

PRESS RELEASE:

**(EMBARGO: Thursday, February 16th - 12Noon)**

## **Jukka-Pekka Saraste goes digital: 20 unreleased recordings with the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln exclusive on Idagio**

COLOGNE, GERMANY, February 16th, 2017: The Finnish conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste today releases twenty exclusive recordings with the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln on the classical music streaming service Idagio. The live recordings are now available for the first time to international audiences and include concerts at the Kölner Philharmonie and tour performances, such as at the Großes Festspielhaus in Salzburg. The release combines full-bodied traditional repertoire - in particular a delightful Central European theme formed by the symphonic works of Beethoven and Brahms - with a Scandinavian flavour. Three works from Saraste's countryman Jean Sibelius stand alongside three symphonies by the great Danish composer Carl Nielsen. The complete release is accessible now on the Idagio iOS app and in lossless audio on the web app [www.idagio.com](http://www.idagio.com). It is immediately available in over 70 countries.

WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln Music Director Jukka-Pekka Saraste said of the release: "I am very happy that my recordings are now available on Idagio, a new exciting medium for classical music lovers. This rich selection of live recordings illustrates the history of my collaboration with the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln and I am glad this is now available worldwide in a very convenient way." Idagio founder Till Janczukowicz, commenting on the new collaboration, said: "We are happy that more and more partners and musicians are recognising what we want to achieve with Idagio: not a miracle, but simply the best service to search for classical music, embedded in a straightforward and distinguished aesthetic. This "credo" fits beautifully with the style of the recordings by the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln under the great conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste: unpretentious, genuine and highly artistic."

Release highlights are featured in a dedicated playlist

<https://www.idagio.com/playlists/jukka-pekka-saraste-wdr-sinfonieorchester-koln>.

The complete release is available on Jukka-Pekka Saraste's Idagio profile

[www.idagio.com/jukka-pekka-saraste](http://www.idagio.com/jukka-pekka-saraste) and on the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln profile [www.idagio.com/wdr-sinfonieorchester-koln](http://www.idagio.com/wdr-sinfonieorchester-koln).

This new release follows recent prominent exclusives on Idagio, such as the first recording in 18 years by pianist Ivo Pogorelich and the collection of previously unreleased recordings by baritone Thomas Hampson.

## Recordings Overview:

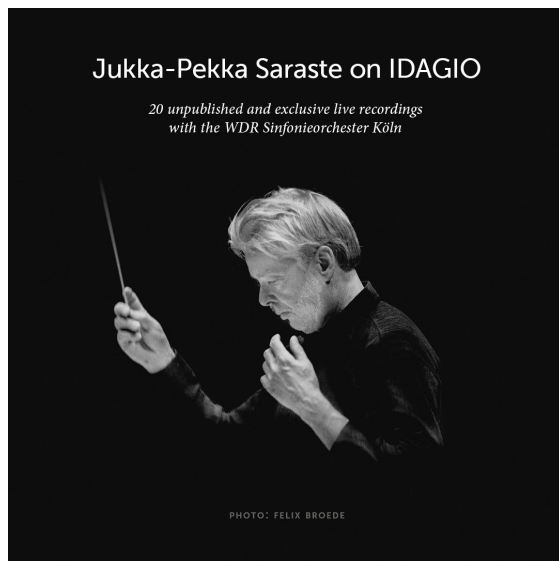
### WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln - Jukka-Pekka Saraste, Conductor

Ludwig van Beethoven	Symphony Nr. 1 (2015, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 1 (2015, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 2 (2013, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 3 (2011, Kölner Philharmonie)
Hector Berlioz	Le carnaval romain (2011, Kölner Philharmonie)
Johannes Brahms	Haydn-Variations (2015, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 1 (2012, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 4 (2014, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony 4 (2014, Großes Festspielhaus Salzburg)
Claude Debussy	La Mer (2008, Mercatorhalle Duisburg)
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy	Overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (2012, Kurhaus Wiesbaden)
Carl August Nielsen	Symphony Nr. 2 (2015, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 4 (2010, Kölner Philharmonie) Symphony Nr. 5 (2012, Kölner Philharmonie)
Franz Schubert	Symphony Nr. 8 (2014, Kölner Philharmonie)
Robert Schumann	"Manfred"-Overture (2008, Kölner Philharmonie)
Jean Sibelius	Andante festivo (2015, Klaus-von-Bismarck-Saal Köln) Canzonetta (2015, Klaus-von-Bismarck-Saal Köln) King Christian II Suite (2015, Klaus-von-Bismarck-Saal Köln)
Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky	Symphony Nr. 6 (2015, Kölner Philharmonie)

**JUKKA-PEKKA SARASTE:** Jukka-Pekka Saraste has established himself as one of the outstanding conductors of his generation, demonstrating remarkable musical depth and integrity. Born in Heinola, Finland, he began his career as a violinist before training as a conductor with Jorma Panula at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. Since 2010, Jukka-Pekka Saraste has been the chief conductor of the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln.

**WDR SINFONIEORCHESTER KÖLN:** The WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln brings classical music to life at first hand - in North-Rhine-Westphalia as well as on the big concert and festival stages around the world. The orchestra has a special influence on the musical landscape in broadcasting. Performances include subscription series at the Kölner Philharmonie and the Funkhaus Wallrafplatz as well as partnerships with the most important concert houses and festivals. International tours and a growing number of award-winning recordings reinforce the global ranking of the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln as an outstanding representative of the German orchestral tradition worldwide.

IDAGIO: Idagio is the first classical music streaming service that offers a flawless search that has been tailor-made for classical music. Alongside an easy-to-use interface and a distinguished design, users already attest to Idagio having “the best search for classical music”. Idagio offers curated playlists as well as a catalogue with 20,000 hours of highest quality recordings. Every week, more than 1000 new recordings are added. Idagio is accessible worldwide with the iOS App in the app store and on [www.idagio.com](http://www.idagio.com) (however, not yet in the USA and Canada). Idagio is currently used in more than 70 countries around the world. The web app allows lossless audio. Idagio offers a free service section as well as a fee-based section for premium members. Idagio was founded by Till Janczukowicz and Christoph Lange, a duo that combines longstanding experience in the management of classical music stars with knowledge of the dos and don'ts in the founder scene around music streaming services.



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