

Press

Berlin acclaims the Jeunesse Orchestra

...the audience of the sold-out Konzerthaus reserved their greatest applause for the premiere of a composition by Austria's Helmut Hödl on the occasion of Benny Goodman's 100th birthday. Hödl's **Vienna Clarinet Connection** quartet combined with the full orchestra in a work which ranged from an upbeat homage to jazz through minimal music even to Bartok. The success of the Viennese should strengthen the festival's former European orientation.

Reinhard Frauscher (Kurier)

“Sing Sing Sing” was composer Helmut Hödl's name for his “Tribute to Benny Goodman”. He surrounded the “Vienna Clarinet Connection” quartet with a large orchestra. The four gentlemen brought to the Konzerthaus a special treat for the ears: an original musical commemoration. That is to say, jazz memories with a black border. They really sounded sad. At the same time, they buried memories of the good old jazz mixing it with classical style. The most stirring point in the performance came at the end of the work as the four soloists, while continuing to play, left the podium and strolled back through the audience - in the midst of resounding applause.

Berliner Morgenpost

Since 1993, Helmut Hödl has been solo clarinetist in the orchestra of the Vienna Volksoper. For a chamber-music ensemble of members of this orchestra, Hödl has composed a work based upon South-American themes beyond the traditional tango cliché. His compositions provide harmonious transitions between Michael Masula's first-person recited texts.

Review of Tango Amor (Kurier)