. We greatly welcome this initiative.

Next year Maestro and Mrs Masur will invite guests to Leipzig, when on **16 June 2007** there will be a Gala and Mendelssohn evening in the Leipzig Gewandhaus – in celebration of the 80th birthday of the meritorious President of the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Foundation.

The evening will open with a concert by the Gewandhaus Orchestra under the direction of Kurt Masur with renowned friends and soloists. This will be followed by a glittering Ball for all the guests in the salons of the Gewandhaus – with dancing, entertainment and fellowship.

Those interested in attending should write to the address opposite, and we shall be happy to send you invitations.

Maestro Masur in Tokyo speaking about Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy and the importance of his music

*Imprint*

FELIX-MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY-STIFTUNG  
PRÄSIDENT KURT MASUR

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