Jiří Rožeň

Conductor

Jiří Rožeň’s international presence continues to grow rapidly in the 2020/21 season as he makes his debuts with leading orchestras and continues to develop his reputation as one of the foremost interpreters of Czech repertoire.

This season, Rožeň’s international standing grows with debuts across Europe, US and Russia. Debut performances include appearances with Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, MDR Leipzig, Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra Katowice, Moscow State Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfonica de Tenerife, St. Gallen Symphony Orchestra and Slovak Sinfonietta. Early in the season, Rožeň will make his US debut with Seattle Symphony orchestra. In the 2020/21 season, Rožeň will also make his opera debut conducting the Czech premier of Ligeti’s *Le Grand Macabre*. He returns to conduct Czech Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra and also returns to Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra, debuting at Dvořák Prague Festival. Soloist collaborations have featured internationally recognised names such as Esther Yoo, Kian Soltani, Kirill Gerstein, Vadim Gluzman, Lukáš Vondráček and Lawrence Brownlee.

As a passionate and knowledgeable advocate of Czech music, he regularly presents standard Czech repertoire, as well as music by Bohuslav Martinů, Josef Suk, Leoš Janáček, Viktor Kalabis and Miloslav Kabeláč. He has conducted one of his signature works, Symphony No.4 by Miloslav Kabeláč on various occasions including Austrian premiere with Camerata Salzburg at Salzburg Festival and his conducting debut at Prague Spring Festival with PKF-Prague Philharmonia. Highlights of the 2019/20 season included debuts with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. He also conducted all the major orchestras in Belgium – Orchestre national de Belgique, Brussels Philharmonic, Antwerp Symphony as well as Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège, and appeared elsewhere with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, Poznan Philharmonic and Staatsorchester Kassel. Rožeň appeared at two prestigious international festivals, returning to Prague Spring Festival with PKF-Prague Philharmonia, performing a special streamed concert in light of the pandemic and debuting in China at the Forest Festival in Nanjing with Jiangsu Symphony Orchestra.

Alongside his symphonic work, Rožeň is steadily building his opera repertoire. During his time in Scotland, he has been engaged in conducting Stravinsky's *Mavra*, Walton's *The Bear,* Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* and Britten's *Owen Wingrave*. He has also conducted Ravel's L’enfant et les sortilegès with the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra as well as Sven Daigger's Eine Kluge Else at the Brücken-Festival für Neue Musik in Rostock.

Born in Prague in 1991, Jiří Rožeň studied conducting at conservatoires and universities of Prague, Salzburg, Hamburg, Zürich and Glasgow, where he was Leverhulme Conducting Fellow. He has seen success in Salzburg and London as the Finalist of both the Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award and the Donatella Flick LSO Conducting Competition. Formerly Assistant Conductor at the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Jiří wasworking alongside Donald Runnicles and Thomas Dausgaard and assisted them at the BBC Proms and the Edinburgh International Festival. His mentors have included Garry Walker, Dennis Russell Davies, Ulrich Windfuhr and Johannes Schlaefli. Other important influences include Daniele Gatti, Bernard Haitink, David Zinman and Peter Eötvös in masterclasses with orchestras such as the Concertgebouworkest, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich.