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Dresden Philharmonic/Sanderling review

Cadogan Hall, London

A slightly slow Seventh Symphony followed an exuberant Freddy Kempf's Emperor in this all-Beethoven bill from the distinguished Germans

Easily confused with the city's far older and more prestigious Staatskapelle, the [Dresden Philharmonic](#) is nevertheless an ensemble that can trace its history back to 1870 and lists some distinguished figures among its music directors. Undertaken with its present chief conductor, [Michael Sanderling](#), the orchestra's current tour is entirely devoted to well-known works by [Beethoven](#).



Freddy Kempf. Photograph: Neda Navaee

.....The evening's most notable music-making came in the middle, when [Freddy Kempf](#) joined the orchestra for the Emperor Concerto. The downside of his largesse of tone was that he rarely allowed the piano part to recede into the background, even in passages that are purely accompanimental; yet his playing possessed a character and enthusiasm that were more than a match for the Dresden visitors. [George Hall](#)