

First National-Socialist Reich Symphony Orchestra Concert in front of the Führer

« Altes Königliches Kurhaus-Saal » (Old Royal Cure-House Hall) in Bad Reichenhall



Berchtesgaden : « Groß-Deutschen-Tages »

Sunday, 10 July 1932 :

Concert by the « Nationalsozialistischen ReichsSymphonieorchester » under the baton of Franz Adam, performed in the presence of Adolf Hitler - a premiere !

The historical event was actually scheduled for the day before (Saturday, July 9th) but the dreadful weather conditions (wind, rain ... and mud) prevented the « Führer's » Mercedes-Benz 770, Series I - W07 (also known as the « Großer Mercedes ») from going down the road in the mountains.

Programme

Anton Bruckner : Symphony No. 4 in E-flat major, « Romantic » (WAB 104) .

A masterpiece so dear to the heart of the « Führer » !

Adam's impressive interpretation of the « Romantic » overwhelmed the audience. The « Führer » spontaneously handed the conductor the bouquet of roses that he had received on his arrival in the hall.

Franz Adam reported on this memorable event by writing :

« He gave me his hand and, looking deeply into my eyes, said to me with heart :

“ Adam, thank you ! ”

I replied :

“ No, my ' Führer ', I thank you on behalf of the whole Orchestra. ”

The “ Führer ” did not let go of my hand before declaring :

“ As of today, I personally commit myself to ' my ' Orchestra ! ”



Hitler was so taken with the interpretation and the quality of playing that he immediately offered the Orchestra his patronage. He also decided that the players should be given a unique visual identity, and thus, designed for their concerts special brown tuxedo based upon sketches by his personal architect, Paul Ludwig Troost (who designed the « Haus der Kunst » in Munich) .

Since that day, the Orchestra has been proudly named : the « Orchestra of the “ Führer ” » .