Han-Na Chang

Conductor

Artistic Leader and Chief Conductor of the Trondheim Symfoniorkester in Norway since 2017, Han-Na Chang has been praised by critics and public alike for her artistry which perfectly combines a fierce intellect, absolute technical precision, power, passion and deep insight. Having concluded a hugely successful third season together, in which she took the Orchestra on its first-ever tour to her native South Korea, they will embark on a complete Beethoven Symphony Cycle this season. Concurrently, the Orchestra and Chang are committed partners of Talent Trondheim and their new education project “The Chamber Music School” – a talent development and mentoring programme individually tailored to young musicians.

Elsewhere in the 2020/21 season, Han-Na Chang will make her debuts with the Concertgebouw Orchestra and San Francisco Symphony orchestras, as well as a return to the Philharmonia Orchestra and the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra. As a guest conductor, Chang has worked with the likes of Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln, Bamberger Symphoniker, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, the Cincinnati, St Louis, Indianapolis, Seattle, Gothenburg, Singapore, Tokyo and Toronto Symphony orchestras, the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestra del Teatro di San Carlo di Napoli, amongst others.

Han-Na Chang made an acclaimed conducting debut at the BBC Proms in September 2014. She served as the Principal Guest Conductor of the Trondheim Symfoniorkester from 2013 prior to assuming her current roles with the orchestra. In addition, she founded and served as the Artistic Director of the Absolute Classic Festival in South Korea from 2009-2014, working intensively with the annually created Festival Orchestra every summer.

Her professional career as a musician started at the age of 11, when she won the Grand Prix First Prize and the Contemporary Music Prize at the Fifth Rostropovich International Cello Competition in Paris in 1994. Chang then went on to perform with all the major orchestras such as the Berliner Philharmoniker, New York and Los Angeles Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Münchner Philharmoniker, Philadelphia Orchestra, l'Orchestre de Paris, Filarmonica della Scala, Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, The Cleveland Orchestra and the Chicago, Boston and San Francisco Symphony orchestras. Her cello recordings, exclusively for the former EMI Classics (now Warner Classics), have received ECHO Klassik, Caecilia and Cannes Classical awards, as well as a Gramophone Concerto of the Year accolade among others, and remain world-wide bestsellers.

Han-Na Chang counts Mischa Maisky, Mstislav Rostropovich and Giuseppe Sinopoli as the most influential mentors during her formative years and, alongside her music career, she also read Philosophy at Harvard University.