

Mgr. SILVIA HRONCOVÁ

Director of the National Theatre Opera and the State Opera

## **The most renowned contemporary Mozart conductor in Prague: Marc Minkowski to perform the “coronation opera” *La clemenza di Tito***

Prague, 26 April 2018

**On 10 and 11 May 2018, the famed French conductor Marc Minkowski, the former artistic director of the Mozartwoche Festival in Salzburg, will be performing at the Estates Theatre in Prague a concert version of Mozart’s “coronation opera” *La clemenza di Tito*. The evening is part of a Mozart triptych, held at the Estates Theatre, with the other two instalments having been a concert performance of *Don Giovanni*, conducted by Plácido Domingo (27 October 2017), and the premiere of a new production of *Le nozze di Figaro* (1 February 2018).**

The soloists for the performance have been selected by Minkowski himself. The role of Tito will be portrayed by the Norwegian tenor Bror Magnus Tødenes, who has appeared as a guest at the Wiener Staatsoper and the Salzburger Festsspiele. The part of Annio will be sung by the French mezzo-soprano Léa Desandre, while the role of Vitellia has been assigned to the Latvian soprano Inga Kalna. The Czech bass Jan Štáva will perform as Publio and the Czech soprano Markéta Böhmová as Servilia.

Marc Minkowski, the former artistic director of the Mozartwoche festival in Salzburg (2013–2017) and the current director of the Opéra National de Bordeaux, is known as a leading connoisseur of historically informed performance of Baroque music and the founder of the celebrated Les Musiciens du Louvre. He also has a penchant for 20th-century music and has worked with prominent European and American orchestras, including the Berliner and Wiener Philharmoniker, the Wiener Symphoniker, the Staatskapelle Dresden, the Mozarteum Orchester, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and others. His critically acclaimed recordings have earned numerous awards. In the spring of 2017, Minkowski received the Golden Mozart Medal, the highest honour to be bestowed by the Mozarteum Foundation. Previous recipients of the accolade include Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Karl Böhm and Bruno Walter.

Mozart composed *La clemenza di Tito* to commission for the Czech Estates for the celebrations of the coronation of Leopold II as King of Bohemia. The opera’s world premiere, on 6 September 1791 in Prague at the Nostitz (today Estates) Theatre, was conducted by Mozart himself. Its most recent production was staged at the Estates Theatre between 2006 and 2010, conducted by Alessandro de Marchi and directed by Ursel and Karl-Enst Herrmann.

*The auspices of the concert performance of *La clemenza di Tito* have been assumed by His Excellency Roland Galharague, Ambassador of France to the Czech Republic. We extend our thanks to the French Institute in Prague and Czech Airlines for their*

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