



Markus Stenz

Conductor

Markus Stenz has held a number of high-profile positions with international orchestras and opera houses including Principal Conductor of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra (2012-2019), Principal Guest of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (2015-2019) and Conductor-In-Residence of the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra (2016-Dec 2020). He was General Music Director of the City of Cologne and Gürzenich-Kapellmeister for 11 years (from 2003-2014), Principal Guest Conductor of the Hallé Orchestra (2010-2014), Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (1998-2004), Principal Conductor of London Sinfonietta (1994–1998) and Artistic Director of the Montepulciano Festival (1989–1995).

He made his opera debut in 1988 at La Fenice in Venice in the first performance of Henze's revised version of *Elegy for Young Lovers*. Since then he has appeared at many of the world's major opera houses and international festivals including Teatro alla Scala Milan, La Monnaie in Brussels, English National Opera, San Francisco Opera, Stuttgart Opera, Frankfurt Opera, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera and Edinburgh International Festival. His notable performances in Cologne have included Wagner's *Ring*, *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser* and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, as well as Janacek's *Jenufa* and *Katya Kabanova*, Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Eötvös's *Love and other Demons*.

He has conducted many world premières including Henze's *Das Verratene Meer* for Deutsche Oper Berlin, *Venus und Adonis* for Bavarian State Opera, *L'Upupa und der Triumph der Sohnesliebe* at the Salzburg Festival, Wolfgang Rihm's *Die Eroberung von Mexico* and Detlev Glanert's *Caligula* for Frankfurt Opera and *Solaris* at the Bregenz Festival. He recently returned to Bayerische Staatsoper Munich for Schreker's *Die Gezeichneten* and in the 18/19 season conducted the long awaited world première of Kurtág's *Fin de Partie* at La Scala, Milan, and Dutch National Opera.

Guest engagements have led him to the major orchestras worldwide, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Berlin Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, NHK, the Symphony Orchestra of the Bayerische Rundfunk, Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, London Philharmonic, Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, Vienna Symphony and the Symphony Orchestras of the Hessische Rundfunk, and NDR.

In the United States these have included the Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Houston, San Diego, St Louis Symphony Orchestras, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra and recently his debut with the Pittsburgh Symphony.

Highlights of the 2020-21 Season included the CD release of Bruckner's 7th symphony with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, performances of Kurtág's *Fin de Partie* at Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia and concerts with the MDR Sinfonieorchester and the Dortmunder Philharmoniker. He conducted numerous concerts in Asia, including Seoul and Taiwan, and was Guest Conductor at Teatro La Fenice Venice

In the current season 2021/22 he will be conducting Britten's „Midsummer Night's Dream“ at Deutsche Oper Berlin and the french premier of Kurtág's opera „Fin de Partie“ at Opéra National de Paris. Other guest conducting engagements will lead him to the Orchestra dell'Academia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Orchestre National de Lyon and many others.



During his time with the Gürzenich-Orchester Köln he received a prize for “The Best Concert Programme of the 2003/04 Season” as well as initiating a number of youth and educational projects such as “Experiment Klassik”, “3. Akt” and the concert live-recording project “GO live”.

His extensive discography includes many prize-winning recordings including the Gürzenich Orchestra’s complete cycle of Gustav Mahler’s symphonies for Oehms Classics. Their recording of Mahler’s 5th Symphony received a German Record Critics’ Award in November 2009. Their first recording for Hyperion of Strauss’ *Don Quixote* and *Till Eulenspiegel* received unanimous critical acclaim, and was followed by an equally celebrated recording of Schönberg’s *Gurrelieder* released in 2015, which received the Choral Award at the 2016 Gramophone Awards.

Markus Stenz studied at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne under Volker Wangenheim and at Tanglewood with Leonard Bernstein and Seiji Ozawa. He has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Northern College of Music and the “Silberne Stimmgabel” (Silver Tuning Fork) of the state of North Rhein/Westphalia.