

## **Directors statement**

### **AROUND THE WORLD IN 50 CONCERTS**

Can you imagine a single day in the world without music? I think that it would be like a scene from a science fiction film in which evil forces suddenly bring all movement – life itself - to a stop. A terrifying, frozen world.

In *Around the World in 50 Concerts*, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (RCO) gives us a precious gift: incredibly beautiful music and their dedication to make it sound as perfect as possible. But like we all do, they also need listeners.

During this road movie the orchestra not only meets their great maestro but they encounter extraordinary listeners, people who can't live without music, just like the musicians themselves can't live without the beat of their audiences' hearts.

During the editing of *Around the World in 50 Concerts* we played with music with total freedom:

A live performance by the RCO could become part of the film's underscore; this same music, used in a series of scenes, could evoke varying emotions and then morph back into a live performance or bring us to a new city. It was also rewarding to use beautifully recorded music and interweave it with dialogue. So music flows everywhere in the film, infiltrating and permeating every corner with its sinuous energy. Our characters received it from the RCO and took it away from the concert halls into their hearts.

Heddy Honigmann

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