



The Holy See

ADDRESS OF JOHN PAUL II TO THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC FOR ONE WORLD

Sunday, 29 July 2001

Just listening to this beautiful execution has stirred in my soul sentiments of thanks to the Lord and to all who have wished to offer me this pleasant gift. My thought goes first of all to Maestro Joseph Juhar, President of the *Academia Musicae Pro Mundo Uno*, whom I thank for the courteous expressions in my regard and for the persevering concern with which he prepares these musical appointments which are an occasion for renewed spiritual delight. With him I thank his kind wife and all those who have collaborated in organizing today's musical event.

I congratulate with great thanks Maestro Justus Frantz, with the young musicians of the Orchestra *Philharmonie der Nationen* and especially, with the pianist Christopher Tainton. The melodies of Tchaikovsky, played with consummate skill, speak to us of a symphonic Europe, in which the different traditions can speak meaningfully with great harmony to one another. Art itself can be a precious channel for stimulating the knowledge, understanding and fraternal cooperation among peoples. I know that this is the very spirit that inspires your Orchestra which is formed with talent from all over the world. With concerts and other initiatives, you intend to contribute to the cause of peace and unity among men and nations. I hope you remain faithful to your ideal, above all when responsibilities become more pressing and your dedication is put to the test. Always be builders of friendship and brotherhood. Always be "pro mundo uno" (for one world).

In asking for you the constant protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I wholeheartedly impart my Apostolic Blessing.

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