

# CHRISTOPH ALTSTAEDT

## BIOGRAPHIE

Mit neuen Konzertformaten und experimentierfreudigem Musiktheater mehr Menschen für Oper und Konzert zu begeistern ist ein zentrales Anliegen des Dirigenten Christoph Altstaedt. Seine Programme spannen einen Bogen von der Barockmusik auf Originalinstrumenten bis hin zur zeitgenössischen elektronischen Musik und Hiphop.

Nach ersten Stationen als Korrepetitor und Kapellmeister am Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz und an der Deutschen Oper am Rhein gastierte er u.a. an der Oper Zürich, dem Theater Basel, der Komischen Oper Berlin sowie bei den Festspielen in Salzburg und Savonlinna. Eine kontinuierliche Zusammenarbeit verbindet ihn mit der Finnischen Nationaloper Helsinki, Opera North sowie Glyndebourne on Tour.

Im Konzertbereich dirigierte er in den vergangenen Spielzeiten u.a. das Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, das Toronto Symphony, London Philharmonia, das Ulster Orchestra, das Royal Scottish National Orchestra, die Deutsche Radiophilharmonie, das Ensemble Resonanz, das hr-Sinfonieorchester, das Konzerthausorchester Berlin, das Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart, das Oslo Filharmonien, das Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra und das Trondheim Symfoniorkester.

Von 2004 bis 2011 leitete er das von ihm gegründete Junge Klangforum Mitte Europa – ein Orchester, das sich aus Musikstudierenden der drei Länder Polen, Tschechien und Deutschland zusammensetzte. Unter der Schirmherrschaft der Präsidenten von Weizsäcker, Havel und Wałęsa konzertierte das Orchester an historisch bedeutsamen Orten wie Theresienstadt/Terezín und Kreisau/Krzyżowa und wurde für seine Bemühungen um die Völkerverständigung mehrfach ausgezeichnet, u.a. mit dem „Praemium Imperiale“ und dem „Marion Dönhoff Preis“.

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Through innovative concert performances and adventurous musical theatre, conductor Christoph Altstaedt aims to expand audiences of both opera and classical music. His programmes span from early music on period instruments, to contemporary music and even hip hop.

Following hugely successful periods with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in 17/18 season, he returns not only for subscription concerts in May 2020 (Beethoven, Kodaly, Butterworth, Vaughan-Williams, Elgar), but also to conduct their annual Messiah, making his Royal Albert Hall debut in December 2019.

Further highlights include a return to Finnish National Opera with Marriage of Figaro and a debut at Vienna Volksoper with a ballet production of Ein Deutsches Requiem.

Highlights of previous seasons include debuts and ongoing relationships with Staatskapelle Weimar, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra and Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken, as well as debuts with Toronto Symphony, Philharmonia Orchestra, hr-Sinfonieorchester, Konzerthausorchester Berlin, Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR amongst others.

In the 18/19 season, Christoph and the Junge Norddeutsche Philharmonie followed on from their successful Stravinsky project #sacrelektro and took their new project #Petruschka #Etruschka to the Berlin Konzerthaus and Elbphilharmonie as part of their Stravinsky Festival, in a brilliant collaboration with composer and live electronic artist Joe Snape.

Christoph returned to Glyndebourne to conduct La traviata on tour having previously conducted Die Entführung aus dem Serail for them as his debut in 2015, an opera he has since conducted at the Savonlinna Opera Festival and for Opera Zürich. Christoph also maintains a good relationship with Opera North for whom he has conducted highly acclaimed productions of Hänsel und Gretel and Don Giovanni. He has also conducted Così fan tutte for Finnish National Opera and Julia Hölscher's production of Die Zauberflöte for Theater Basel.

Equally successful in both the operatic and orchestral fields, Christoph Altstaedt started his professional life as kapellmeister for Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf, a position he held between 2010 and 2014 where he conducted a variety of productions including La bohème, Carmen, Così fan tutte, Le nozze di Figaro, Hänsel und Gretel, La traviata, Luisa Miller and Werther. He also has an ongoing relationship with the highly acclaimed ballet company 'Ballett am Rhein' directed by Martin Schläpfer.

From 2004 to 2011 he was the director of the Young Klangforum Mitte Europa, an orchestra consisting of music students from Poland, the Czech Republic and Germany. Under the auspices of the Presidents Weizsäcker, Havel and Wałęsa, the orchestra performed at historically significant venues such as Terezín and Kreisau / Krzyżowa and has won several awards for its efforts to promote international understanding, including the Praemium Imperiale and the Marion Dönhoff Prize.

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