

Critical acclaim for the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra on its 2010 US Tour

The Washington Post

Review: A passionate Royal Concertgebouw with Janine Jansen, violin soloist

Anne Midgette

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

"Much has been made of Concertgebouw's having been named, in a poll of international critics by Gramophone magazine, the best orchestra in the world. On Monday, it certainly sounded the part. There wasn't a weak link audible: The strings were rich, the brass radiant, the winds positively creamy. And Jansons, certainly one of the best conductors around, knew exactly how to drive it."

"Jansons steered [the Rachmaninoff] with conviction, as if it were much better and finer than it was, bursting out in its allegros, damping down the strings to an almost inaudible hush in the slow movement that sounded like a dream made audible, at the very periphery of consciousness, and building up that same movement's big cheesy tune – one of Rachmaninoff's many pop-song themes – so that it sounded downright expensive."

"...an orchestra of this caliber doesn't come along every day."

The New York Times

A Dutch Orchestra Plumbing the Depths

Allan Kozinn

Thursday, February 18, 2010

"...the orchestra is in magnificent shape."

"Everything about the shape, pacing and grandeur of Mr. Jansons' account suggested that he and his players took Mahler's grand design to heart...it was hard not to be awed by the solidity of the horn playing in the expansive, exposed line that introduces the work. And the shapely offstage posthorn solos in the third movement, to say nothing of the solo string and woodwind lines that emerge throughout the score, provided an appealing counterweight to the high-impact full ensemble playing. The strings...were rich-toned and supple, qualities matched by the remarkably focused woodwind and brass sections."