

Vincent de Kort

Biography

Mariinsky Theatre, Bolshoi Theatre, Royal Swedish Opera, Semperoper Dresden, Oper Leipzig, New National Theatre Tokyo... Vincent de Kort is a regular guest conductor in many of the world's leading opera houses and concert halls, collaborating with some of today's most admired soloists and orchestras. He is known for his energetic conducting style, inspirational leadership and charismatic communication with musicians as well as audiences around the world. He developed a reputation as one of the finest Mozart conductors and has been widely respected for his period-style and very dramatic performances of the Beethoven symphonies. Whilst his work previously maintained a focus on early music, de Kort is nowadays sought after for a wide repertoire, ranging from the classical and romantic period to world premieres across the globe.

Orchestras

De Kort has worked with many leading orchestras, including the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Staatskapelle Dresden, New Japan Philharmonic, Mariinsky Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Netherlands Philharmonic, Residentie Orchestra, Concertgebouw Chamber Orchestra, Metropole Orchestra, Noord Nederlands Orkest, Orchestre Metropolitain de Montreal, Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Brussels Philharmonic, NWD Philharmonie, Magdeburgische Philharmonie, Bochumer Symphoniker, Brandenburger Symphoniker, Odense Symphony Orchestra, Sønderjyllands Symfoniorkester, Berner Symfonieorchester, Luzerner Sinfonieorchester, Zürcher Symphoniker, Orchestre Symphonique de Tours, Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, Izmir State Symphony Orchestra, Filharmonica Transsilvania, Palestine National Orchestra, European Sinfoniëtta, Holland Baroque as well as the European Union Youth Orchestra, in which he was formerly a cellist under the direction of Claudio Abbado.

Opera

Equally at home on the concert platform as in the opera house, De Kort has built up an extensive repertoire and is in demand with opera houses including the Mariinsky Theatre (*Così fan tutte* and *La Clemenza di Tito*), Royal Swedish Opera (*Carmen*), Semperoper Dresden (*La Bohème*), Oper Leipzig (*Rodolphe's Jason et Médée*), Scottish Opera (*Die Zauberflöte* and *Così fan tutte*), New National Theatre Tokyo (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Lithuanian National Opera (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Theater Luzerne (*Peter Grimes*), Theater Bern (*Bizet's La jolie fille de Perth*), Opéra

de Tours (Il Barbiere di Siviglia), Magdeburg Theater (Così fan tutte), Hawaii Opera (Les Contes d'Hoffmann and Jonathan Dove's Siren Song) and the Dutch Nationale Reisopera (Die Zauberflöte, Die lustige Witwe and Peter Schat's Monkey Subdues the White-bone Demon). In Vienna he conducted Così fan tutte at the Schönbrunn Festival, with the Bochumer Symphoniker La Clemenza di Tito, Die Entführung aus dem Serail with the NWD Philharmonie, in Amsterdam's Concertgebouw Le Nozze di Figaro, Don Giovanni, Die Entführung aus dem Serail and Il Barbiere di Siviglia. In the Nelson Mandela Theatre in Johannesburg de Kort has led an acclaimed Aida. At the Russian Operahouse in Kazan he has been a regular guest, conducting La Traviata, Falstaff, Aida, Rigoletto, Madama Butterfly, Boris Godunov, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, L'Elisir d'amore and Le Nozze di Figaro. In 2015 de Kort was the first Dutch conductor in history to conduct at the Bolshoi Theatre, leading the 75th birthday gala for the legendary Vladimir Vasiliev: a full-staged production of Bach's B-minor Mass.

Recent

Recent highlights include a gala concert with the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal, the orchestra of Yannick Nézet-Séguin, on the occasion of 75 years of liberation after World War II. This collaboration resulted in a recording project for De Kort and the orchestra for the Canadian label LEAF. In November 2020 he was invited by Vadim Repin to conduct the opening concert of the Trans-Siberian Art Festival with the Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra and Tchaikovsky Competition prize winner Clara-Jumi Kang. In his home country the Netherlands, he conducted the Residentie Orchestra with star harpist Lavinia Meijer on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the International Court of Justice. Furthermore he conducted the Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn and Carel Kraayenhof at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw.

Future

In future seasons, De Kort will conduct the world premiere of the new opera Ariella by Jaap Nico Hamburger at the Lincoln Centre, New York with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and stellar cast of singers from the Richard Tucker Foundation. In November 2021 he will conduct the Residentie Orchestra in the Vrijdag van Vredenburg series in a program of Piazzolla, Mahler and Bartok. In 2022 he is going on a tour to Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Germany together with Vadim Repin and the Novosibirsk Symphony Orchestra.

Mission

Vincent de Kort is strongly committed to outreach work, aiming to bring a large and diverse audience in contact with classical music. With this mission in mind, and

with his contagious enthusiasm, he is a frequent guest on the Dutch national television in various programmes on classical music. From 2015 - 2019 he was jury chairman of the successful primetime TV program Maestro. He is dedicated to educational and young talent projects as jury chairman of the Royal Concertgebouw Young Talent Competition, of the International Malta Conducting Competition and jury member of the Jensen Vocal Competition in New York, and he regularly teaches masterclasses.

Education

After a career as a cellist, he was a member of 'Les Arts Florissants' in Paris, Vincent de Kort trained as a conductor with Ed Spanjaard in The Hague, Mariss Jansons in Oslo and Ilya Musin in St. Petersburg and was assistant conductor to Bernard Haitink, Gennady Rhozdestvensky and William Christie. His career took off when in 1995, at the invitation of his mentor Mariss Jansons, he made his debut conducting the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra. In 1997 he made a spectacular debut at the Amsterdam Royal Concertgebouw, jumping in at the very last minute for Gennady Rhozdestvensky conducting the European Union Youth Orchestra with Radu Lupu as a soloist. He was the artistic director of the 'Opera Festival Alden Biesen' in Belgium, as well as the Chamber Orchestra 'European Sinfonietta'. In addition to his performing career, Vincent de Kort likes boxing and is a passionate marathon runner. In 2019 his book 'The Magic of the Maestro' was published at Singel Publishers.

January 2022

