

Stefan Asbury



Firmly established as one of today's leading conductors of contemporary music, Stefan Asbury is in increasing demand with major orchestras, ensembles and festivals worldwide. He held the post of Music Director of Remix Ensemble Casa da Musica Porto for the first four years of its existence, working with them to commission new works and programming an innovative mix of jazz, film and music theatre. He has served on the faculty of the Tanglewood Music Center since 1995 and from 1999 until 2002 was Associate Director of New Music Activities and currently holds the Sana H. Sabbagh master teacher chair on the Conducting Faculty. From this season he will also assume the position of Artist in Association with Tapiola Sinfonietta with whom he will conduct four projects per season.

Projects of interest include music by Steve Reich with the BBC Symphony and Britten Sinfonia at the Barbican's Reich Festival in Autumn 2006, an all-Reich concert with the Los Angeles Philharmonic as part of John Adams' Minimalist Festival which was recorded live for iTunes, the world premiere of Wolfgang Rihm's *Vigilia* with Musikfabrik at the Berlin Festspiele and at the Festival d'Automne in Paris, a concert of music by Rebecca Saunders (he performs her music with NDR Hamburg) and his debut with Seoul Philharmonic where Unsuk Chin, as composer in residence, has invited him.

This season, Stefan Asbury makes his debut with the Concertgebouw in a programme of Ades, Britten and Bernstein, conducts the world premiere of a new work by Mark Antony Turnage with the London Sinfonietta to celebrate the re-opening of the Royal Festival Hall in London, performs Stravinsky's *Threni* in Berlin with Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin and the RIAS Kammerchor and returns to conduct the ORF (Austrian Radio Orchestra) at the Wien Modern. His engagements also include Bayerische Rundfunk in the 2008 Munich Biennale, Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestra, RAI Turin, Brooklyn Philharmonic, a return to the Salzburg Festival with Klangforum Wien, and a Henze/Mahler/Britten concert with Norrköping Symphony as part of Stockholm composers festival.

Highlights of last season included performances with Hessischer Rundfunk, Australian Youth Orchestra, New World Symphony, a John Adams concert with Norrköping in Stockholm, a Turnage celebration with Scottish Chamber Orchestra in Edinburgh, Glasgow and London; and a concert of Boulez, Cage and Webern with Orchestra National de Lyon in Paris and an all-Britten concert with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra as part of the Shanghai Spring Festival.

In the opera world, recent engagements include the world premiere of Jan Van Vlijmen's *Thyeste* with La Monnaie in Brussels and Dutch Touring Opera and Johannes Maria Staud's *Berenice* at 2004 Munich Biennale, Britten's *Midsummer Night's Dream* in Tanglewood in summer 2004 and a concert performance of Judith Weir's *Blond Eckbert* with NDR Hamburg. He will conduct Wolfgang Rihm's *Jakob Lenz* for the Wiener Festwochen in Spring 2008.

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Stefan Asbury's recent release of Grisey's *Les Espaces Acoustiques* with the orchestra of WDR Cologne and Asko Ensemble won the German Critics Award, and a Diapason D'Or in France. He has also released a recording of works by Unsuk Chin with Ensemble Intercontemporain on Deutsche Grammophon and his CD of music by Jonathan Harvey also with the Ensemble Intercontemporain was awarded a 'Monde de la Musique CHOC' award. His further discography includes music by Isang Yun with Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin, works by Elliott Carter with Ensemble Sospeso, portrait discs of Philip Cashian with the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and Rebecca Saunders with musikFabrik.

2006/07 season only. Please contact HarrisonParrott if you wish to edit this biography.