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OPERNHAUS
ZÜRICH

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AN ENDING AND A BEGINNING

FABIO LUISI LEAVES THE OPERNHAUS AFTER NINE YEARS +++ CONCERT TO BE BROADCAST LIVE WITH INNOVATIVE 3D AUDIO TECHNOLOGY

The Philharmonic Concert on **Saturday, June 19, 7pm** is an event marked by closure. At the end of this season, after a tenure of nine years, Fabio Luisi will lay down his baton as General Music Director of the Opernhaus Zürich. After countless evenings conducting premieres, revivals, and concerts, he will take his place at the head of the Philharmonia Zürich as GMD one final time. Born in Genoa, Luisi made his way to Zurich in 2012 by way of Vienna and New York. Luisi helped form the theater's artistic programming alongside Intendant Andreas Homoki, and he shaped the Philharmonia Zürich's sound. His Verdi interpretations, his cycle of operas by Vincenzo Bellini, his bold strides through the great Romantic symphonic repertoire featured on the Philharmonic Concerts – so many unforgettable moments.

«Fabio Luisi is a distinguished conductor, but he's also much more: he is a powerful artistic partner for music theater. I was thrilled to win him as GMD at the start of my tenure as Intendant, and have enjoyed a multitude of beautiful and exciting artistic experiences during our collaboration». (Andreas Homoki, Intendant Opernhaus Zürich)

Luisi bids farewell to the Opernhaus with **Anton Bruckner's Seventh Symphony**. It is the composer's most-played work and one of his most significant. The symphony offers an abundance of emotional facets, from tragic agony to exuberant joy and triumphant fanfare. This variation will allow Luisi to demonstrate his capacity for precision and his ever-dynamic approach once again.

To offer the full sound of this final concert to more than the 100 individuals in the theater, the event **will be broadcast live for fans on the Opernhaus website**. In order to make the experience even more thrilling, the Opernhaus Zürich will use **audio technology that's brand-new to classical audiences**. Listeners at home can now choose between stereo sound and **3D sound**. This 3D audio technology comes to us from the gaming and virtual reality sectors, and using it for a symphonic concert is truly ground-breaking. Listeners are enveloped by sound, giving them the impression that they're in the middle of the action, immersed in 360-degree sound. The only prerequisite is the use of headphones. And with over-ear models, you'll get the full experience.

In 2015, the Philharmonia Zürich founded the «Philharmonia Records» label. Since then, the label has offered numerous works led by Luisi, by composers such as Berlioz, Wagner, Verdi, Rachmaninoff, Bruckner, Schubert, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Frank Martin. In cooperation with Accentus Music, the label has also released DVDs of «Rigoletto», «Wozzeck», «I Capuleti e i Montecchi», the «Messa da Requiem», and «Das Land des Lächelns». **Joining their ranks starting June 25, 2021, is Verdi's «Simon Boccanegra», Andreas Homoki and Fabio Luisi's final joint project, which**

will be available as a DVD in stores everywhere. The production premiered in December 2020 with Christian Gerhaher in the title role. Due to regulations in place at the time, it was performed for an audience of 50 and was simultaneously broadcast live on ARTE TV. Audiences can catch a rebroadcast of «Simon Boccanegra» on **Saturday, July 3, 2021, at 8:04pm, as a part of the «ARD Radiofestival»** on all of ARD's cultural radio channels.