



TEODOR CURRENTZIS – Conductor

Teodor Currentzis is the Chief Conductor of the SWR Symphony Orchestra Stuttgart and Artistic Director of the ensemble musicAeterna and of the musicAeterna Chamber Choir. The ensemble was resident at Perm Opera and Ballet Theatre from 2011 till 2019. In July 2019, Teodor Currentzis stepped down as artistic director of Perm Opera in order to focus on leading musicAeterna to new heights as an independent, privately financed ensemble. This year (2022) Teodor presents his new international orchestra – Utopia. The first Utopia concerts will be given in October to include Philharmonie Luxembourg, Laeiszhalle Hamburg, Wiener Konzerthaus and Berlin Philharmonie.

In 2018/19 his first year with SWR, Teodor conducted *Mahler 3, 4, Tchaikovsky 5* and *Shostakovich 7* in performances in Stuttgart and on tour visiting the Vienna Konzerthaus, Hamburg Elbphilharmonie and Cologne Philharmonie amongst others. He finished his first season with SWR with a final performance of *Shostakovich 7* at the Salzburg Festival. He has continued his touring tradition with SWR each season most recently with Jorg Widmann Viola Concerto, *Shostakovich Symphony No.5*. This season, his programme includes Ravel *Bolero*, Stravinsky *Rite of Spring*, Henk de Vleiger *The Ring* and Alexey Retinsky *Tristan*,

Future guest conducting engagements include Teodor's debut with the Concertgebouw and a return to the Berlin Philharmonic.

With musicAeterna, Teodor regularly tours Europe with performances at the Berlin Philharmonic, Philharmonie de Paris, Baden-Baden Festspielhaus, La Scala Milan and the Madrid Auditorio. They have a long-standing relationship with the Salzburg Festspiele; performances in Salzburg include a new production of *La Clemenza di Tito* directed by Peter Sellars in 2017 which transferred to Dutch Opera where Teodor made his debut in 2018, a full Beethoven symphonies cycle in 2018 in five sell-out concerts, *Idomeneo* in 2019 directed by Peter Sellars in collaboration with the Freiburg Baroque and the musicAeterna choir and *Don Giovanni* in the 2021 Festival. Teodor and musicAeterna made their BBC Proms debut in 2018 and made their Japanese debut in February 2019 with concerts in Tokyo and Osaka. In November 2019, they made their New York debut at The Shed with Verdi's *Requiem* alongside moving images from the late Jonas Mekas.

Past highlights of Teodor's career include: his debut with the Berlin Philharmonic with Verdi's *Requiem* and the musicAeterna choir; Resident Artist at the Vienna Konzerthaus beginning 2016/17 including concerts with Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Camerata Salzburg, SWR Symphony orchestra and musicAeterna; performing Brahms *Requiem* with musicAeterna choir and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra as part of the Diaghilev Festival, and on tour in Europe; a tour with Mahler Chamber Orchestra of Berio's *Coro*; *Clemenza di Tito* and Mozart's *Requiem* at Salzburg Festival, Verdi's *Macbeth* at Zurich Opera with Barrie Kosky (2016); Wagner's *Das Rheingold* with musicAeterna orchestra (2015, RUHRtriennale in Bochum); Tchaikovsky *Iolanthe* and Stravinsky *Persephone* at Aix Festival (2015) which premiered in Madrid in 2012; Purcell's *The Indian Queen* in Madrid (2012);

Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of the Mtsensk District* in Zurich (2012) and Weinberg's *The Passenger* with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra in Bregenz (2010).

As former Artistic Director of Perm Opera, Teodor has commissioned several important new works, including Phillipe Hersants '*Tristia*' (2016), Dmitrii Kourliandski's opera *Nosferatu* (2014), Alexei Syumak's opera *Cantos* (2016), and a violin concerto by Sergey Nevsky (2015). Teodor Currentzis and musicAeterna have released on Sony, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 5*, the Mozart-Da Ponte trilogy, Stravinsky's *Les Noces*, Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto*, with Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 6* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 6*. Previous recordings include Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 14*, Mozart's *Requiem* and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* all on the Alpha label and the Shostakovich Piano Concertos with Alexander Melnikov and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra on the Harmonia Mundi label.

In 2017, ECHO Klassik awarded the DVD/Blu-ray production of Purcell's *Indian Queen*, directed by Peter Sellers, with Teodor and musicAeterna, following on from a previous ECHO Klassik award in 2016 for 'Symphonic Recording (20th/21st century music)' for their recording of Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du Printemps*, both released on Sony Classical. In 2015, Teodor and his brother Vangelino Currentzis, recorded and composed the soundtrack of the European Games opening ceremony in Baku and were nominated for an Emmy Award, in the category of Outstanding Music Direction and Composition. Teodor Currentzis was the recipient of the Toepfer Foundation's prestigious Kairos Award in 2016. The same year, Opernwelt named Teodor Currentzis Best Conductor of the Year for his *Macbeth* at Zurich Opera.

Teodor has so far been awarded seven Golden Masks - most recently in 2017 as Best Opera Conductor for *La Traviata*, a Perm Opera production directed by Robert Wilson. Previous awards include the Best Opera Conductor award (*Indian Queen* 2015 and *Così fan tutte*, Perm 2013 and *Wozzeck*, Bolshoi 2011), for a "brilliant performance of Prokofiev's score" (*Cinderella*, 2007) and for "outstanding results in the area of authentic performance" (*The Marriage of Figaro*, 2008).

Born in Greece, he began his studies in conducting at the state conservatory of St. Petersburg, under the tutelage of Professor Ilya Musin, whose pupils, among others, were renowned conductors Odyseuss Dimitriadis, Valery Gergiev, and Semyon Bychkov.

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