



On **June 2, 2007**, the Valentin-Rathgeber-Society staged the „I. International Parish Court Serenade" in the parish court Oberelsbach attracting many music lovers from near and far. The following played the music: Sonja Rahm (Soprano), Charles Jurgensmeier (Tenor), Jürgen Weyer (Trumpet) as well as [Berthold](#) and [Erasmus Gaß](#) (Organ). Prof. Charles Jurgensmeier from Omaha/USA, who also read a paper at the [I. International Rathgeber-Symposium](#)

on June 3, 2007 gave his special guest appearance here in Oberelsbach. Prof. Jurgensmeier took part in many opera productions in the US and is currently professor for choir music and music history at Creighton University in Omaha/Nebraska. Prof. Jurgensmeier came to Oberelsbach several times before to study the Magnificat compositions by Rathgeber. He is the most prominent authority on Rathgeber in the US and performs many compositions of Rathgeber in his homeland.

Nearly exclusively compositions by Rathgeber were on the agenda, inter alia both [Trumpet Concertos](#) Nr. 19 und 20 of Opus 6, masterly performed by Jürgen Weyer, several sacred [Arias](#) of Opus 10, demonstrating the brilliant voices of Sonja Rahm and Prof. Jurgensmeier, some [Piano Arias](#) and finally various songs of the well-known Tafelconfect. Erasmus Gaß, the president of the Valentin-Rathgeber-Society, introduced all pieces of this diversified programme and told many nice anecdotes. One of the highlights was the performance of the Aria „Ubi Jesu" joining all musicians. Kind of an encore was the song „Alleweil ein wenig lustig" jazzed up at the end. This change showed the special quality of Rathgeber's compositions since they are open to various styles. We can only hope that this was not the last concert in the wonderful parish court.