

Embezzlement Case Involving Conductor's Fund Postponed

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A Moscow court has postponed initial hearings in the case of two men charged with embezzling 245 million rubles (\$8 million) from the charitable foundation of renowned conductor Valery Gergiyev.

The foundation's former director, Igor Zotov, and his alleged accomplice Kazbek Lakuti are charged with siphoning off the money to buy six apartments in an elite building in Moscow.

Tverskoi District Court was to begin hearings in the case Monday, but postponed them for procedural reasons until April 4.

Gergiyev, who is artistic director of the Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg and principal conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra, started the foundation in 2003 to fund cultural and educational projects.

(AP)

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