

Testata: La Discussione

Del: 04/9/04

... It would be hard to imagine a more picturesque setting for the well-received concert, the improvised stage surrounded by towering stone castle walls and lit by Roman candles.

Such settings in six different centres gives a special character to the Stresa Festival. In Belgirate the concerts take place in a venerable church; in Verbania, at a handsome villa. Adjacent to Stresa itself, on the appropriately named island Isola Bella, the Jerusalem Chamber Music performed ... in the Tapestry Hall of the Borromeo Palace, backed by priceless 16th-century Flemish tapestries in almost mint condition. ...

Stresa itself is a town of only 5,000 inhabitants. Some of its sister festival settings are even smaller. Yet during the weeks of August ... thousands of visitors pour into its region to enjoy a beguiling combination of music, history and scenery...

William Littler