

## Press release, 31.21.2017

## Honour for Marc Minkowski: the outgoing artistic director of the Mozart Week awarded the Golden Mozart Medal

During the concert with his ensemble Les Musiciens du Louvre on 31 January Marc Minkowski received the Golden Mozart Medal from Johannes Honsig-Erlenburg, president of the Mozarteum Foundation. This is the highest honour to be bestowed by the Mozarteum Foundation in the name of Mozart. As Johannes Honsig-Erlenburg stated, "Marc Minkowski is one of the outstanding Mozart interpreters of our time, his reading of Mozart's music touches and moves audiences." Helga Rabl-Stadler, president of the Salzburg Festival, held the laudatory speech.

Since 2007 Marc Minkowski has performed several times at the Mozart Week. In 2013 he was appointed artistic director of the Mozart Week. Minkowski has celebrated great successes here which will long be remembered: for instance the magnificent *Idomeneo* in 2010, *Lucio Silla* (2013), with Rolando Villazón in the title role, Gluck's moving opera *Orfeo ed Euridice* in 2014, as well as his first and highly acclaimed venture with Bartabas in 2015 and now during this year's Mozart Week a renewed collaboration with Bartabas for the interpretation of Mozart's *Requiem*. And of course the concerts with his ensemble Les Musiciens du Louvre in the Great Hall of the Mozarteum and in the Haus für Mozart, with the Vienna Philharmonic in the Grosses Festspielhaus and his performances with the Mozart Children's Orchestra.

## Quote from Helga Rabl-Stadler's speech:

"Dear Marc Minkowski, during the Mozart Week in 2011 Nikolaus Harnoncourt was awarded the Golden Mozart Medal, about whom you yourself said, 'Harnoncourt was the great model, a true pioneer.' Nikolaus Harnoncourt is no longer with us in this world. He left behind a huge hole. Therefore it is all the more important that someone like Marc Minkowski has committed his life to trying to make the miracle of Mozart musically comprehensible."

Since 1914 the Mozart medal has been awarded to persons who have made an outstanding contribution to the aims of the Salzburg Mozarteum Foundation and to Mozart's œuvre. These include Karl Böhm, the Vienna Philharmonic, Sir András Schiff, Alfred Brendel, Milos Forman, Mitsuko Uchida and last year the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra. You can find a list of the persons who have been awarded the Golden Mozart Medal here: <a href="http://www.mozarteum.at/f%C3%B6rdern-und-spenden/auszeichnungen/die-mozart-medaillen/goldene-mozart-medaille.html">http://www.mozarteum.at/f%C3%B6rdern-und-spenden/auszeichnungen/die-mozart-medaillen/goldene-mozart-medaille.html</a>

Attached: Photo of the award ceremony © Wolfgang Lienbacher