

News

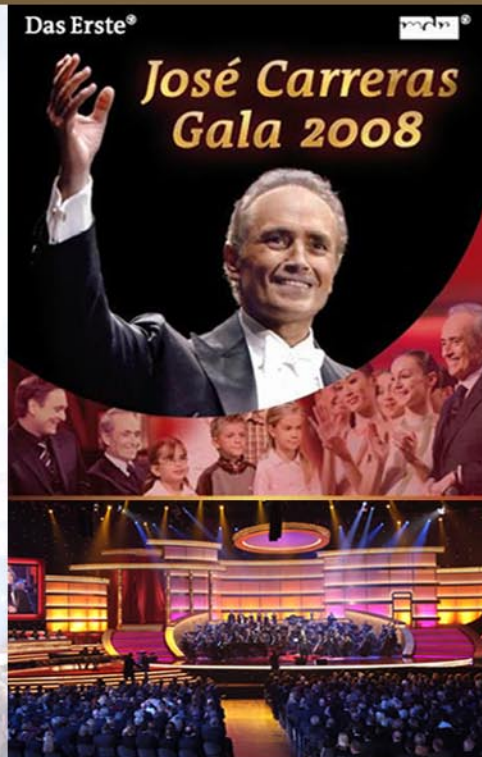
Millions of viewers saw the 14th José Carreras Gala Live Show

With Christmas just around the corner, the live Gala Show of José Carreras, who continues his battle against Leukaemia, was broadcast by the German Television Company, ARD, on 18 December 2008. Together with numerous prominent artists and an audience of millions, many patients will benefit from the donations raised through this programme. Again, Blüthner supplied three pianos for the show with a concert grand being used by the orchestra. Musicians who performed include Andre Rieu, Peter Maffay, Helene Fischer, Anne-Sophie Mutter and the German musical band "Sons of Mannheim". Prominent individuals and politicians answered the telephone to accept donations from

the many callers. An amazing 5.6 million euros were given to Carreras – Cancer Aid. Clearly, Blüthner will again be a part of the 2009 Carreras Gala.



Judy Weiss at the Blüthner piano



Stevie Wonder visits Blüthner



In January the NAMM Show, the largest international music show, was held in Anaheim, USA. It is only rivalled by the music fairs in Frankfurt and Shanghai and represents the leading event for musicians, stars and others. Exhibitors from all over the world displayed their latest products. The Blüthner stand in the massive piano hall was visited not only by dealers but also by show business stars who impressed the visitors with their musical talents.

Blüthner concerts 2009

The start of the Blüthner concert series was welcomed in Leipzig. The excellent Viennese pianist, Florian Krumpöck, performed in a much acclaimed concert in February which was followed by the romantic Leipzig pianist, Elfrun Gabriel, who played Schubert, Schostakowitsch and Chopin on Friday 27 March at the Alte Handelsbörse Leipzig.

Preview::

Mediencampus Villa Ida Leipzig:
28.05.2009, 7.30 pm
Emmanuel Christien (France)

Alte Handelsbörse Leipzig:
15.05.2009, 8.00 pm
Alexander Paley (USA)



Blüthner – Piano school for adults a success

Three years ago the Blüthner School for Adults, located within the beautiful pedestrian precinct of Leipzig's city centre not far from the Blüthner piano show-rooms, was created. Four teachers under the leadership of the pianist, Anna Maria Maak, worked with students at all levels of ability and interest, including classical music, songs and boogie woogie. Over the past year, the facilities have been extended, allowing space for more practice rooms, concerts, lectures and receptions. The welcoming environment creates an ideal place for learning. In future newsletters we will keep you advised of further progress at the school.



www.bluethner-klavierschule.de

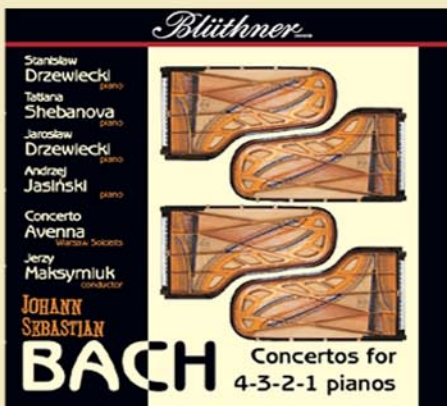
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Blüthner Piano school

Blüthner Records

THE GOLDEN TONE



Blüthner records

The latest recording by Blüthner Records is the four keyboard concertos by Johann Sebastian Bach. The first concerto is the Bach transcription for four keyboards of Vivaldi's b-flat concerto op 3 N° 10. The next is for three keyboards, BWV 1064, followed by the concerto for two keyboards, BWV 1060, and finally BWV 1056 for one keyboard.

A further highlight is the technique of the recording. It is produced on the latest Super Audio compact disc (SACD) system which provides an even more complete reproduction of the different frequencies which is exclusive to Blüthner records.

"Music Meets Art" - A decorated Blüthner Grand

Enhancing instruments with paintings has a long tradition. To rediscover and continue this is the aim of Gabriel Meiring, an artist who not only paints but is also an accomplished pianist. The range of expression available to the pianist and the visual beauty of the instruments are transformed into golden tinted forms and tempera colours by the Art of Gabriel. Each instrument becomes an individual object, merging both sound and painting.



Blüthner excited Paris

16 December 2008 was a special day for Blüthner in Paris. The pianist Alexander Paley, whose favourite piano is Blüthner, performed at the theatre des Champs-Élysées. The programme included piano concertos by J. S. Bach and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy with Alexander Paley playing the piano and conducting the orchestra from the keyboard.



Critics were full of praise Mr. Paley, the orchestra and also the Blüthner whose round basses and velvety tone captivated the audience. Alain Cochard of the Magazine Concert Classic is looking forward to further concerts with Alexander Paley and his wonderful Blüthner.

THE GOLDEN TONE

The largest Piano competition in the history of China

In December 2008 Blüthner celebrated the 190th anniversary of the founding of Irmler piano company within the triennial event, "Germany and China – Moving Ahead Together" under the patronage of the presidents of the two countries, Horst Köhler and Hu Jintao.



More than 700 participants competed in 28 categories. The preliminary round took place in 40 cities of the vast country and the finals were held in Guangzhou. The many Blüthner dealers in the country assisted with the organisation. The instruments impressed both jury members and competitors alike.

Blüthner

for friends

Selecting a Grand Piano for the German high school in Denmark

During a selection concert at the Apenrade German high school, the Danish initiative Konzertflügel e.V. Apenrade chose a Blüthner concert grand piano, Model 1(280 cm), over Steinway& Sons and Steingraber & Söhne. Three new and pristine black concert grands were on the stage, open and freshly tuned.

For optimum comparability, the same pieces were played on each instrument while the audience eagerly followed the tonal differences between the three contenders. The selection procedure particularly focussed on the instruments' merits with respect to the interpretation

of baroque and classical music and on their capability to render extreme technical passages. The jury unanimously chose the Blüthner grand, a decision that was enthusiastically applauded by the audience.

Historical

Restored Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy statue

At long last the statue of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, created by the sculptor Werner Stein and erected to commemorate the presence of this outstanding musician in Leipzig, has been restored. Destroyed in 1936 by the then ruling National socialists, the mayor of Leipzig together with the long-term conductor of the Gewandhaus orchestra, Kurt Masur, took the initiative. Mendelssohn Bartholdy was very fond of

Leipzig and his musical activities enhanced the cultural life of city where he founded the famous Conservatory of Music. In a letter, which he wrote to his mother in 1836, he said, "I am pleased to tell you that my name is now well established in Germany, especially since I am in Leipzig". The inauguration of the statue was part of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of his birth on 03 February 2009.

