



PRESSEMITTEILUNG

Jan Vogler and the Moritzburg Festival Orchestra release world premiere recording of Enrique Casals' cello concerto

- Release on March 3rd on Sony Classical
- Recording in a historic venue pursuig music tradition in Dresden
- Youth orchestra with 50 musicians from 25 countries (among other Russia and Ukraine)

DRESDEN, February 28, 2023. The **Moritzburg Festival Orchestra** and cellist **Jan Vogler** will release on **March 3rd, 2023** the **world premiere recording** of the cello concerto in F major by **Enrique Casals** (1892–1982) – a quite unknown work – as well as the cello concerto in D minor by **Édouard Lalo** together with SONY Classical. The recording was made in October 2022 under the direction of the orchestra's chief conductor **Josep Caballé Domenech** in the **Lukaskirche in Dresden** at the occasion of the festival's 30th anniversary.

The **Moritzburg Festival Orchestra**, gathering **50 young talented music students** from **25 countries**, puts another milestone to Dresden's musical tradition. The Staatskapelle in Dresden recorded on the same blue seats of the studios of the Lukaskirche some of its most iconic works under the baton of Carlos Kleiber or Herbert von Karajan. Today, young musicians coming from all parts of the world, gathered in the capital of Saxony to rediscover an almost forgotten work of the classical music. Along with the cellist and festival director **Jan Vogler**, the young players of the **Moritzburg Festival Academy 2022** – among them Russian and Ukrainian musicians – are sending thus a moving musical sign of peace from Dresden to the world.

Enrique Casals, brother of the Catalan cello player and pacifist **Pablo Casals**, was a violin player and a composer. He wrote his concerto for cello and orchestra in 1946, from his beach house in Sant Salvador, where the overwhelming impression is of the sea and of the surrounding Catalan countryside. The final movement is a Sardana, a Catalan folk dance. Alongside this work, the CD presents the famous cello concerto by **Édouard Lalo**, which Pablo Casals played in 1899 when he started his international career. The album celebrates the birth of the composer 200 years ago and is also an **homage to Pablo Casals** for the 50th anniversary of his death in 2023.

The **Moritzburg Festival Orchestra** is formed every year with members from the Moritzburg Festival Academy. It was founded in 2006 under the direction of violinist **Mira Wang** and was inspired by the visionary desire to encourage young and talented musicians by enabling them to exchange cultural ideas and work alongside artists of other generations. The ultimate aim is to facilitate their entry into the world of practical music-making. Every year some forty-five musicians are chosen from around the world and invited to take part in this project.

The 31st Moritzburg Festival will take place from August 4th to 20th 2023. Tickets will be available from March 20th.

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