

Pablo Heras-Casado



Although still only 30 years old, the Spanish-born Pablo Heras-Casado already enjoys a multi-faceted conducting career of unusual breadth and variety. Strongly affiliated with the Opéra National de Paris, having previously worked alongside Sylvain Cambreling in projects as diverse as Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra* and Berg's *Wozzeck*, he recently made his own full debut in Autumn 2008 conducting the world premiere of Marc-Olivier Dupin's ballet *Les enfants du paradis*. His successful debut with the Opéra National de Bordeaux, conducting the closing performance of the Robert Carsen production of *Le nozze di Figaro*, has led to a reinvasion in 2009 for a new production of Offenbach's *La Périchole*. Furthermore he has established his credentials at Teatro Real Madrid with Britten's *The Little Sweep*; at Bilbao Opera with the Spanish premiere of Respighi's *La bella dormente*; and in 2009/10 assumes the title of Permanent Guest Conductor at New York City Opera. During his first season he will tour with New York City Opera to Japan and throughout Europe.

Meanwhile Pablo has earned a reputation since his teenage years for conducting performances of neglected 17th and 18th century repertoire; and with a background including choral conducting studies with Harry Christophers and masterclasses with Christopher Hogwood, he is founder and Music Director of the original instrument-based Compañía Teatro del Príncipe in Aranjuez; has worked with and founded chamber choirs including Capella Exaudi, La Cantoría; and with the latter won the 'Gran Premio Nacional de Canto Coral' in 2004.

Pierre Boulez and Peter Eötvös have been strongly supportive mentors in recent years; and Pablo has worked with the Ensemble Modern in Frankfurt (International Composers Seminar with Hanspeter Kyburz); as well as now being invited by Klangforum Wien and Ensemble intercontemporain, Paris. Messrs Boulez and Eotvos headed the jury which unanimously voted him winner of the 2007 Lucerne Festival Conductors' Competition, incorporating an acclaimed performance of Stockhausen's *Gruppen*.

Born in Granada in 1977, Pablo has conducted extensively in Spain, including many of the country's most important orchestras; and held the post of Principal Conductor of the Girona City Orchestra from 2005 – 2008. He was founder and principal conductor of the Granada Baroque Orchestra; and has also recorded and premiered Spanish ballet music in theatres throughout Andalucia. He was Musical Director of *Llanto* (Music by Maurice Ohana, Lyrics by Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca).

Now increasingly present on the international conducting scene, Pablo made his US debut in June 2008 in a programme of Bach, Adès and Carter with Ensemble ACJW at Carnegie Hall, New York and his UK debut in August 2008 with National Orchestra of Britain. He will also make his first appearance with the LA Philharmonic in December 2008, conducting works by Stockhausen and Ligeti. In Europe he has been invited for guest appearances with orchestras including the SWR Freiburg, Luxembourg Philharmonic, Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa, Orchestre National de Lyon,

Orchestre National de Bordeaux-Aquitaine, Orchestre National d'Ile de France and Collegium Novum Zurich and with Orquesta Ciudad de Granada and Cor de Cambra del Palau de la Música Catalana at Granada Festival.

Pablo complemented his musical education with the study of Art History at the University of Granada. In 2000 he was awarded second prize at the National Competition for Young Conductors with the Principado de Asturias Symphony Orchestra and, in 2002, received a scholarship from the Richard Wagner Foundation to attend masterclasses in choral conducting as part of the *Festival junger Künstler* in Bayreuth. Pablo was also one of only three conductors selected to participate in a project led by Daniel Barenboim together with the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra in 2004.

Pablo's world premiere recordings include Eleanor Alberga's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* with the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra; and Castel's zarzuela *La fontana del placer* for Música Antigua Aranjuez Ediciones / Harmonia Mundi. He has also recorded Spanish contemporary music with the Radio Symphony Orchestra of Spain, and Spanish choral music with the Europa Chor Akademie. His most recent CD is Boccherini's *La Clementina*, recorded for Música Antigua Aranjuez is for release at the end of 2008.

2008/09 season only. Please contact HarrisonParrott if you wish to edit this biography.