

Czech Philharmonic Japan Tour 1991 with Rafael Kubelik etc.

Schedule

Month	Day	Time	Program	Place	Hall	CD/DVD
October	27	14:00	Smetana Ma vlast	Osaka	The Symphony Hall	
November	2	18:00	Smetana Ma vlast	Tokyo	Suntory Hall	Altus/NHK and some pirates

Comments

In 1991, the Czech Philharmonic orchestra made a long concert tour in Japan, with Prague Philharmonic Chor, under the baton of three conductors, Rafael Kubelik, Vaclav Neumann and Jiri Belohlavek.

The tour, started on October 27 by Kubelik end on November 24 by Belohlavek..

Of total 24 concerts, only 2 were assigned to Kubelik considering his health condition, other 2 concerts were to Neumann, remaining 20 concerts were conducted by young Belohlavek.

Programs consisted of Smetana, Dvorak, Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Beethoven, Mozart.

Obviously, the highlight of the tour was Smetana's Ma vlast by Kubelik.

According to one source, Kubelik initially wished to conduct a Symphony of Schumann and Mozart piano concerto with Rudolf Firkusny, however, promoter and sponsors successfully persuaded him to conduct Ma vlast.

October 2008, the DVD video of November 2nd concert was finally released by NHK after such long time – 17 years waiting, giving us a deep impression for moving music making by great conductor and orchestra.

The concert was their last collaboration and the last public appearance for Kubelik.

Halls HP

The Symphony Hall	http://www.asahi.co.jp/symphony/	(in Japanese)
Suntory Hall	http://www.suntory.com/culture-sports/suntoryhall/	(in English)
		Riichiro Emori 22-nov-08