



Markus Stenz

Conductor

Markus Stenz has held several high-profile positions 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 (2016-2021). He was General Music Director of the City of Cologne and Gürzenich-Kapellmeister for 11 years, conducting Mozart *Don Giovanni*, Wagner's *Ring* cycle, *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser* and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, as well as Janáček *Jenůfa* and *Katya Kábovová* and Eötvös's *Love and other Demons*.

He made his opera debut in 1988 at Teatro La Fenice in Venice. After a recent, and highly successful Mozart and Strauss concert, he returned last season to conduct two concert weeks with repertoire including Mozart, Schumann and Wagner and will return this season and beyond for productions of Wagner *Der fliegende Holländer* and Berg *Wozzeck*.

In 2018 Markus conducted Schreker *Die Gezeichneten* at the Bayerische Staatsoper Munich and was due to return in 2021 for *Fidelio* before it was cancelled due to the pandemic. 2018 also saw the long-awaited world première of Kurtág *Fin de partie* at Teatro alla Scala Milan (where he also had a great success conducting Strauss *Elektra*) followed by performances of the Kurtág for Dutch National Opera and, most recently, its French première at Opéra National de Paris.

After a recent appearance at the Deutsche Oper Berlin with Britten's *Death in Venice*, Markus returned last season to conduct Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and this season will conduct Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*. The 2022-23 season also sees Markus' debut with the Orchestra dell'Academia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome. He is delighted to return to the New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra as well as to three orchestras where he previously held positions: Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra; Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and the Gürzenich-Orchester Köln. Elsewhere in Europe he will conduct a Wagner evening with Nina Stemme in Budapest, the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra at Linz Brucknerfest and the Dresdner Philharmonie. In the USA he makes his debut with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and returns to the Oregon Symphony and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Further ahead he looks forward to returning to Orchestre National de Lyon and Dutch National Opera and following a very successful debut with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra with Mahler Symphony No. 2 in 2022, he will return to the CBSO in the 2023-24 season.

Markus' most recent CD release was Bruckner's Symphony No. 7 with the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra and other recent highlights include concerts with the MDR Leipzig Radio Symphony Orchestra, Dortmund and Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestras, Orchestre National de Lyon, Bergen Philharmonic and Barcelona Symphony Orchestra.

While with the Gürzenich-Orchester Köln Markus received the 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, with Symphony No. 5 receiving the German Record Critics' Award. 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, receiving 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, Manchester and the 'Silberne Stimmgabel' (Silver Tuning Fork) of the state of North Rhein/Westphalia.

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