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Helsinki, 12 March 2001

"Viaggio a Reims" 2003

Egregio Prof. Fo

From Summer 2001 I will take over the general management of the Finnish National Opera in Helsinki. One of my first big projects is a Rossini Festival Week in January 2003. The new production I have scheduled for this Festival Week is "Il viaggio a Reims".

As you are a great "connaisseur" of Rossini's oeuvre and also know our Finnish humour and mentality it would be my greatest pleasure if you had time and interest to come to Helsinki to direct this new production. The rehearsals would start beginning of December 2002, the première is scheduled for 13 January 2003.

I hope very much that you could do this production in Helsinki. We would all be very much honoured.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Erkki Korhonen General Director from Summer 2001 e-mail: erkki.korhonen@operafin.fi

With kindest regards