

# NEW • NOUVEAUTE • NEUHEIT



**Antonín Dvořák**  
(1841 - 1904)

**Symphony No. 9**  
„From the New World“

**Akira Ifukube**  
(1914 - 2006)

**Sinfonia Tapkaara**  
**Godzilla (Symphonic Fantasy)**

**Andrea Battistoni**  
**Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra**

**MDG 650 2176-2**



## global

A truly global project: in 2018 DENON released a real hit with the Symphony No. 9 "From the New World" by Antonín Dvořák. In addition, the formidable Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Andrea Battistoni plays the "Sinfonia Tapkaara" by Akira Ifukube. Thanks to the cooperation with MDG, the production is now available outside Japan and shows surprising similarities between Slavic idiom, American folklore and the sounds of the Native Americans of Hokkaido.

## monstrous

Ifukube has gained worldwide fame with his numerous film scores, including the legendary "Godzilla" series. The composer himself is from Hokkaido, northernmost main island of Japan. The Ainu, Hokkaido's indigenous people, have always maintained close contact with the peoples of Russia's Far East, which is very close here. Russian Slavic elements repeatedly occur in Ainu music, and Ifukube rewardingly incorporates them into his compositions.

## ingenious

"Tapkaara" refers to a boisterous Ainu dance that characterizes the finale of Ifukube's symphony. Instead of quoting original Ainu music, he invents completely new themes and motifs taking on the character of this dance. In this way, he resembles Dvořák's approach to the music of America – for example, in the marvelously melancholic second movement, which is formed on the basis of a mythical chant about the legendary Iroquois chief Hiawatha.

## optimal

Obvious and yet surprising: pentatonic tones repeatedly mark the course of events in the music of Dvořák and the

Japanese composer. As an encore, so to speak, Battistoni and his large symphonic orchestra give a "Symphonic Fantasy" based on the "Godzilla" film series - a fiery and attractive medley with the best of eight monster films.

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Herbert Blomstedt  
Staatskapelle Dresden  
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**César Franck** (1822-1890)  
**Anton Webern** (1883-1945)  
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Violin Sonatas (Franck)  
Quartet Movement (Weber)  
Carmina Quartett  
Chee-Yun, Violin;  
Akira Eguchi, Piano  
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