

Christopher Ward Conductor



Christopher Ward studied at Oxford University and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London. He was Repetiteur Fellow at Scottish Opera and RSAMD, Glasgow, and worked at the International Opera Studio, Zurich, before becoming Kapellmeister and Répétiteur at **Staatstheater Kassel** in 2005. During this time, he also assisted Sir Simon Rattle and the **Berlin Philharmonic at the Aix-en-Provence and Salzburg Easter Festivals**.

As guest conductor, he has directed performances at **Staatsoper Hamburg, Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Komische Oper Berlin, Oper Graz, Salzburg Landestheater, Musiktheater im Revier, Staatstheater Mainz, Staatstheater Braunschweig and Staatstheater Darmstadt, Slovak National Theatre Bratislava, Munich Opera Festival and Prague Spring International Music Festival**. He has also conducted concerts with the **Bremen Philharmonic, Staatsorchester Braunschweig, Brandenburg Symphony Orchestra, Cottbus Philharmonic, Neue Lausitz Philharmonic, Altenburg-Gera Philharmonic and Munich Youth Philharmonic orchestras**.

In 2014 Christopher Ward became 1. Kapellmeister at the **Saarländisches Staatstheater**. Here he led new productions of Weber's "**Der Freischütz**", Verdi's "**Simon Boccanegra**", "**Rigoletto**", and "**Nabucco**", Dvořák's "**Rusalka**", Ravel's "**L'Enfant et les Sortilèges**" and "**Daphnis et Chloé**", Rimsky-Korsakov's "**The Golden Cockerel**", Rameau's "**Platée, Obst's Solaris**" and Haas' "**Bluthaus**", as well as a number of revivals, ballets and symphonic concerts.

For an indisposed Daniel Barenboim, he took over at short notice the world premiere of Jörg Widmann's "**Babylon**" in 2019 at **Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Berlin**. In 2018 he was appointed Generalmusikdirektor of **Theater Aachen and Sinfonieorchester Aachen**.

Recent CD releases include recordings such as Leo Blech - Complete Orchestral Works and Alpenkönig und Menschenfeind, Hans Rott - Orchestral Works as well as a Franz Schreker - On eternal life.

Press:

"British conductor Christopher Ward did a sensational job with the Slovak National Theatre Orchestra, eliciting a sharp, spirited performance."

"What the conductor Christopher Ward achieved with the State Orchestra was staggering... The subtlest of dynamic nuances, fully savoured syncopated tension, powerful horns, noble expansive strings - nothing was missing. Where the stage lacked its accustomed wealth of images, Ward painted all the more bewitching colours."

"A brilliantly disposed State Orchestra under Christopher Ward highlights the contrasts between light and dark of this wonderfully minor-coloured music. The woodwinds are beguiling, the strings tender... A great evening of opera."

Highlights in past and upcoming seasons:

"Make No Noise"	Bavarian State Opera
"Le nozze di Figaro"	Hamburg State Opera
"La Traviata"	Opera Graz
"Der Freischütz"	Saarland State Theatre
"Dorian Gray"	Slovak National Theatre
"Candide"	Theatre Bremen
"Billy Budd"	Prague State Opera
"Babylon "	Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Berlin

