



CHRISTOPHER FRANKLIN - Conductor

Equally at home on the concert stage and in the opera house, American conductor Christopher Franklin has been praised for his keen theatrical instincts and vibrant performances. His continued success in the Italian operatic repertoire is a natural result of having launched his career in Italy, where he lives actually. M° Franklin is Principal Conductor of Minnesota Opera in Minneapolis since 2024 and the appointment was renewed until the end of season 2028/29.

He has conducted in most of major Italian opera houses and festivals including the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Teatro San Carlo di Napoli, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Teatro Regio di Torino, Arena di Verona, and he has also performed in leading theatres and concert halls throughout the world such as the Musikvereinssaal and the Konzerthaus in Vienna, Herculessaal in Munich, Teatro Real Madrid, Musikhalle Hamburg, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Festspielhaus in Baden-Baden, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées Paris, Palau de les Arts Valencia, San Francisco Opera.

A sought-after guest conductor, Mr. Franklin has conducted the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, Münchner Symphoniker, Czech Philharmonic Prague, Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI, Orchestra Verdi di Milano, Filarmonica Toscanini di Parma.

Recent highlights include *Turandot* and *Hansel und Gretel* at San Francisco Opera, *Peter Grimes* and *Turn of the Screw* at the Palau de les Arts in Valencia, *Die Fledermaus* at New National Theatre Tokyo, *I Puritani* and *Otello* at Teatro del Liceu in Barcelona, *Attila* at Opera de Tenerife, *L'Occasione fa il ladro* at Royal Opera House in Oman, *Il turco in Italia* at Teatro Comunale in Bologna, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* at Macerata Opera Festival, *La sonnambula* at Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris.

Over the years Mr. Franklin has established a collaboration with Juan Diego Flórez, appearing with him on tour in many concert venues around the world.

M° Franklin was first-prize winner of the Gino Marinuzzi International Conducting Competition. He began studying the violin at the age of six in his hometown of Pittsburgh, while his conducting studies began with Charles Bruck at the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors in Hancock (USA), then he earned his MM in conducting at the University of Illinois and his DMA at the Peabody Conservatory with Frederik Prausnitz. He was awarded a scholarship to study at the Tanglewood Music Center, where he worked with Seiji Ozawa, Robert Span, and Gustav Meier, and subsequently a Fulbright Fellowship to study at the Musikhochschule in Saarbrücken. He also attended the conducting class of Gianluigi Gelmetti at the Accademia Chigiana in Siena where he was awarded the "Franco Ferrara" Prize.

LATEST PERFORMANCES: *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* in Saint Etienne; Verdi's *Otello* in Novara and Rovigo; *Roméo et Juliette*, *La bohème* and *L'elisir d'amore* at Minnesota Opera; *Die Zauberflöte* and *Adriana Lecouvreur* at Opéra Royal de Wallonie; *Manon* at Opera de Tenerife; *Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny* at Teatro Regio Parma.

FORTHCOMING PROJECTS: *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in Minneapolis; *La cambiale di matrimonio* at Rossini Opera Festival; *Così fan tutte*, *Edgar* and *Pagliacci* in Minneapolis; *La Gioconda* in Pittsburgh; concerts with Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino.

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