

OAE Reveals Tchaikovsky

28 October–1 November 2008 – Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre

"When the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment is performing you cannot stop the place buzzing. A crowd jostles, bound for musical delight, education and fun. There's a queue for returns, the crackle of high expectation...the OAE – famous for showing every sign of genuinely enjoying what they do – always appear galvanised...Whoever said classical concerts were stuffy, near-dead? Not with Jurowski. Not with the OAE."
THE TIMES, 31 JANUARY 2007

Immediately after opening its 2008-09 season with an all-English baroque programme, the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** ventures into new ground with a pair of Tchaikovsky concerts at the Royal Festival Hall on **28 and 31 October** as part of an OAE/London Philharmonic Orchestra joint venture – *Revealing Tchaikovsky*. Spear-headed by OAE Principal Artist **Vladimir Jurowski**, these concerts not only represent the OAE's first foray into Tchaikovsky in over 15 years, but they also offer a rare opportunity to experience **Gerard McBurney's** dramatisation of Tchaikovsky's incidental music to *Hamlet* (here directed by **Tim Carroll**), and the original alongside the final version of the composer's popular *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture. The second concert juxtaposes Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* against Adam's *Giselle* and Delibes's *Coppélia* – three seminal ballet scores performed for the first time in recent memory on period instruments.

31 October also see the launch of the third season of **The Night Shift**, the OAE's 10PM concert series presenting classical music in an informal, laidback way. Jurowski makes his third Night Shift appearance conducting the final version of the *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture and Act IV of *Swan Lake* in a one-hour concert presented from the stage. Previous Night Shifts have successfully attracted a very different audience to the OAE's 7:30PM concerts, with around 80% under-35 and a third students.

The Tchaikovsky concerts culminate in the OAE's annual composer **Study Day**, taking place in the Level 5 Function Room of the Royal Festival Hall on **1 November**. The popular all-day event will include talks by Tchaikovsky experts including Vladimir Jurowski and demonstrations by OAE players. *Revealing Tchaikovsky* is part of **OAE Futures**, an integrated plan of projects drawn from the visions of individual members of the OAE. Spanning a 10-year period and with an estimated budget totalling £3.5-million, the projects fall into three categories aspiring to assure the Orchestra's continuing artistic growth, foster a new generation of musicians, and build and diversify its already large and committed audience.

For Further Information:

Dennis Chang/Macbeth Media Relations

020 7700 5959 – dennis@macbethmediarelations.co.uk