

# L.v. Beethoven: *Fidelio*

## Staged by Christoph Waltz



Format	NTSC	Format Cat	Blu-ray
Cat No	803208	No UPC	803304
UPC Code	814337017606	Code	814337017590
No of Items	1 x DVD 9	No of Items	1 x BD 50
Title	Fidelio (1806 Version)	Running Time Total:	130 mins
Genre	Opera	Picture	NTSC, 16:9 // 1080i
Composer	Ludwig van Beethoven	Sound	DVD: PCM Stereo, DTS 5.1 BD: PCM Stereo, DTS-HD MA 5.1
Conductor	Manfred Honeck	Packaging	DVD Amaray box / Blu-ray box
Orchestra	Wiener Symphoniker	Subtitles	German (original languages), English, French, Korean, Japanese
Soloists	Eric Cutler, Nicole Chevalier, Gábor Bretz, Mélissa Petit, Christof Fischesser, Arnold Schoenberg	Booklet	English, French, German
Staged by	Chor Christoph Waltz	Sticker	Yes
Recording Date	Theater an der Wien, March 2020	Label	Unitel Edition

Available in: worldwide

None other than **Oscar-winner Christoph Waltz** has been engaged for the **stage direction** of the new production of *Fidelio* from the Theater an der Wien. There, at one of the oldest opera houses in Vienna, L.v. Beethoven was what one would call today a composer-in-residence. And he was this in two respects: here he lived for two years in an apartment in the wing of the building. And it was here that he premiered many of his most famous orchestral works, symphonies and his only opera: *Fidelio*. In his third opera production Waltz brilliantly **stages the second version of the opera** in the **brehtaking set designed** by the German-American architectural practice Barkow Leibinger. The abstract staircase landscape in the form of a double helix, symbolizing prison, extends space into the back theatre and is infinitely changeable in the **cinematic lighting concept of Hollywood regular Henry Braham**. Manfred Honeck at the rostrum of the dynamic Wiener Symphoniker leads a superb and versatile cast of **“vocally outstanding”** (Der Standard) **singers**: Nicole Chevalier bewitches vocally and dramatically on her stage debut as *Leonore*, Eric Cutler gives *Florestan* a powerful voice. Christof Fischesser, Gábor Bretz, Mélissa Petit complete the strong ensemble. But the production, which was sold out months before, never saw its stage premiere, as the Theater an der Wien sadly had to shut down due to the Covid 19 pandemic a few days before. Thanks to an incredible effort by all participants, the opera house was converted into a film studio at short notice so that Christoph Waltz’s **“convincing production”** (Die Zeit) of Beethoven’s flaming musical plea for freedom and humanity could be preserved for posterity. **“An ingenious, enigmatic direction”** (Münchener Merkur)

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11O3aje43vE>