**Mendelsohn Festival & Music of Terezin (so-called "degenerate" music) -- Casa de la Música, Quito**

**-- September 2009**

*Dear Ralph:    
   
For your information, a Jewish couple, Hans and Gi Neustaetter, who immigrated to Ecuador in 1935 (one of the first ones to come) donated -- as a thank you gift to the country -- a Concert Hall called Casa de la Música (*[*www.casadelamusica.ec*](http://www.casadelamusica.ec/)*).  The concert hall is the highest in the world and also has one the best acoustics that you can find.  I am currently the president of this Foundation and I have participated from the conception of the project, directed the construction.  I am about to finish my presidential term in March.  
   
Last September (2009), we hosted in Ecuador the Mehndelsohn Festival that had a very interesting leit motiv!!!  Ecuador celebrated its bicentennial and we drew a parallel from Mendelsohn and his libertarian ideas with our independence. We also included music composed in Theresiendstaadt (Terezin) (so-called "degenerate" music) as a sign also of liberty.  This festival included musical presentations and conferences in several schools all over the country on "degenerate" music and artistic censorship.  It was a real success.*

*Best personal regards.*

*Alberto Dorfzaun*

*Quito -- January 10, 2010*

Click here for the printed program for the Terezin commemoration:   <http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=gmail&attid=0.1&thid=1264865b42258ee1&mt=application%2Fpdf&url=http%3A%2F%2Fmail.google.com%2Fmail%2F%3Fui%3D2%26ik%3D21e3978caa%26view%3Datt%26th%3D1264865b42258ee1%26attid%3D0.1%26disp%3Dattd%26realattid%3D0.1%26zw&sig=AHIEtbT8xdVF2bbfCdiJdTAkonKKY8UQTg>

Click here for program description (in Spanish):  <http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxqZXdzb2ZlY3VhZG9yfGd4OjVjNGM4MzVhMmUyNGIxMTY>