



Media Release

LUCERNE FESTIVAL Historic Performances

LUCERNE FESTIVAL and audite launch a new CD series of historically significant recordings documenting the Festival's history

Lucerne, 29 May 2013. It was 75 years ago that the Internationale Musikfestwochen Luzern was founded – later to become known as LUCERNE FESTIVAL. To mark the occasion of this major anniversary, the Festival has partnered with the label audite to present a new CD series: LUCERNE FESTIVAL Historic Performances. Throughout the course of this year, three recordings featuring significant and unique concert highlights taken from a 60-year span of the Festival's history will be released. Launching the series on 19 July 2013, the inaugural CD pairs two unforgettable live recordings by the keyboard legends Clara Haskil and Robert Casadesus, from 1959 and 1957, respectively, with Otto Klemperer and the Philharmonia Orchestra and the Vienna Philharmonic under Dimitri Mitropoulos as their musical partners. The latter performance was also the occasion of the Vienna Philharmonic's Lucerne debut; nowadays that ensemble is entrusted with the tradition of giving each year's closing concert for LUCERNE FESTIVAL in Summer.

All of the recordings that will be included in the LUCERNE FESTIVAL Historic Performances series originate from the archives of SRF Swiss Radio and Television, and to a large extent these are being made available for the first time. The second installment, which is scheduled for August 2013, will bring the first-ever release of two recordings with the violinist Isaac Stern and the Swiss Festival Orchestra from the 1950s. The third CD will present two concert recordings of George Szell with the Swiss Festival Orchestra and the Czech Philharmonic from 1962 and 1969, respectively; these are also first releases. Subsequent years will see the continuation of this CD series.

CD 1 (aud. 95.623, release date: 19 July 2013, in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland)

Philharmonia Orchestra | **Otto Klemperer** conductor | **Clara Haskil** piano

Wolfgang Amadé Mozart: Piano Concerto in D minor, K. 466 (1959)

Vienna Philharmonic | **Dimitri Mitropoulos** conductor | **Robert Casadesus** piano

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Op. 73 (1957)

CD 2 (aud. 95.624, release date: August 2013, in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland)

Swiss Festival Orchestra | **Ernest Ansermet** conductor | **Isaac Stern** violin

Béla Bartók: Violin Concerto No. 2, Sz. 112 (1956)

Swiss Festival Orchestra | **Lorin Maazel** conductor | **Isaac Stern** violin

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 35 (1958)

CD 3 (aud. 95.625, release date: September 2013, in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland)

Swiss Festival Orchestra | **George Szell** conductor

Johannes Brahms: Symphony No. 1 in C minor, Op. 68 (1962)

Czech Philharmonic | **George Szell** conductor

Antonín Dvořák: Symphony No. 8 in G major, Op. 88 (1969)

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