

To Whom It May Concern:

April 10<sup>th</sup> 2002

I have reviewed a videotape of a performance of Franck's *Symphony in D minor* given by the Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by BARNABY KEREKES. Mr. Kerekes assumed the responsibility for this performance at very short notice after the untimely death of the orchestra's music director, Wallace Yeung.

Mr Kerekes acquitted himself admirably with clear, unfussy direction. Unlike many young and inexperienced conductors, Mr. Kerekes emphasized the lyrical aspects of the work and did not make the mistake of doing so at the expense of the more superficially exciting moments.

His beat is clear and lyrical and although his gestures are understandably limited at this stage of his development, he has an obvious understanding of the basic requirements of conducting technique. He possesses a natural ability to convey his ideas through body language to the musicians.

I urge anyone able to support him in his endeavors to pursue training as a conductor, to treat his requests with due seriousness. The road to professional conducting is long and hard and needs to begin with the kind of application and natural ability that Barnaby Kerekes has clearly displayed.

Yours truly

Bramwell Tovey Music Director