

The Master and his Pupil

a film by Sonia Herman Dolz ©

produced by Hasten Slowly Films
for NPS Dutch Television

A fascinating movie on the magic of conducting, in which the essential secrets of conducting music are revealed.

A unique glimpse of Valery Gergiev's musical artistry.

A film about 'how to transmit'.

The universal language of conducting put into artistic practice.

In September 2002 the great Russian conductor
Valery Gergiev
shared his knowledge, experience and vision with three especially selected international talents from the new generation of conductors during two Masterclass sessions in Rotterdam.

The three young conductors that participated were:
Jason Lai (assistant conductor BBC Symphonic Orchestra,
Young Musician of the Year 2002),
Alexis Soriano (conductor Hermitage Orchestra, St. Petersburg)
Otto Tausk (conductor Maarten Altena Ensemble)

The Rotterdam Young Philharmonic Orchestra
was the practising instrument

“The Master and his Pupil” visualises the transmission of musical knowledge, the transmission of an art-form, of a ‘métier’, of power, of inspiration.

The approach for this feature-length documentary was cinematic;
it was not a TV registration.

The transmission from Valery Gergiev to his pupils, seen from within the orchestra, was 'captured' by three camera's, operated by skillful directors of photography. They focused in a precise manner on the physical, psychological and emotional drama that developed between the 'master' and the 'pupil'.

Meticulous editing was performed on the shot material, so that the filmical language was exploited at the maximum.

A special film score for cello and piano was written by the renowned Dutch composer Paul M. Van Brugge, in order to add a musical 'inner voice' to the film.

“The Master and his Pupil”

is an exciting, unpredictable, dramatical, comical, lively, instructive, and, above all, human document about an historic encounter between a living legend like
Valery Gergiev
and his pupils in an entertaining endeavour to create dignified successors.

A compelling story of how to fly with music.....

Hasten Slowly Films

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