Hans Rudolf Stalder passed away last week

Hans Rudolf Stalder was the founder of Swiss Clarinet school and merged as one of the first the French, Italian and German Clarinet school. He combined German sound culture with French virtuosity and Italian musical feeling. He studied in Würzburg and with Louis Cahuzac.

Beside his position in the Tonhalle Orchestra as First clarinet he built up an international career as soloist and was one of the first clarinet players who recorded the masterpieces for clarinet: As a pioneer with Molter and Stamitz and Mozart Concerto as first on a basset clarinet. He was one of the first who started to play regularly on historic instruments and he built a unique collection of clarinets (now in a museum in Basel).

He was also collaborating with many composers and exploring the new fields of new contemporary clarinet technics and electronics. From the beginning he collaborated with the International Clarinet Association and improved the exchange between Europe and the USA. He is an honorary member of ICA since 2013.

Hans Ruedi was also a wonderful teacher and a truthful friend. In 2010 his students from the whole world came to Zurich and made him a concert to his 80th birthday. Livelong he never gave up his passion for clarinet and music and maintained relations with musical friends and former students.

Matthias Mueller 3.8.2017