



**Within the framework of the '2005 EU-Japan Year of People-to People Exchanges'
the Symphonic Orchestra of the Japanese National Radio-NHK
gives a concert in Budapest**

on 14 October , 19:30
in the National Concert Hall of the Palace of Arts ('Művészetek Palotája')

Conductor: Vladimir Ashkenazy
Vocalist: Soile Isokoski

The performers:

The NHK Symphonic Orchestra, often going for tours abroad as well, was founded in 1926, as the first professional orchestra in Japan. Since 1951, the orchestra has been sponsored by the Japanese Radio, they have been named NHK (Nippon Housou Kyoukai) since then.

The leading conductor of the orchestra, Vladimir Ashkenazy came to be known to the Hungarian audience as a pianist. As a conductor, he has occupied the post of musical director and first guest conductor at world-famed orchestras.

The CD of Finnish soprano Soile Isokoski, made from the Strauss-composition in the program, has already won several prizes.

The program:

Takemitsu Toru: A flock descends into the pentagonal garden

Takemitsu is one of the best-known Japanese composers of classical music. The purpose of his oeuvre was to amalgamate Japanese traditions and the new endeavours of Western music. He is also referred to as 'the composer of silence'.

Richard Strauss: Four last songs

The composition is a touching expression of evanescence and melancholy, it is the swan-song of the composer. Strauss composed the opus in 1948, for the poems of Herman Hesse and Joseph von Eichendorff.

Claude Debussy: Games

The playful ballet-music of the French composer was presented by the Paris Russian Ballet in 1913. The opus is a rich treasury of Debussy's musical means of expression.

Maurice Ravel: Daphnis and Chloé – II. suite

Ravel's opus was composed in 1912, on the basis of an ancient Greek author's tale. Two suites were made from the ballet; the second is especially suitable for an orchestra to show all of its talents.

**Tickets can be purchased (among other places) in the ticket office of the Palace of Arts ('Művészetek Palotája', Budapest, IX. ker., Komor Marcell u. 1, Tel.: 06-1-555-3300) and in Concert&Media ticket offices.
Prices: 3.000-11.900 HUF**

Further information:
NHK: www.nhkso.or.jp
Palace of Arts: www.muveszetekpalotaja.hu