



ALEXANDER PRIOR

At just 26 years of age, Alexander Prior has just completed his first season as the Chief Conductor of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

Recent and upcoming highlights include debuts with San Francisco, Detroit, Hamburg, and Toledo Symphonies; I Musici de Montréal; and Oper Frankfurt conducting Rigoletto, resulting in a re-invitation to Frankfurt to conduct Martinu's "Julietta" in fall of 2019. Highlights of his past seasons have included the Houston Symphony, Vancouver Opera conducting Hänsel und Gretel, and Edmonton Opera conducting Elektra, as well as a return to the Swedish Chamber Orchestra and Royal Danish Opera conducting Swan Lake.

Recent engagements have also included the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Copenhagen Philharmonic, NDR Sinfonieorchester, Camerata Salzburg, Düsseldorfer Symphoniker, Norwegian Radio Orchestra, Aarhus Symphony Orchestra, Bayerische Staatskapelle, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Orchestra of Mannheim Opera, Seattle Symphony and New World Symphony.

Equally committed to the stage, Prior's operatic engagements have included Carmen with the Royal Danish Opera, La Traviata with Oper Leipzig and the Gewandhaus Orchestra and at the Romanian National Opera, and Mirandolina with the Bayerische Staatsoper. His debut with the Braunschweig Staatstheater led to a continued relationship and a re-invitation to premiere a new production of Rigoletto in the 2015/16 season. Immediately following the premiere, the orchestra awarded Prior their rare Louis Spohr Medal "in recognition of his musicality and leading role in the arts."

Alexander Prior's catalogue of compositions is substantial in its share of high-profile commissions. His ballet *Mowgli*, commissioned by the Moscow State Ballet and first performed at the Kremlin Theatre in 2008, secured international critical acclaim and has now been running for almost ten consecutive years. The Edmonton Symphony recently premiered his latest work, *Put!It*, a large symphonic work inspired by the eponymous Nuxálk word meaning "everything belongs to those generations that are not yet born." Other works include *Distant Calls* for voice and piano quintet; *Elegy in Memory of Ligeti* for cello and piano; *Horizons: An American Crescendo* for four soloists and orchestra, premiered by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Prior's direction at the Barbican Centre; *Symphony No. 4, Gogol*, commissioned by the cultural committee of St. Petersburg for the St. Petersburg State Academic Symphony Orchestra and Choir; *Symphony No. 6*, premiered by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra; and the triple concerto *That Which Must Remain Unspoken* for piano, violin and cello, commissioned by the City of Hong Kong Chamber Orchestra.

A graduate of the St. Petersburg Conservatory, Prior was a James Levine Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center and was awarded a Conducting Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival. In the 2009/10 season, he served as Assistant Conductor at the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. His mentors include Thomas Dausgaard, Robert Spano, Michael Tilson Thomas at the New World Symphony, Andrew Manze, and Nicholas McGegen and Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos-both at the Los Angeles Philharmonic.