

be performed by Anne-Sophie Mutter together with Yuri Bashmet (viola) and the Orchestra of St. Luke's under the direction of André Previn himself. Anne-Sophie Mutter will be taking a „sabbatical“ during the second half of 2009 and will not return to the world concert stage until January 2010.

The honours afforded Anne-Sophie Mutter for her many recordings include the German Record Critics Prize, the Grand Prix du Disque, several Grammys, and others. On the occasion of 250 years from the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Anne-Sophie Mutter recorded all of Mozart's major compositions for violin on the Deutsche Grammophon label (available on both CD and DVD). This Mozart project earned her the „Le Monde de la Musique“ and „Record Geijutsu“ awards, both for the year 2006.

The artist takes special pride in performing contemporary compositions for violin. Sebastian Currier, Henri Dutilleux, Sofia Gubaidulina, Witold Lutoslawski, Norbert Moret, Krzysztof Penderecki, Sir André Previn and Wolfgang Rihm have all dedicated works to her. Further premieres of chamber orchestral works by Currier, Penderecki and Rihm are currently being planned. Anne-Sophie Mutter's recording of Sofia Gubaidulina's *Violin Concerto In tempus praesens*, with the London Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Valery Gergiev, as well as her recording of Bach's *Violin Concertos in A minor and E major*, performed with the Trondheim Soloists under the direction of the violinist herself, were released in September 2008 on the Deutsche Grammophon label.

In 2008 the artist established the „Anne-Sophie Mutter Foundation.“ The objective of the foundation is to further increase worldwide support for promising young musicians – a task which the violinist first embraced in 1997, when she founded the „The Anne-Sophie Mutter Circle of Friends Foundation.“ Anne-Sophie Mutter also takes a special interest in the medical and social problems of our time. She regularly lends her support to these causes through charitable concerts. For example, in 2009 she will be performing for the benefit of the Warsaw Beethoven Festival and her foundation.

In 2008 Anne-Sophie Mutter received the International Ernst von Siemens Music Prize, and the Leipzig Mendelssohn Prize. She is the holder of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, 1st Class, the Bavarian Order of Merit, the Great Austrian Order of Merit for Service to the Republic of Austria, the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, and many other awards.

Anne-Sophie Mutter previously appeared at the Prague Spring Festival in 1981, when she was backed by the Prague Symphony Orchestra under Michel Tabachnik's baton in an account of Mozart's *Violin Concerto No. 5 in A major, KV 219*, and then again in 1997, performing Beethoven's *Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61*, with the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Colin Davis.



Foto: Anja Frers / DG