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New from Philharmonia Records:

Anton Bruckner – Symphony No. 8 in C minor, original version, 1887

After their successful recording of all the Rachmaninoff piano concertos, **Fabio Luisi** and the **Philharmonia Zurich** have once again tackled a great masterpiece of the romantic repertoire: **Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 8**.

"I am thrilled by the inherent elemental power of the Eighth Symphony. It is strong in the entirely primeval sense of the word: forceful, essential and existential. This primeval power is stronger than in all the other Bruckner symphonies. For all its architectural complexity, the Eighth always manifests clear lines and – paradoxically – could almost be described as simple." This is General Music Director **Fabio Luisi**'s view of Anton Bruckner's monumental Eighth Symphony.

Bruckner's contemporaries did not understand the boldness of the Eighth Symphony in its original version – completed in 1887 – and the criticisms of the composer's friends prompted him to make extension revisions to the work. **Fabio Luisi**, however, is convinced of the perfection of the original version, and has recorded this with his orchestra: "When I conduct the original version, I think, 'Everything is perfect!'"

Furthermore, Fabio Luisi sees the **Philharmonia Zurich** as the ideal ensemble for Bruckner's symphonies, since as an opera orchestra it has considerable experience of the compositions of Richard Wagner, who exerted a decisive influence on Bruckner's sound.

Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 8 in C minor is released by **Philharmonia Records** and will be commercially available worldwide from the beginning of May 2016.

Furthermore, Christof Loy's production of **I Capuleti e i Montecchi** with Joyce DiDonato, and Andreas Homoki's **Wozzeck**, featuring Christian Gerhaher, will be released by Philharmonia Records/Accentus Music on DVD in June.

Julikg benecks

Julika Weinecker Press Officer

OPERNHAUS ZÜRICH

Anton Bruckner

Symphony No. 8 in C minor, original version, 1887

ConductorFabio LuisiOrchestraPhilharmonia Zurich

CD 1 Anton Bruckner – Symphony No. 8 Allegro moderato Scherzo – Trio Adagio

CD 2 Anton Bruckner – Symphony No. 8 *Final*e

The CD will be commercially available worldwide as of 9 May 2016.

Please find enclosed your personal review copy. We would be delighted to have the Bruckner CD reviewed, and will be pleased to be of assistance should you have any questions. You will find photographic material for use free of charge in connection with reporting on the CD at: www.philharmonia-records.com/presse/