

Press Release for the 2012 Frankfurt Music Fair

## Valkyrie the Agora

### Steingraeber and the BMTG bring RICHARD WAGNER to the MUSIKMESSE

Here at Steingraeber, we're still celebrating the **Liszt Anniversary and will be until 20 October 2012**. This date marks the 201st birthday of a singularly important patron from our early days as piano builders in Bayreuth. **Richard Wagner** was also a patron of Steingraeber & Söhne; he'll be celebrating his **200<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2013**. This presents quite a challenge for the festival city and Steingraeber's own schedule of commemorative events. And so there are good reasons for the Bayreuth Marketing and Tourism Association (BMTG) to be at the Steingraeber booth in the Piano Salon (Forum 1 A 07). That is where representatives will provide an initial preview of the 2013 anniversary celebrations in Bayreuth. The July 2013 "Little Bayreuth Wagner Festival," featuring **Richard Wagner's early operas**, is among the greatly anticipated events. And don't miss Steingraeber's very special **guest artist, Fazil Say**, who will play a program in honor of the Wagner Anniversary. Given the hundreds of items on the program, Bayreuth is an absolute must for Wagner fans of all stripes!

Something very special is, indeed, going on in front of Forum 1 at the "Agora": We Bayreuthers are bringing original Wagner Festival scenery from Frank Schlössmann's set for **Die Walküre**. This Valkyrie was directed by Tankred Dorst and seen in the Festspielhaus from 2006-2010. Mighty sculptures add an unusually mystical character to the Frankfurt Music Fair. Downtown Bayreuth and the Wagner Festival connect time and again via the slogan, "Hands-On Wagner" (**Wagner@City**). In his press release, Dr. Manuel Becher, Executive Director of the BMTG, offered a quote from the director's script about the set from the second act of *Die Walküre*:

*"A dark, bizarre silhouette in the far background, indistinctly. Is it a petrified forest, an expanse of rubble? Only later on does one realize that statues and monuments have been shunted aside there, damaged, carelessly shoved together, former gods, rulers, symbols of vanished power."*

Photo may only be printed with photo credit: Jörg Schulze/BMTG Bayreuth

