Rumon Gamba

Conductor

British conductor Rumon Gamba held the positions of Principal Conductor and Music Director of NorrlandsOperan between 2008 and 2015 and Chief Conductor of the Aalborg Symfoniorkester between 2011 and 2015. He was also Chief Conductor and Music Director of Iceland Symphony Orchestra between 2002 and 2010. He regularly leads the BBC orchestras and has appeared at the BBC Proms on a number of occasions.

A champion of new music, Gamba has given several high profile premieres including the world premieres of Nico Muhly’s *Two Boys* at English National Opera, Brett Dean’s Viola Concerto with the composer and BBC Symphony Orchestra; national premieres of Poul Ruders’ *Dancer in the Dark* and Mark-Anthony Turnage’s *Blood on the Floor* and *Scherzoid* with NorrlandsOperan and the Australian premiere of the original version of Sibelius’ Symphony No.5 with Queensland Symphony Orchestra. In 2016 he conducted Larsson Gothe’s *The African Prophetess*with the orchestra of NorrlandsOperan and Cape Town Opera Chorus as part of the Royal Stockholm Orchestras’ composer week. He appeared at the 2017 Enescu Festival with works by Sven Helbig and Rolf Martinsson. Rumon returned to the BBC Proms in 2017 to conduct a BBC commission by Michael Gordon for the jazz ensemble ‘Bang on a Can All-Stars’ together with the Proms Youth Ensemble. He has also collaborated with Ittai Shapira and Lotta Wennäkoski with BBC National Orchestra of Wales and Kymi Sinfonietta respectively.

Highlights of Gamba’s 2019/20 season include conducting Francesco Tristano’s *Island Nation* project with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and conducting the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. Gamba also returns to Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia, Oulu Symphony, Romanian Radio Symphony, Macedonian Philharmonic, and RTE National Symphony orchestras.

This follows Rumon’s highly successful 2018/19 season, which included concerts with Rotterdam Philharmonic, Brussels Philharmonic and BBC Symphony orchestras, and Sinfónica de Galicia as part of the Musika-Música Festival in Bilbao. He opened the season conducting *Rigoletto* with Scottish Opera directed by Matthew Richardson.

Rumon Gamba has conducted a number of operatic titles including *Carmen*, *La bohème*, *Otello*, and *Candide*. In celebration of Umeå’s status as European Capital of Culture 2014, he conducted NorrlandsOperan in an epic outdoor production of *Elektra* with La Fura dels Baus which was critically acclaimed. With both NorrlandsOperan and Aalborg Symfoniorkester, Gamba continued his popular late night concerts aimed at young adults which he first introduced whilst at Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

Gamba records exclusively for Chandos Records. His projects include a series of D’Indy’s Orchestral Works with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra - the first of which was nominated for a Grammy Award. His most recent recordings include works by the Swedish composer, Dag Wirén with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra and a disc of British Tone Poems Vol. 1 with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

Gamba studied with Colin Metters at the Royal Academy of Music and became the first conducting student to receive the DipRAM. He won the Lloyds Bank BBC Young Musicians Conductors Workshop in February 1998, and then became Assistant and then Associate Conductor to the BBC Philharmonic, a post he held until 2002. The Royal Academy of Music recognised his contribution to music when they made him an Associate that same year.  In 2017, he became a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music.