

UNITEL and CLASSICA present



BEETHOVEN 9

The Complete Symphonies
Wiener Philharmoniker – Thielemann



The Beethoven cycle of the 21st century!



Christian Thielemann, one of the most recognized conductors of our time, joins forces with the prestigious Wiener Philharmoniker and UNITEL, the world's leading audiovisual production company for classical music, in a monumental project: BEETHOVEN 9, the recording of all nine symphonies by Ludwig van Beethoven for TV, DVD and New Media: the "Beethoven cycle of the 21st century"!

Using the newest technology of our century, UNITEL and Austrian Television (ORF) produce this "super-cycle" in the Golden Hall of Vienna's Musikverein in HD and 5.0 Surround Sound. BEETHOVEN 9 kicked off in December 2008 with the recording of the First and Second Symphonies. At the rate of two recordings per year, the cycle will be completed by April 2010. The genesis and unfolding of this project will be accompanied by a documentary Making of... Beethoven, filmed in HD.

Between 2010 and 2013 the orchestra will crown the venture with special event performances of the complete cycle in major cities around the world. These concert cycles will rank among the musical highlights of these years. They will be accompanied by the recordings, which will be released prior

to the start of the world tour, when international attention is at its peak. Music lovers can enjoy Beethoven's symphonies either live in the host cities or on television, Internet or DVD. Live transmission from the Golden Hall is possible already during the recording stage.

BEETHOVEN 9 brings to a new climax the longstanding collaboration between Thielemann, who enjoys a sterling reputation as an interpreter of Beethoven and the German

Romantics, and the Wiener Philharmoniker, which has been cultivating the music of Beethoven since its founding nearly 170 years ago and is one of the few great orchestras to have preserved its unique sound. UNITEL CLASSICA can look back on more than 40 years of collaboration with the Wiener Philharmoniker and on its pioneering cycles of Beethoven's symphonic works with Herbert von Karajan and Leonard Bernstein. ■

Special Feature: Documentary Series

The Conquest of the Symphonic Cosmos

The monumental achievement of Christian Thielemann and the Wiener Philharmoniker forms the basis for this series of stimulating yet highly entertaining films that supplement "Beethoven 9". They guide the viewer into the cosmos of Beethoven's symphonies – and into Christian Thielemann's conception of them.

Each 60-minute program focuses on one particular symphony, which it presents in the context of Beethoven's oeuvre, Thielemann's interpretation, and the work's artistic and historical position. While Thielemann introduces the viewer to the fine points of his interpretation, the renowned music critic Joachim Kaiser depicts the unique features of the work and the interpretation, and provides revealing comparisons with other readings of the Beethoven symphonies.



In so doing, Kaiser is able to draw upon a treasure that only UNITEL is able to provide: the recordings of the legendary Beethoven cycles with Herbert von Karajan and Leonard Bernstein, concert productions with acknowledged Beethoven experts such as Böhm and Kleiber, as well as recordings of Beethoven symphonies with world stars of today such as Gustavo Dudamel and Paavo Järvi.

Joachim Kaiser, the most influential music, drama and literary critic in the German-language countries, is not only famous for his countless articles, reviews and books, but has also succeeded in keeping classical music young and alive. His "Klavier Kaiser" CDs, in which he provides a wealth of fascinating information on piano music, have become best-sellers. ■



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CONCERT RECORDINGS

From the **Golden Hall of Vienna's Musikverein**

Conductor **Christian Thielemann**
Orchestra **Wiener Philharmoniker**

Already available

Symphony No. 1 in C major, op. 21

Symphony No. 2 in D major, op. 36
Coriolan Overture, op. 62

Symphony No. 3 in E flat major, op. 55 "Eroica"

Symphony No. 4 in B flat major, op. 60

Symphony No. 7 in A major, op. 92

Symphony No. 8 in F major, op. 93
Egmont Overture, op. 84

Recording April 2010 – live signal available

Symphony No. 5 in C minor, op. 67

Symphony No. 6 in F major, op. 68 "Pastorale"

Symphony No. 9 in D minor, op. 125 "Choral"
Annette Dasch, Mihoko Fujimura, Piotr Beczala,
Georg Zeppenfeld, Singverein der Gesellschaft
der Musikfreunde Wien

**A production of UNITEL and ORF
in coproduction with CLASSICA**

Cat. no.: A045005410000

SPECIAL FEATURE:
DOCUMENTARY SERIES –
UPCOMING

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN –
The Conquest of the
Symphonic Cosmos**

Length **9 × approx. 60'**

**A production of UNITEL
in coproduction with ZDF/Arte and CLASSICA**

Cat. no.: A055126150000

DOCUMENTARY
MAKING OF...BEETHOVEN

Directed by **Barbara Pichler-Hausegger**
Length **approx. 60'**

**A production of UNITEL and ORF
in coproduction with CLASSICA**

Cat. no.: A04500552



All productions shot in HDTV 1080



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