

Press Release

Halle (Saale), 30 October 2016

**“Untouchably, Fabulously French” – the 9<sup>th</sup> Film Music Days Saxony Anhalt ends with a magnificent gala concert and personal award for Éric Serra**

**Halle (Saale).** The 9<sup>th</sup> Film Music Days Saxony Anhalt drew to a close yesterday with a riveting concert in the sold-out **Steintor-Variété Halle (Saale)**. **Staatskapelle Halle** joined the enchanting French singer **Constance Amiot** and its musical director **Bernd Ruf** to spirit the audience away with a truly fabulous programme full of French film music illusions, ranging from Arthur Honegger to Serge Gainsbourg. Filled to the very last row, the evening gala provided an astonishing setting for an array of luminaries from the film music scene: Besides the *Oscar* winner **Stephen Warbeck** (suite from ***Shakespeare in Love***), the French composer **Laurent Eyquem**, still relatively unknown in Germany, delighted the audience with his own film score medley. The concert premiered themes from the film *USS Indianapolis* (with Nicolas Cage) – scheduled for release in American cinemas in a few weeks – in addition to music from the movies *Copperhead* and others. The evening revolved around **Éric Serra**, who for over 30 years has delivered precisely the right film music backdrop for films by Luc Besson; he also wrote the score for *Golden Eye* (James Bond), and on this evening received a personal honour from the Film Music Days. **Klaus Doldinger** was also among the prize winners, who on the evening before received the DEUTSCHE FILMMUSIKPREIS (German Film Music Prize) for his life’s work. The audience celebrated the composer of the *Tatort* title melody – magnificently interpreted by the Staatskapelle Halle – with standing ovations. The jazz saxophonist certainly did not look 80 when he skilfully accompanied and improvised to music by Miles Davies and his own compositions.

The Film Music Days Saxony Anhalt have now grown to become a week of film music, blending an industry meet attended by film music experts, composers and film-makers from all over the world with a series of cultural events. Prominent film composers like **Éric Serra**, **Stephen Warbeck** and **Laurent Eyquem** used the two-day congress to provide insight into their work and the creative process as a whole. Up-and-coming young film score composers visited the congress to network with the luminaries of the film score scene and to receive personal advice on how to progress in their future careers. Held in the run-up to the congress, the five-day **Masterclass – Das Orchester**, a unique event in Germany under its musical directors Benjamin Köthe and Bernd Ruf, offered young film music composers the opportunity to put the finishing touches to their orchestral works and arrangements during the workshop and then to record the pieces with the Staatskapelle Halle. This is a valuable opportunity for emerging composers to work with an orchestra in a professional setting and to prepare for public performance in the closing gala concert. There were premiere performances of two works from the silent movie *The Apaches of Paris* (1927) by Jongin Moon and Jan Willem de With, who just the evening before had been awarded the Deutsche Filmmusikpreis in the Short Film Category. The effect of the music on the moving images, and how different the two film versions seemed, was stunning.

The DEUTSCHE FILMMUSIKPREIS was awarded for the first time in six categories during the 9<sup>th</sup> Film Music Days Saxony Anhalt. **Lorenz Dangel** received the **Best Music in a Film** award for his score to *Ich und Kaminski*. **Timo Pierre Rositzki** was honoured for the **Best Song in a Film** in recognition of *Alive*, the title track to *Boy 7*. **Jan Willem de With** went home with the award in the newly created category **Best Music in a Short Film** for his musical work on *Little Infinity*. The **Emerging Talent Award** was given to the young film composer and musician **Franziska Henke** (*Nellys Abenteuer, Kids for Guns*).

The next Film Music Days Saxony Anhalt will be held in Halle (Saale) from 29 October to 4 November 2017.



filmusik:tage  
Sachsen-Anhalt 2016

*The Film Music Days Sachsen-Anhalt were organised by the International Academy of Media and Arts (IAMA) in collaboration with the State of Saxony Anhalt under the patronage of State Minister Rainer Robra.*



DEUTSCHER  
FILMMUSIKPREIS

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KUNSTSTIFTUNG  
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