



B E E T H O V E N F E S T B O N N

Bonn, 5 March 2010

Orchestra Campus held by Deutsche Welle and the Beethovenfest Bonn with an orchestra from São Paulo

The Sinfonica Heliópolis of the Instituto Baccarelli is coming to Bonn for a week for the Beethovenfest

In the tenth year of the orchestra campus held by Deutsche Welle and the Beethovenfest Bonn the visiting orchestra will be the Sinfônica Heliópolis of the Instituto Baccarelli in São Paulo. With the invitation of a second South American orchestra, the other being the Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela, the Beethovenfest is honouring the Bicentenario, the celebrations for South America's 200-year independence from Spain.

The **Instituto Baccarelli** in São Paulo has found a model in the Venezuelan "Sistema". The private charitable organization offers musical training to children and young people. The Instituto is located in Heliópolis, São Paulo's biggest slum district. It has made it its goal to support young people in their personal development in the midst of a socially disadvantaged environment.

The orchestra **Sinfônica Heliópolis** was founded at the Instituto Baccarelli in 2004. Already in 1996 maestro Silvio Baccarelli assembled 36 young musicians from the Heliópolis favela in order to found a string orchestra. Eight years later this venture was professionalized: the musicians of the Sinfônica Heliópolis come from all over Brazil and now have to audition to be accepted at the Instituto Baccarelli. There are currently 80 young people at the Instituto. They are not just learning the musical contents of orchestral theory and practice, they are also learning how to play together with other music enthusiasts from different cultural, ethnic and social structures. The students at the Instituto are given a scholarship to allow them to focus exclusively on their studies. A total of 7,000 young people have already been given social and career prospects as a result of their participation in the orchestra and the excellent training at the Instituto Baccarelli. Some receive invitations from universities in the United States as well as scholarships to enable them to complete their studies there. In 2005 Zubin Mehta conducted the Sinfônica Heliópolis during a concert in Brazil. Since then he has been the orchestra's patron.

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Roberto Tibiricá has been the Sinfônica Heliópolis's conductor and artistic director since 2005. The Brazilian conductor, who studied under Nelson Freire amongst others, was a visiting conductor of the São Paulo State Symphony Orchestra before he became deputy principal conductor of the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra in 1994. For many years now Tibiricá has been devoting himself to the works of contemporary Brazilian composers, for whom he also created a competition, the "Claudio Santoro". On his advice Deutsche Welle commissioned **André Mehmari** with a composition for the orchestra campus of the Beethovenfest Bonn 2010. His new work for orchestra, "Cidade do Sol", will be performed by the Sinfônica Heliópolis under Roberto Tibiricá in the Beethovenhalle on 4 October. Beethoven's Symphony no. 8 and Tschaikowski's violon concerto with soloist Shlomo Mintz, who already performed with the orchestra.

Since 2002 the German conductor and music teacher **Peter Gülke** has been running the workshop concert at the orchestra campus. To prepare, he rehearsed amongst other works Schubert's Symphony no. 7, the "Unfinished, with the young Brazilian musicians in São Paulo and he will carry on rehearsing it with them during the orchestra campus in Bonn. Peter Gülke will conduct and present the campus workshop on 6 October in the Beethovenhalle.

The orchestra campus took place for the first time at the Beethovenfest Bonn in 2001, on the initiative and in co-operation with Deutsche Welle. After university orchestras from Kiev, Istanbul, Tbilisi, Beijing and Krakow had come to Bonn between 2001 and 2005, the South African National Youth Orchestra performed at the Beethovenfest in 2006, in 2007 the Cairo Conservatory of Music Orchestra came to the city, in 2008 it was the Anton Rubinstein Orchestra of the St. Petersburg Conservatory and in 2009 Bonn was visited by the university orchestra of the Vietnam National Academy of Music, Hanoi.

The musicians of the orchestra campus live with families in Bonn. The special hospitality of the people of Bonn has promoted cultural exchange on a very personal level in recent years and often this has led to lasting encounters and contacts.

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