



## ANDREAS DELFS, CONDUCTOR

Andreas Delfs twelve seasons as Music Director Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and subsequent tenure as Conductor Laureate have been described as an extraordinary era during which the ensemble rose to national prominence under his guidance . He has held chief artistic posts with several orchestras both in North America and Europe. He led the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra as Music Director (2001-2004) and artistic consultant (2004 -2006). He served as General Music Director of Hannover, Germany (1995-2000), conducting the symphony orchestra and opera company. Prior to his time in Hannover, Andreas Delfs was Music Director of the Bern Opera, resident conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony (during the tenure of Lorin Maazel) and Music Director, at an early age, of the Orchestre Suisse des Jeunes.

Born in Flensburg, Germany, Andreas Delfs began studying piano and music theory at age 5. He studied with Christoph von Dohnányi and Aldo Ceccato at the Hamburg Conservatory. At 20 Andreas Delfs became the youngest ever Music Director of the Hamburg University Orchestra and Musical Assistant at the Hamburg State Opera. Enrolling at The Juilliard School, Andreas Delfs studied with Jorge Mester and Sixten Ehrling and won the Bruno Walter Memorial Scholarship.

Andreas Delfs keeps an active guest conducting schedule. Recent highlights have included appearances with the Tonkünstler-Orchester Vienna, Calgary Philharmonic, Copenhagen Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra Washington and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra. He conducted the Britten Sinfonia in a performance of Elijah at London's Barbican Hall as well as two new operatic productions, namely Turandot at Opera Lyra Ottawa and Carmen at Opera North. This season Andreas Delfs will give his debuts with the Singapore Symphony, the Staatsorchester Rheinische

Philharmonie and the Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestras.

Mr. Delfs has conducted numerous world premieres and has close links with many of today's composers. He counts among his profound musical inspirations musicians such as John Corigliano, Philip Glass, Roberto Sierra and Hans Werner Henze. He is the frequent partner to many of the world's most renowned solo artists, including Emanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Yo Yo Ma and Renée Fleming.

Andreas Delfs' recent recording projects include Robert Sierra's *Missa Latina* with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra on the Naxos label and *Beethoven Piano Concertos* with the London Symphony Orchestra and pianist John O'Connor on the Telarc label. Other recording projects have included a collection of sacred songs with Renée Fleming for Decca, a production of Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra for Avie, as well as a recording of Mozart's *Requiem*, with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. The most recent addition to the catalogue is a series of recordings with the Aarhus Symphony for the DaCapo label. His recording of Paul Ruders *Handel Variations* was nominated for Album of the Year (2018) by the Danish Radio

Over the years Andreas Delfs has led numerous distinguished ensembles. He has conducted orchestras such as the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Tonhalle Orchestra of Zurich, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, Netherlands Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra.

Among Andreas Delfs' most notable operatic achievements have been his highly praised debut with the New York City Opera conducting performances of *Carmen*, a new production of *Ariadne auf Naxos* for Washington National Opera, several productions for Opera North in Leeds

and a production of the uncut version of Hans Werner Henze's monumental König Hirsch for the Württemberg State Theatre in Stuttgart. He led four productions at the Aspen Music Festival and gave the Swiss premiere of György Ligeti's Le Grand Macabre, which received special praise from the composer.