

**Donaupost**, Nov. 21, 2007

## **ENERGIES IN THE ORCHESTRA**

Symphonic Concert of the Regensburg Philharmonic Orchestra

That conductor Eduardo Chibás, born in Havana, has intensively dedicated himself to the symphonies of Beethoven was evident during the symphonic concert of the Regensburg Philharmonic Orchestra for a full house audience at the Neuhaussaal.

The Adagio beginning of Beethoven's Fourth symphony showed Chibás' sensibility for the depth of this music. After the two dramatic Tutti chords supported by an overpowering Drum-roll, the main theme of the symphony appeared with captivating and zestful thrust.

Also in the second movement, he found the appropriate *tempo* and expressed effectively the wonderful delicate structures and details of the *pizzicato* passages with the solo flute.

Next, in the *Allegro-Vivace* the Orchestra exalted the movement as a whole. In the Finale the musicians, while achieving impressive strength in the Forte passages played the lively rhythms with precision and transparency,

After the intermission, we enjoyed Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, which Richard Wagner called, not without good reason, "The Apotheosis of the Dance". The Seventh Symphony is the most impulsive among Beethoven's nine symphonies. Therefore, it was not a small challenge that both the Orchestra and the Conductor faced. Eduardo Chibás met the challenge that evening with *bravura*. The great suspense in the introduction that leads towards the *Vivace* at the beginning of the movement was again beautifully achieved, followed by the *Vivace* played with great energy by the Orchestra. The repetitive theme of the second movement was interpreted with tenderness and great confidence, contrasting very effectively with the elegiac melody.

In the third movement the Orchestra positioned itself in such a captivating way that the lively rhythm would contrast with the few lyrical passages. The great homogeneity with which the musicians played the whole evening remained until the last movement where Eduardo Chibás sparked impressive energies in the Orchestra. Therefore, the long continuous applause was, in every respect, very well deserved.

This worthwhile concert will be repeated on Thursday at 19:30 in the Neuhaussaal.

*Stefan Rimek*