

Volker Hartung

Conductor



Volker Hartung is regarded as one of the most colorful personalities in the music scene today.

His unmistakable conducting style and skill in handling orchestras as well as soloists make his concerts unforgettable events, which he enhances with his witty and famously entertaining announcements to the works performed.

His several decades of experience as an independent manager of ensembles have taught him how to form orchestras and make them financially and artistically viable in the face of various obstacles.

His lectures on music history and performance technique are internationally renowned.

Volker Hartung assumed the position of principal conductor of the Cologne New Philharmonic Orchestra in 1986. He was trained in the tradition of German Philharmonic Orchestras and Opera. Under the influence and inspiration of conductors as Evgeny Mravinsky, Arturo Toscanini, Ernest Ansermet and Sergiu Celibidache, Hartung developed a special understanding of the German, French and Russian musical traditions.



Biography

Born in Cologne, Germany

Studied Viola, Chamber Music at the Conservatory of Cologne, conducting with Andreas Brockmann and **Sergiu Celibidache** in Munich

- 1978-1980 Extensive cooperation and studies with Gérard Ruymen, Gérard Caussé, Bruno Giuranna, Rainer Moog, Sandor Vegh.
- 1980-1982 Full scholarship as best foreign artist in 1980 in his field at the Juilliard School of Music in New-York City, studying viola with Margaret Pardee, Ivan Galamian, Joseph Gingold and Samuel Rhodes of the Juilliard Quartet.
- 1982-84 Full Scholarship at the California Institute of the Arts, Los Angeles, student of Alan de Veritch
Chamber music with Mischa Schneider of the Budapest String Quartet.
Member of the Pacific Symphony Orchestra und the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra
- 1986 Artistic Director and Prinicipal Conductor of Cologne New Philharmonic Orchestra



Rehearsing the Cologne New Philharmonic Orchestra

- 1990 Debut of it's popular concert series at Kölner Philharmonie and Laeisz Halle, Hamburg
- 1992 European Tour and Concerts at
Festivals of Aix-en-Provence, Bergamo
Vaison-la-Romaine, Monte-Carlo, Guitres, Avignon
Debut at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam
- 1993 Guest Conducting in Italy
(RAI Neapel und Orchestra Sinfonia Lecce)
- 1996 Production, Broadcast of West-German WDR-TV and World Premiere
of the newly discovered Mass in C major by Franz Schubert
- 1997/98 European tour and production with British violinist Nigel Kennedy
Production of Delibes' Ballet »Coppelia« at the Cologne Opera House
together with Dance Forum Cologne and Jochen Ullrich
- 1999 Television Production and live Radio Broadcast of MDR Leipzig Radio
Orchestra at Gewandhaus Concert Hall featuring Film Music of the
Golden Twenties. The Broadcast of this enormously successful concert was repeated
three times.



- 2000 Australian Concert Tour with the Cologne New Philharmonic.
Superbly received concerts in Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Concert Hall and Canberra Llewellyn Hall.
Cooperation with MDR Leipzig Radio Orchestra.
CD-Productions with St.Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra.
Invitation to the Festival de Monte Carlo.
Guest Conductor of Philharmonic Orchestra Stettin, Poland
- 2001 Concert Production at Leipziger Gewandhaus with
'Salonorchester Leipzig' and members of the Gewandhaus Orchestra
- 2001 Invitation and Live Broadcast of the Radio Series »Film and Music«
by MDR Radio Leipzig presenting Cologne New Philharmonic.
- 2002 Invitation for Concert Tours into the United States and China.
Great success with the acclaimed Concert Series of CNPO in Hamburg (Musikhalle),
München (Gasteig), Düsseldorfer Tonhalle und Kölner Philharmonie.
Invitation as Guest Conductor with Philharmonic Orchestra Kattowice, Poland
and St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra.
Participation at Schwangau Festival at Neuschwanstein Castle, Bavaria.



General Rehearsal in Hamburg



Concert in Het Concertgebouw Amsterdam

- 2003 Symphonic Concert Series in Hamburg Musikhalle, Munich Gasteig, Dusseldorf Tonhalle, Cologne Philharmonie, Liederhalle Stuttgart, Konzerthaus Berlin, Glocke Bremen, Conservatoire de Luxembourg, Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels.
Performed are works by Georges Bizet, Manuel de Falla and Maurice Ravel.
- 2004 WDR TV-Production with Herbert Feuerstein's »Tomorrow's Master Players« at Augustusburg Castle in Brühl nearby Cologne. Performance and recording at the Mozart-Festival in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 2005 Recordings and CD-Productions for Gunther Hänssler's Profile-Edition, distributed world-wide by Naxos Germany.
- 2006 Head of Studies for Conducting, Chamber Music and Orchestra Studies at The Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore.
Extensive Cooperation with Young Talents School in workshops with their young high school talents age 12 to 16.
Promotional visits and workshops at Raffles Boy's School, Anglo-Chinese High School and others.
Concert Debut with Beethoven's 9th Symphony at Victoria Concert Hall for the celebration of NAFA's 75 anniversary, consisting of Diploma students at NAFA as well as members of Nanyang Young Talents school-



Triumph at Barcelona's Palau de Musica with the CNPO with Mozart's Requiem

- 2009 Performance with NAFA Swing Orchestra at the occasion of 1989-2009 Berlin Day's amid all Ambassadors and thousands of spectators at the Singapore Botanic Gardens.
Production of Benjamin Britten's 'The Midsummer Nights Dream' with NAFA Orchestra & Opera studio.
Production and performance of Pergolesi's 'La Serva Padrona' in Singapore.
- 2010 Production of Franz Lehar's operetta 'The Merry Widow' with NAFA Orchestra & opera studio.
- 2011 Partnership agreement between NAFA and the Royal College of Music, London.
Performance with NAFA Orchestra in presence of Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.
Production and performance of Pergolesi's 'La Serva Padrona' in Singapore.
Return to Europe as Head of Music and Direktor of the AMADEUS Vienna Music Academy in Austria
- 2012 Concert performance together with Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra consisting works of Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Mozart amid full house and Live-Broadcast by Shanghai Radio.
Rehearsals and Concert performance with Henan Symphony in China.
- 2013 Appearances at prestigious festivals in Germany with Cologne New Philharmonic in Hamburg and 'Klassik im Münsterland' throughout the summer.
- 2014 Cooperation with Mozart Stiftung Dortmund promoting Young soloists and prize winners of international competitions to perform as soloists with the Cologne New Philharmonic. Guest conducting in Hangzhou, China with Zhejiang Symphony Orchestra performing works by Lutoslawski, Bach and Bruckner.





Rehearsing the Cologne New Philharmonic Orchestra in Konzerthaus Berlin



Performance with Sofia Philharmonic & Chorus at 'Bulgaria Festival'



...working with St. Petersburg Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra



Recording session in Laeisz Halle Hamburg



Performance with MDR Radio Orchestra at Gewandhaus Leipzig





Press Reviews

MAGICAL MOVING MOZART

Michael Nunn (Virtual Lancaster, Great Britain)

MUSIC LIKE FROM ANOTHER PLANET!

Mitteldeutsche Zeitung

WALTZES, CLASSICAL AND GREAT VIRTUOSITY!

Rheinische Post Düsseldorf

FIERY, FIERCE BRAHMS

...Not only the two "Hungarian Dances" by Brahms possessed the necessary fire -

Even the Overture to "The Gypsy Baron" kicked off with vibrancy and Viennese elegance. Fiery and brilliant Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 - and what great Virtuosos are in the ranks of the Cologne Philharmonic and which wonderful conducting!

DIE WELT- Hamburg

The pianist is exemplary of the many musicians whose career once in the "soloists forge" began.

Volker Hartung led his highly motivated, playful orchestra through all musical cliffs. All instrument groups glistened with beautiful detail work and went to work relaxed and precise. Really in their element, the Cologne New Philharmonic did an amazing job with the sparkling overture to Johann Strauss' "The Gypsy Baron" and two Hungarian Dances by Johannes Brahms were fiery and blazingly so.

KÖLNISCHE RUNDSCHAU

... incredible well sounding strings, along with the likewise well disposed winds Hartung gave Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsody" a richly shaded mood in a musical frenzy, for which there was thunderous applause.

KÖLNER STADT-ANZEIGER

I FIND YOUR PERFORMANCE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ART IN THE WORLD.

BEAUTIFUL CONDUCTING. I FEEL REALLY AND TRULY IMPRESSED

biapseguro • Comment on YouTube

SO BEAUTIFUL, I AM IN TEARS NOW

Janek • Comment on YouTube

VOLKER HARTUNG AND HIS COLOGNE NEW PHILHARMONIC ARE ONE OF THE GREATEST GROUPS I'VE EVER HEARD.

William Smith • Comment on YouTube

"





PM Lee congratulating the Nafa orchestra conducted by lecturer Volker Hartung after they performed two pieces at the signing ceremony yesterday. Looking on is Dr Ng (left). ST PHOTO: TERENCE TAN

Volker Hartung receives congratulations by Premier Minister Lee conducting NAFA Symphony Orchestra in Singapore

Repertory

(excerpt)

Anton Bruckner: Symphonies No.1, No.3; No.4; No.5, No.7, No.8, No.9

Albeniz Iberia-Suite

J. S. Bach: St. Mathew Passsion, Orchestra Suites, Brandenburg Concertos

Beethoven: Fidelio, 9th Symphony, 5 Piano Concertos, 9 Symphonies, Choral Fantasy, Triple Concerto

Bernstein: Symphonic Dances from 'Westside Story'

Bock: Anatevka Musical

Bizet: Carmen, L'Arlesienne Suite

Brahms: Piano Concertos, Violin Concerto, Double Concerto, 4 Symphonies, Haydn Variations, Tragic Overture

Debussy: Afternoon of a Faun, La Mer

Dvorak: Serenade for Strings, Piano Concerto, Symphonies No.7,8,9, Violin Concerto Slavonic Dances, Symphonic Variations

Gershwin: Porgy and Bess, Rhapsody in Blue, Piano Concerto, American in Paris

Grieg: Piano Concerto, Peer-Gynt, Holberg Suite

Kodalyi, Galantha Dances, Hary Janos Suite

Lehar; Land of Smiles, The Merry Widow

Lortzing: Undine - Lalo :Symphonie Espagnole

Mahler; Symphonies No.1,2,3,4,7,9, Lied von der Erde, Songs.

Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto, Symphony No. 3, No. 4 , Fingal's Cave Overture, Piano ConcertosMozart

Mozart: Symphonic & Chamber Music Repertoire, Piano, Wind & Violin Concertos, all Operas.

Prokofjev: Overture sur les themes Juifs op.34, Piano Concerto No.1, 3, Peter and the Wolf, Romeo & Julliet Suite, Violin Concertos

Puccini: Tosca, La Boheme, Turandot

Ravel: Alborada del Grazioso, Tombeau de Couperin, La Valse, Bolero, Rhapsodie espagnole, Piano Concerto

Raymond: Masque in Blue - Rodrigo Concierto di Aranjuez

Rossini: Barber of Seville, Overtures, Solo concertos for Clarinet

Rachmaninoff; Symphonic Repertoire, Piano Cencertos & Paganini Rhapsody.

Tchaikovsky: Violin & Piano Concerto, Symphony Nr.4, 5 & 6, Romeo & Julia, Rokoko Variations, Souvenir de Florence, Serenade for Strings

Schömborg: Kammersymphonie op.9, Verklärte Nacht

Schubert: Symphony No.3,4 5, 8, 9

Suk: Serenade for Strings

Strauss, Johann: Fledermaus, Zigeunerbaron, Night in Venice, Vienna Waltzes

Strauss, Richard: Salome, Don Juan, Don Quixote, Also sprach Zarathustra, Death and Transfiguration, Metamorphoses, Ariadne a.Naxos

Verdi: La Traviata, Rigoletto, Forza del Destino, Aida, Don Carlos, Otello

Wagner: Flying Dutchman, Faust Overture, Symphony, Lohengrin, Walküre, Parsifal,

Weber: Der Freischütz, Clarinet Concerto



Concert with Junge Philharmonie Köln at Kölner Philharmonie

Concert with Junge Philharmonie Köln at Kölner Philharmonie



Contact

directly at:

Volker Hartung
Naaffgasse 3
1180 Vienna, Austria
Tel.+43.664.461.61.68

volkerhartung@yahoo.com
www.volkerhartung.com

