



**GUARDIA SVIZZERA  
PONTIFICIA**

Città del Vaticano,

**COMANDO**

N. ....

Dear Commander,  
Dear Friends:

I am very happy to be here with you today, together with my friends, the Philharmonica of Canobbia-Lugano. It is a great honor, both for myself and for all the members of the Swiss Guard.

It is now one year and eight months since your visit to Rome – which included a private audience with His Holiness Pope John Paul II. I still have very happy memories of that visit.

I would like to take this opportunity to renew my thanks and gratitude to the Commanders, past and present, of your noble Company.

In memory of my visit to you today I would like to present to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, the official Pontifical Medal of the Holy Father.

In my own name, and in the name of my friends of the Philharmonica, I wish you all abundant divine blessings.

Colonel R. Buchs  
Commander of the Swiss Guards