



8 Banda Sinfonica Portuguesa

Your performance was of an unprecedented high musical quality in the history of the WMC! From the very beginning there was this magical major concert experience. As fellow musicians the jury members were all glad being able to attend your performance. It was a thrill to listen to you and there was even a heart stopping moment when the fire alarm went off... Evidence of your high quality musical standard and concentration was the fact that you played the tuba concerto even better (also the soloist) after the unfortunate interruption.

The jury finds that there is an outstanding artistic realization of the repertoire as evidenced by the following:

- A full realization of the indications of the composer in the score
- Compelling sense of musical style and vision
- An indisputable interpretation of high artistic quality
- Aspects of timing and phrasing if a level of creating the conditions for a major concert experience
- The band and conductor are able to act in a perfect way as musical ambassadors for the composition

In regard to tuning and orchestral sound (sound balance between orchestral sections) the jury finds the following:

- Tuning leaves (virtually) nothing to be desired
- Tone quality in orchestral sections and soloists is of a fantastic level in relation to the requirements of the repertoire
- Overall sound balance of the band is perfect

The jury finds that in regard to technical aspects the following:

- The band, several orchestral groups and soloists do have all the skills and technical qualities required in relation to the repertoire. The level of all soloists and all sections is wonderful. What a great tuba soloist! The jury was also very impressed by the clarinet section.
- Rhythm is of perfect level and there is a high degree of refinement, sophistication and agogics
- Ensemble playing is perfect
- There are very good dynamics and very rich dynamic and expressive degrees
- Articulation and diction are completely devoted to the music

Congratulations with this high on perfect performance! You were a very convincing winner.

Jan van den Eijnden
Independent chairman of the jury

DECLARAÇÃO

A Direcção Regional de Cultura do Norte, representada por Paula Araújo Silva, Directora Regional, declara que a Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa tem vindo a realizar um trabalho de excelência, tendo-se tornado numa referência musical em todo o país, particularmente, na região Norte

Considera a Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa de importância estratégica para o desenvolvimento e afirmação da região Norte no contexto cultural, em particular no domínio da música, do mesmo modo que contribui para uma imagem positiva da cultura portuguesa no exterior, através do notável trabalho de internacionalização que tem vindo a promover.

Vila Real, 13 de Dezembro de 2010.


A Directora Regional


(Arg^a Paula Araújo Silva)
MINISTÉRIO DA CULTURA
DIRECÇÃO REGIONAL
DE CULTURA DO NORTE

João Luís Sequeira
Chefe de Divisão
Promoção e D. Cultural

BANDA SINFÓNICA PORTUGUESA
Mr. FRANCISCO FERREIRA
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Oporto
PORTUGAL

I am writing to tell you what a pleasure it was to work with the Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa.

I found this ensemble to be extremely artistic and dedicated to the finest possible performances of wind music of "serious artistic merit". The group is made up of some of the most sensitive musicians I have ever had the pleasure to work with.

Their preparation was superb and their dedication to excellence was impressive indeed. Without a doubt, this is one of the finest wind symphonies in the world. The integrity of each and every player was quite frankly, stunning. They demonstrate a high degree of talent but more importantly a willingness to work hard to achieve greatness.

I would also like to thank you for the outstanding preparation that you accomplished on my behalf. Your commitment, professionalism and dedication was present in every note. The musicality and understanding that you brought out was first rate and it made it easy for me to put the finishing touches on the concert. Your personal dedication to their success is fantastic.

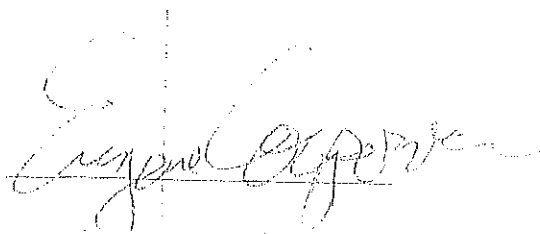
I know how difficult it is to not only organize but bring to life a group of this sort. Your tireless efforts on behalf of wind music and the city are greatly appreciated. Anyone who hears this ensemble will agree that it is a very unique and important force in wind music worldwide. That is so because of your tireless work.

The City of Oporto is fortunate to have such a wonderfully creative musical resource led by a true artist in their midst's. The group is not just a city treasure but a "National Treasure" as well. The value of such an ensemble is impossible to measure. All I can say is that this group under your leadership is priceless and makes a lasting and passionate contribution to the souls, hearts and minds of the people of Portugal.

I look forward to hearing more from the group and hope to have another opportunity to work with them sometime in the future.

December 12, 2010

Eugene Migliaro Corporon
Director of Wind Studies
Regents Professor of Conducting
Past President, College Band Directors National Association (USA)
College of Music
University of North Texas
Denton, Texas



9th November 2010

BANDA SINFÓNICA PORTUGUESA

I have known the Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa (BSP) and their music director, Maestro Francisco Ferreira since 2007. Since then I have conducted concerts with them in the Casa da Música in Porto on two occasions. In addition, I have directed two conducting classes organised by the BSP.

Without a doubt the BSP is one of Europe's leading professional wind orchestras and as such a significant beacon in the Portuguese music scene. The orchestra, made up mainly of young professionals and music students is a shining example of dedication, love of the musical art and professionalism. As a guest conductor I can vouch for the high technical level as well as the depth of expression and flexibility in the performance of differing musical styles.

Under the wise guidance of Maestro Ferreira the orchestra has grown rapidly in stature level of achievement and in the last years. Renowned Conductors and soloists from within Portugal and from abroad have also contributed to the development the BSP. Today the BSP can measure itself against any similar music grouping in Europe, and is without doubt the leading wind orchestra in Portugal.

It is to be hoped that the considerable effort and sacrifice which Maestro Ferreira and the musicians have thus far put into the BSP will find adequate support and financial backing in the future in order to carry on its important work. And in this sense I wish the BSP all the best for the coming years.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Bostock
www.douglasbostock.net

Principal Guest Conductor Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra
Principal Conductor Aargau Symphony Orchestra, Switzerland
Principal Guest Conductor Czech Chamber Philharmonic
Visiting Professor: Tokyo National University of the Arts, Senzoku Gakuken College of Music

José R. PASCUAL-VILAPLANA

Músic Director

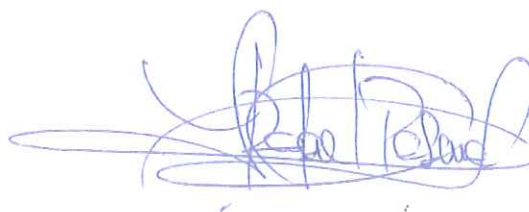
BANDA SINFÓNICA PORTUGUESA

Rua Costa Cabral, 877

4200-225 PORTO (Portugal)

Por la presente, me es grato recomendar la actividad concertística y de formación que desarrolla habitualmente la BANDA SINFÓNICA PORTUGUESA, dirigida por el maestro FRANCISCO FERREIRA. Su profesionalidad, seriedad y calidad son dignas de todo reconocimiento y atención.

Y para que conste a efectos oportunos firmo la presente en Cocentaina, a 19 de noviembre de 2010.



José R. Pascual-Vilaplana

DNI 21657168 T

Principal Director de la Orquesta Sinfónica de Albacete

Principal Director Invitado de la Orquesta Camera Musicae de Tarragona

Profesor de Dirección de la ECM Vall d'Albaida (Valencia)

12th November 2008

Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa

I was a guest of the Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa (BSP) 4 – 9 November 2008. During that time I directed a masterclass for conductors organised by the BSP in collaboration with the Banda da Região Militar do Norte, in which 13 active participants from Portugal and Brazil took part. I also conducted rehearsals and a final concert with the BSP itself in the Casa da Musica in Porto.

The Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa is a prestigious organisation of the highest calibre, bringing together dedicated young professional musicians and music students to play symphonic music for winds and percussion under the expert leadership of their artistic director, Maestro Francisco Ferreira. The BSP contributes significantly to the cultural life not only of its home city, Porto, but of Portugal as a whole. It must be counted as the leading force among wind orchestras in Portugal, striving to achieve the highest professional standards of performance. The BSP is also responsible for the first performances of many significant compositions in Portugal and engages guest artists of international renown. This wealth of activity is due not least to the inspiration and commitment of Maestro Ferreira, the orchestra's founder-conductor.

It was a great joy and an honour for me to work with the Banda Sinfónica Portuguesa. The 75 wonderful young musicians dedicate their free time to attend the rehearsals and concerts. They are excellent instrumentalists who together form an orchestra with a standard which is on a par with the very finest symphonic wind orchestras in Europe. They compare favourably with similar organisations in the USA and Asia, and without a doubt the BSP belongs in the top category of wind orchestras and ensembles on an international level. I am convinced that they will achieve even higher goals in the years to come, given the chance to work together on a regular basis.



Douglas Bostock

Principal Conductor Aarau Symphony Orchestra (CH)
Principal Guest Conductor Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra (J)
Principal Guest Conductor Czech Chamber Philharmonic (CZ)
Guest Professor Tokyo National University of fine Arts (J)