



# Hector Berlioz

(1803–1869)

## Benvenuto Cellini

Opera in Two Acts • Libretto by Léon de Wailly and Henri Auguste Barbier

'A mix of futurism à la *Metropolis*, fantasy à la *Batman* and quotes from Piranesi's *Carceri*, juxtaposed in the form of photo montages, enhanced with ... robots, a helicopter, a shark and the winged vehicle of a pop star Pope', was how the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* described this astonishing Salzburg Festival production of Berlioz's *Benvenuto Cellini*. The high-calibre cast, headed by Burkhard Fritz as the temperamental Renaissance artist and the 26-year-old Latvian soprano Maija Kovalevska as Teresa, the woman with whom he tries to elope, is conducted by Valery Gergiev who 'pulled out all the stops. He whips the Vienna Philharmonic into a delirium similar to that which possibly took hold of the composer'. (*Der Standard*) This is French grand opera at its fast-paced and spectacularly-staged best.

Benvenuto Cellini	Burkhard Fritz
Teresa	Maija Kovalevska
Fieramosca	Laurent Naouri
Giacomo Balducci	Brindley Sherratt
Pope Clemens VII	Mikhail Petrenko
Ascanio	Kate Aldrich

Wiener Philharmoniker

Konzertvereinigung Wiener Staatsopernchor

Conductor: Valery Gergiev

Chorus Master: Andreas Schüller

Stage Director & Stage Designer: Philipp Stözl

Filmed at the Großes Festspielhaus, Salzburg, Austria, 5, 10 & 15 August 2007,  
as part of the 2007 Salzburg Festival

Video Director: Andreas Morell

Sung in French • Subtitles in French, German, English and Spanish

A production of UNITEL

in co-production with ZDF/3sat and Classica

in co-operation with the Salzburg Festival

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FESTSPIEL  
DOCUMENT



**Total Running Time: 163:35**

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