



Shaping the Future

Gustavo Dudamel and the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra deliver the fruits of their work on a five-concert tour to Portugal and Spain (27 - 31 March 2012)

Thrilling musical partnership take to the road with Richard Strauss and Haydn

Audiences in Stockholm, Lisbon and Madrid are among those set to experience the vivid music-making and engrossing artistry of Gustavo Dudamel and the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra next March. The Venezuelan conductor and his magnificent Scandinavian orchestra launch their spring tour with a visit to the Swedish capital (24 March) before travelling to Portugal and Spain for concerts in Lisbon, La Coruna, Oviedo, Murcia and Madrid. Their tour repertoire, chosen to reveal the breadth and depth of the Gothenburg Symphony's rich relationship with Dudamel, places two mighty tone-poems by Richard Strauss in company with Haydn's beguiling Symphony No.103, popularly known as 'The Drumroll'. The programme also stands as a major landmark in Dudamel's fifth and final season as the orchestra's Music Director.

Critics have hailed the energy and passion, the spontaneity and insight of Dudamel's recent box set of Deutsche Grammophon recordings with his Gothenburg musicians. The release, issued as an aural snapshot of the conductor's work with the orchestra, projected the partnership's inspired approach respectively to the second, fourth and ninth symphonies of Sibelius, Nielsen and Bruckner. Helena Wessman, General Manager and Artistic Director of the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, highlights the musical contrasts and nuances sure to flow from Dudamel's forthcoming tour readings of Strauss's *Don Juan* and *Also sprach Zarathustra* and Haydn's exquisitely crafted late symphony.

"The orchestra's distinctive characteristics lie in its sound, its flexibility and the excellence of its solo players," she comments. "Our tour to Stockholm, Portugal and Spain comes at a particularly happy period for the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra. We have tremendous support from our audience at home and are delighted to be able to share our ideals about making music on the world stage. There is a very special energy and atmosphere around when the orchestra plays with Gustavo Dudamel."

While the search for the Gothenburg Symphony's next Music Director continues, the orchestra is strongly placed to continue its artistic development in forthcoming seasons. "We are looking forward to a new beginning with Gustavo, who becomes our honorary conductor from September 2012," observes Wessman. "His term as Music Director ends next July, but we're looking forward to working with him for many years to come. He's very important to us and has done remarkable work with the Gothenburg Symphony during his five years as our Music Director. The orchestra is in really great shape now, as anyone can tell from listening to its CD box with Gustavo. Its players convey an incredible quality and maturity of musicianship to their audiences at home and on tour. Our Iberian tour heralds the next phase in the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra's bright future."

Tour Details

Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra / Gustavo Dudamel

STRAUSS *Don Juan*

HAYDN Symphony No. 103

STRAUSS *Also sprach Zarathustra*

Saturday 24 March 2012

Concert Hall

Stockholm, Sweden

Tuesday 27 March 2012
Fundacion Gulbenkian
Lisbon, Portugal

Wednesday 28 March 2012
Palacio de la Opera de A Coruña
La Coruna, Spain

Thursday 29 March 2012
Auditorio Principe Felipe
Oviedo, Spain

Friday 30 March 2012
Auditorio Victor Villegas
Murcia, Spain

Saturday 31 March 2012
Auditorio Nacional de Espana
Madrid, Spain

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