Friday, September 22

7.30 pm Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
Opening Concert of the 42nd BMF
Slovak Philharmonic
Slovak Philharmonic Choir
conductor: Emmanuel Villaume
choirmaster: Jozef Chabroň
soloist: Dezső Ránki, piano
W. A. Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23 A Major K 488
M. Ravel: Daphnis and Chloé, choreographic symphony

Technical brilliance and virtuosity, moving beauty of graceful and tuneful melodic invention – all this fills the Piano Concerto No. 23 A Major – one of the most peculiar of Mozart’s works. It originated side by side with symphonies and an opera Le nozze di Figaro during the Lent time in 1786. Performed by one of the most distinctive masters of magical black and white keys Dezső Ránki it will open the Bratislava Music Festival tonight. The ballet music Daphnis and Chloé (1912) is one of the most gorgeous representatives of the high impressionism. This “choreographic symphony”, as Ravel himself called it, was provoked by a Russian ballet impresario Sergey Dyagilev. The work of antique mythological theme about an innocent love abounds with dazzling hues, glowing peace and French charm. It utilizes a large orchestra (including 15 kinds of various percussion instruments) and mixed choir (without words).

Saturday, September 23

4.00 pm Moyzes Hall
Slovak Sinfonietta Žilina
conductor: Oliver Dohnányi
soloists: Marcel Štefko, piano; Rastislav Suchán, trumpet
D. Shostakovich: Concerto for Piano, Trumpet and Strings No. 1 C Major Op. 35
J. Ibert: Hommage à Mozart
W. A. Mozart: Symphony No. 40 G Minor K 550

For Tchaikovsky Mozart was a soother in his tormenting whiles. He paid him a sensitive tribute in his orchestral suite Mozartiana, in which he used also several direct quotations from the great master’s music ideas. Music department of the Radiodiffusion française ordered in 1956 a composition by a French composer Jacques Ibert, who paid compliments in it to Mozart on the occasion of his 200th birth anniversary. Another jubilee, the Shostakovich’s centenary will be celebrated by an extraordinary popular double concerto, which sounded for the first time in 1933 played by the composer himself sitting at the piano.

7.30 pm Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra
conductor: Peter Breiner; soloist: Giora Feidman, clarinet
A. Moyzes: Symphony No. 7 Op. 50
In 2006 we commemorate a birth centenary of the pioneer of the Slovak symphonic music Alexander Moyzes. The composer created 12 symphonies in the span of 50 years. The significant Symphony No. 7 Op. 30 originated in 1954–1955 as a reminiscence and composer’s painful reconciliation to death of his daughter Marta. An Argentinian clarinettist Giora Feidman, a world famous virtuoso of the Klezmer style and an excellent performer of Argentinian tango will appear as a soloist in the second part of the tonight concert. Also known as a composer of incidental and film music, he cooperated on music for Steven Spielberg film on holocaust Schindler’s List, which was awarded the Oscar Prize in 1994.

**Sunday, September 24**

11.00 am  Concert Studio of the Slovak Radio  
**Concert of the Year of Slovak Music**  
Slovak Philharmonic Choir  
conductor: Blanka Juhaňáková  
organ: Marianna Gazdiková  
soloists: Henrieta Lednárová, soprano; Denisa Šlepkovská, alto; Otokar Klein, tenor; Daniel Čapkovič, bass  
P. Krška: Te Deum for soli, two mixed choirs and organ  
**renewed premiere**

From the outset of his creation Pavol Krška concentrated on spiritual music. Requiem (1989), Stabat mater (1990), Mass (1993) or Te Deum (1998) belong to his most significant works. Contemporary music devices, marvelous vocal sections, fervency and sincere sacred purity are typical traits of this work, which is a unique vocal composition in modern history of the Slovak music. For his lifelong contribution to Christian culture in Slovakia the composer – as the first musician among the artists – was awarded the Fra Angelico Award in 2003.

3.00 pm  Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic  
**I Fagiolini**, English vocal ensemble  
The performance of the English vocal ensemble with the programme consisting of works from the Renaissance to the 20th century – English Classicism, Italian and Spanish Renaissance, French, Finnish and even South-American songs – this is a promise of an extraordinary artistic experience.

7.30 pm  Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic  
**Bavarian State Orchestra**  
conductor: Kent Nagano  
soloist: Michaela Kaune, soprano  
F. Schubert: “Die Zauberharfe”, overture D 644  
G. Mahler: “Des Knaben Wunderhorn”, a song cycle for soprano solo and orchestra (selection)  
Symphony No. 4 G Major

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**Monday, September 25**

7.30 pm  Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic  
Piano recital Rudolf Buchbinder  
F. Schubert: Impromptus D 935  
R. Schumann: Symphonic Etudes Op. 13 (inclusive 5 variations)

Piano was an instrument of crucial importance for Beethoven, Schubert and Schumann. Beethoven – celebrated and eccentric piano virtuoso – expressed his unsettled personal feelings tormented by his strong passion in 32 piano sonatas. Sonata F Minor Appassionata (1805) from the beginning of the 19th century represents itself one of the most distinguished piano works in the context of period creation. Schubert preferring more intimacy wrote 8 impromptus (1827) at the close of his short life. Their poetical expression and characteristic pregnancy on a miniature space reveal him as the song master. Schumann wanted to become a piano virtuoso, however, he was predestined to be a composer. Piano still remained close to his heart and despite the extensiveness of his interests he composed a number of works for it. Symphonic Etudes Op. 13 (1934) belong to the most moving pieces. This year a concert of the excellent pianist Rudolf Buchbinder glamorizes a number of festival recitals, which acquired favour and respect of the BMF audience in previous years.

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**Tuesday, September 26**

5.00 pm  Small Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic  
Academy of Chamber Music  
Chamber concert of an international ensemble  
artistic leader: Maurice Bourgue, oboe  
W. A. Mozart, B. Martinu, F. Poulenc, E. Schulhoff

7.30 pm  Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic  
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra  
conductor: Sakari Oramo  
soloist: Janine Jansen, violin  
B. Britten: Violin Concerto D Minor Op. 15  
D. Shostakovich: Symphony No. 8 C Minor Op. 65

When Britten left England for America due to spreading fascism, he was confused, tired and looking for a job with a desire to be useful, however, he did not lose his creative ideas. They resulted in two compositions: Violin Concerto D Minor Op. 15 and Canadian Carnival Op. 19. The Violin Concerto finished in 1939 in Canadian Quebec is the first important composer’s work written after his Atlantic journey. Dmitry Shostakovich had also survived similar crises and war horrors.
His Symphony No. 8 was performed for the first time in 1943 on a festival of Soviet music in Moscow. According to the composer it was an essay to take a look into the future, into the after-war era. Life is beautiful and everything, what is gloomy, condemnable will disappear, everything beautiful will win. Despite his optimistic words the symphony has an undertone of a deep human tragedy surrounding the author.

**Wednesday, September 27**

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| 5.00 pm| Small Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic | Concert of the Year of Slovak Music Chamber ensemble ALEA  
Boris Lenko, accordion; Daniel Buranovský, piano  
Stano Palúch, violin; Ján Krigovský, double bass  
Matúš Trávníček, bass  
P. Zagar (premiere of the song cycle), I. Zeljenka, J. Iršai, M. Piaček, M. Burlas, A. Piazzolla |
| 7.30 pm| Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic | Vienna Chamber Philharmonic  
conductor: Claudius Traunfellner  
soloist: Till Fellner, piano  
W. A. Mozart: Divertimento No. 7 in D Major K 205  
Piano Concerto No. 22 in E flat Major K 482  
Symphony No. 39 in E flat Major K 543 |

**Thursday, September 28**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 5.00 pm| Indoor Garden of the Slovak Philharmonic | “Musical Pleasure or Untuned Violin”  
Musica aeterna  
artistic leader: Peter Zajíček  
J. Pachelbel, H. I. F. Biber, J. C. F. Fischer |
| 7.30 pm| Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic | Beethoven Orchestra Bonn  
conductor: Roman Kofman; soloist: David Geringas, cello  
R. Schumann: Manfred, overture Op. 115  
Cello Concerto A Minor Op. 129  
L. v. Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 C Minor Op. 67 „Fate“ |

It was during his studies, when Schumann got in touch with Byron’s Manfred, which represents in itself some kind of Anglo-Saxon counterpart of Goethe’s Faust. He returned to the theme many years later and in October 1848 he wrote incidental music, from which only an overture characteristic by its unusual sound contrasts has remained in active repertory played at concerts. Soon after entering the post of municipal music director in Düsseldorf Schumann composed Cello Concerto (1850). “Romantics, dynamics, freshness, humour, moreover extremely interesting intermingling of cello and orchestra are really very enrapturing…” , a composer’s wife Clara conveyed. A conductor and cellist of Lithuanian origin David Geringas will perform the concerto at the BMF tonight. Many contemporary composers dedicate him their works as an indication of reverence and appreciation of his artistic merits. The Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5, which acquired its epithet after an entering pregnant motif, is a captivating piece… The work originated in a time of the first manifestations of the composer’s illness. It depicts a struggle with the fate, inner fright and worries about the burdensome future. He embodied the power of his energy into a forceful tiny motif, using it for the following struggle for a large form. The symphony was finished in 1808 when it was also premiered.

**Friday, September 29**

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| 5.00 pm and 8.00 pm | Small Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic | International Forum of Young Performers  
New Talent 2006 – SPP Foundation Prize  
chamber concerts / semifinal  
Denise Djokie, cello, CAN; Vital Julian Frey, harpsichord, CH  
Marina Chiche, violin, F; Luka Šulič, cello, SL  
Petr Nouzovský, cello, CZ; Vineta Sareika, violin, LAT  
Anita Leuzinger, cello, CH; Csaba Wagner, trombone, HU |
| 8.00 pm| Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic | Mozart’s Keys Cappella Istropolitana  
conductor: Pawel Przytocki  
soloists: Eugen Indjic, Ivan Gajan, Ladislav Fančovič  
W. A. Mozart:  
Piano Concerto No. 24 C Minor K 491  
Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra No. 10 E flat Major K 365  
Concerto for Three Pianos and Orchestra No. 7 F Major K 242 |

In the Mozart’s times it was almost impossible to work as a freelance composer. Mozart, too, suffered a bitter experience of a music servant in Salzburg. Due to repeated discordances with his employer he left for Vienna in 1781. In ten years he composed 17 piano concertos there, which he performed at the Vienna music academies. The Piano Concerto C Minor K 491 was created in March 1786. It is unusual because of its large orchestral body (flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, French horns, trumpets and kettledrums).

**Saturday, September 30**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 4.00 pm| Small Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic | Concert of the Year of Slovak Music  
Bohdan Warchal Slovak Chamber Orchestra  
Chamber Choir of the Bratislava Conservatoire  
artistic leader: Ewald Danel  
choirmaster: Dušan Bill; soloist: Marek Zwiebel, violin  
J. Podprocký: Concertino for Violin and String Orchestra Op. 11  
renewed premiere  
I. Szeghy: Ad Parnassum, after the paintings of P. Klee  
Slovak premiere  
J. Hatrik: Three Watercolours after A. Lundkvist for a chamber mixed choir, string orchestra and harpsichord  
premiere  
A. Dvořák: Serenade E Major Op. 22 for string orchestra |
Mozart and Nouvelle Cuisine – for the visitor of the concert there are prepared specialities which will not irritate taste buds but his sense of hearing. The ensemble Nouvelle Cuisine – “New Cuisine” – remolds the note recipes into jazz music-making.

**Sunday, October 1**

**International Music Day**

**4.00 pm** Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
- **Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic Orchestra**
- The Bratislava City Choir, Bratislava Boys Choir
- conductor: Jakub Hruša
- choirmasters: Ladislav Holásek, Magdaléna Rovňáková
- soloists: Ivan Ženatý, violin; Iveta Matyášová, soprano
- Marta Beňačková, alto; Jozef Kundlák, tenor
- Martin Malachovský, basso

*M. Krajči: Beauty of Eternity* for soprano, mixed choir and orch. premiere of the work commissioned by the Festival Committee of the BMF

-W. A. Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 5 A Major K 219
-B. Martinů: Bouquet, a cycle of pieces on folk texts for mixed and children’s choir, soli and small orchestra H 260

**7.30 pm** Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
- **Slovak Philharmonic**
- conductor: Peter Feranec; soloist: Alyssa Park, violin
- S. Rachmaninov: The Isle of the Dead, symphonic poem Op. 29
- S. Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 1 D Major Op. 19
- A. Dvořák: Symphony No. 6 D Major Op. 60

**Prokofiev** had an ardent relation towards his First Violin Concerto: dreamy fantasizing of singing sections is joined with cheerful humour, easiness and grotesqueness, virtuoso elements are balanced by cantabile violin tone. The trio of tonight composers is crowned by Dvořák, whose Symphony No. 6 originated very spontaneously in autumn 1880. In less than three weeks the composer wrote down artistically mature and optimistic work revealing pronounced national undertone.

**Monday, October 2**

**8.00 pm** Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
- **International Forum of Young Performers**
- **New Talent 2006 – SPP Foundation Prize – final**
- Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra
- conductor: Rastislav Štúr
- Concert of three finalists of the competition
- A. Dvořák: Slavonic Dances Nos. 8, 10, 15

International Forum of Young Performers initiated by Yehudi Menuhin in 1969 is organized by European Broadcasting Union on behalf of the International Music Council of the UNESCO. The Slovak Radio and the Slovak Philharmonic – Bratislava Music Festival cooperate in the event. Three semifinalists chosen out of eight will perform at this final concert and one of them will become the winner and holder of the title New Talent 2006 – SPP Foundation Prize.

**Tuesday, October 3**

**5.00 pm** Great Evangelical Church
- **Concert of the Year of Slovak Music**
- Organ recital
- Ján Vladimír Michalko
- Juraj Bartoš, trumpet
- L. Rajter: *Preludio per organo* (in memory of F. Schmidt)
- J. L. Bella: Complete works for organ
- J. Beneš: *Duré Ď per organo*
- I. Zelinka: Concertino for Trumpet and Organ

**7.30 pm** Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
- **Armenian Philharmonic**
- conductor: Eduard Topchian; soloist: Catherine Manoukian, violin
- D. Shostakovich: *Violin Concerto No. 1 A Minor Op. 99*
- A. Khachaturian: *Symphony No. 2 E Minor*

**Shostakovich** wrote two concertos for each of these instruments – piano, violin and cello. Violin and cello concertos originated in a close cooperation with giant musicians David Oistrakh and Mstislav Rostropovich and they are devoted to them. Shostakovich, tormented by Stalinist regime for long years, dared to publish the First Violin Concerto (1948) only after the Stalin’s death. The reason was purely pragmatic – the piece is filled by strong inspirations from Jewish music. On the contrary Aram Khachaturian initially sympathized with the communist regime. Paradoxically, several years later (1948) he was accused of excessive formalism and anti-folk attitude together with Prokofiev and Shostakovich. It was just this trio, who became the most representative “sample” of Russian 20th century music.

**Wednesday, October 4**

**7.30 pm** Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
- **Budapest Festival Orchestra**
- Collegium Vocale Gent
- conductor: Iván Fischer
- soloists: Sibylla Rubens, soprano; Ingeborg Danz, alto
- Andreas Weller, tenor; Thomas Bauer, bass

**J. S. Bach: Mass B Minor BWV 232**

During Bach’s life his Mass B Minor never sounded in its entirety due to its compositional and performing complexity; for the first time it was performed one hundred years after the composer’s death. Bach presented the first two movements – Kyrie and Gloria – to the King Friedrich August in Dresden in July 1733 in a hope to acquire a title of a “Hofkomponist” (court composer). Although particular movements of the mass were composed in a large time span (1733–1749), a listener would not notice it at all. Late in his life Bach revised his creation and he deliberately joined all movements into one musical whole, having thus created an outstanding piece.
Thursday, October 5

7.30 pm  Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
Prague Philharmonia
conductor: Jiří Bělohlávek
soloist: Adriana Kučerová, soprano
W. A. Mozart: Exsultate, jubilate, motet for soprano and orchestra K 165
B. Martinů: Toccata e due canzoni
W. A. Mozart: „Bella mia fiamma, addio!“ scene for soprano and orchestra K 528

R. Schumann: Symphony No. 2 C Major Op. 61

“I hear incessantly drumroll and clang of trumpets… I don’t know what will come out of it”, wrote Schumann in his letter from 1845 addressed to Mendelssohn. Today we know he was writing about the Symphony No. 2 C Major. Almost classically conceived symphony stems from a famous tradition of Beethoven’s symphonies (in the last movement Schumann even quotes a melody from Beethoven’s song cycle An die ferne Geliebte). Tonight concert will be conducted by a renowned conductor Jiří Bělohlávek. Adriana Kučerová is a soloist of the Opera of the Slovak National Theatre and a winner of the previous year’s 24th prestigious singers’ competition in Belvedere, Vienna.

Friday, October 6

7.30 pm  Concert Hall of the Slovak Philharmonic
Closing Concert of the 42nd BMF
Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra
The Czech Philharmonic Choir of Brno
conductor: Martyn Brabbins
choirmaster: Petr Fišála
soloists: Simona Houda-Šaturová, soprano; Denisa Hamarrová, alto
Pavol Bršlík, tenor; Gustáv Beláček, bass
W. A. Mozart: Symphony No. 7 D Major K 45
Mass C Minor K 427

Mozart’s Mass C Minor K 427 originated in 1782–1783 incepted by the composer’s promise that he would write a new mass for his wedding with Constanze Weber. However, he did not finish the work, similarly to another piece, now world-famous Requiem. A happy newly-wed soprano was singing solo at the premiere on August 25th, 1783 in a piece, which was probably supplemented by several sections from the composer’s other masses.

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during the festival Saturdays and Sundays one hour before the concert
Reservations for groups: e-mail: bhsfest@nextra.sk

The programme and the featured artists are subject to change without prior notice.