

His name is a legend - The Hungarian conductor Ferenc Fricsay made a lasting impact on the musical life of post-war Berlin, not only in the west. His orchestra, today's DSO, dedicated a concert for his 100th birthday.

Despite all the seemingly old-fashioned rigor and love for classical music, romanticism and the present, Fricsay always took advantage of the modern media. He is one of the pioneers in media exploitation for concerts, radio and TV. He was in no way inferior to the competitor Herbert von Karajan. Even his sophistication, as well on the opera stage as in the concert hall, had not to worry international comparisons.

Fricsay rehearsed emotionally fascinating, went to the limits of collegiality, but always kept the old-Habsburg customs - "*Be so kind!*", "*Please, Professor,*" or "*Could we*" were his words of dealing with the musicians. For him, scores were "Holy Scriptures", - but Fricsay had not a fundamentalist relationship with the musical sources. The spontaneous inspiration mediated him with his musicians.

Tugan Sokhiev, the current chief conductor, is aware of the great legacy, which can still be felt until our days at the DSO Berlin. When he works hard with the musicians he experiences joy and impulsiveness at the same time.

In the program of the Jubilee Concert for Ferenc Fricsay, favourite works of both conductors met: The short expressive "Zauberlehrling" by Paul Dukas, Mozart's delightfully beautiful Symphony for Wind Quartet and Orchestra and Stravinsky's "Petrouchka Suite" (a the later version). This evening belonged alone to the members of the DSO Berlin, as well as the four soloists Thomas Hecker, oboe, Richard Obermayer, clarinet. Paolo Mendes, horn, Jörg Petersen, bassoon.

The result is a collective of individualists who work together full of power and deep consciousness: Playing music in the sense of the great Ferenc Fricsay.