

JONAS ALBER has established himself as a sought-after conductor both on the concert podium and at leading international opera houses. His name is particularly associated with benchmark performances of fin-de-siecle works, and his repertoire extends from the baroque to contemporary music. Today he is much in demand as a guest conductor with symphony orchestras and opera companies in Europe, Asia, South America, New Zealand and South Africa.

As a symphonic conductor, JONAS ALBER has led the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Symphony, the Bochum Symphony Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Dresden Philharmonic, the Gran Canaria Philharmonic, the Guangzhou Symphony, the Hamburg Symphony, the MDR Symphony Orchestra Leipzig, the Orchestre National de Belgique, the Orchestre National de Lille, the Residentie Orkest of den Hague, the Osaka Philharmonic, the Tonkünstler Orchestra of Lower Austria in Vienna, the Vietnam National Symphony with the Berlin Philharmonic Choir, the Zagreb Philharmonic and the Zurich Chamber Orchestra, among others.

His 2013/14 engagements include repeat invitations from the Orchestre National de Lille, the Flanders Symphony, and the Vietnam National Symphony, as well as debuts with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte Carlo, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, Orchestra Regionale della Toscana, the Regensburg Philharmonic, the Estonian National Symphony, the Czech National Symphony, the Bucharest Enescu Philharmonic, the Madrid Orquesta Clásica Santa Cecilia, and the Hangzhou Philharmonic. He returned to South Africa to work with the Johannesburg Philharmonic for the first time, and gave his debut in Perú with the Filharmonica Sociedad in Lima. 2015/2016 included appearances leading the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra Dublin, the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra, his Moscow debut with the Russian State Symphony Orchestra, a return to South America leading the Orquesta Filarmónica de Bogotá, concerts with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, the South Westphalian Philharmonic, the Braunschweig State Orchestra and the Singapore National Youth Orchestra, among others. In the 2016/17 season he will return to the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra Dublin, and will debut at the Nürnberger Symphoniker. He will conduct the Budapest Philharmonic in an all Wagner gala concert featuring René Pape.

As an operatic conductor, JONAS ALBER has conducted roughly 500 performances of more than 50 operas. His repertoire ranges from traditional operas by Mozart, Puccini, and Richard Strauss to numerous new productions and premieres. He has led celebrated performances of such central works as *Der Ring des Nibelungen* as well as new productions of operas that have included Britten's *Peter Grimes*, Zemlinsky's *Der Zwerg*, Korngold's *Die tote Stadt*, Ullmann's *Der Kaiser von*

*Atlantis*, von Schillings' *Mona Lisa*, d'Albert's *Tiefland*, and Janáček's *The Makropulos Case*. Alber's German premieres of Philippe Boesmans' operas *Reigen*, *Wintermärchen*, and *Julie*, and of Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito*, with newly composed recitative texts by Manfred Trojahn, in 2006, the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth, received international notice, as did his world premiere of Siegfried Matthus' *Cosima* at the Staatstheater Braunschweig. His operatic engagements in 2016/17 include a South Korean debut at the Daegu Opera House leading a new production of *Die Fledermaus*, as well as the revival of Kurt Atterberg's opera *Aladdin* at the Staatstheater Braunschweig, which he will also record for the cpo label.

His new production of Schreker's *Der Schatzgräber* and his revival of *Peter Grimes* at the Frankfurt Opera both won him critical acclaim.

JONAS ALBER was General Music Director of the Staatstheater Braunschweig from 1998 - 2007. He has conducted at major opera houses all over the world, including the Deutsche Oper Berlin (*Carmina Burana*), the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels (world premiere of Benoit Mernier's *Frühling Erwachen*) the Semperoper Dresden (*Das Rheingold* and *Götterdämmerung*), the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires (*The Abduction from the Seraglio*), Teatro Real Madrid (*Der Rosenkavalier*), the Vienna Volksoper (Franz Schmidt's *Notre Dame*). In 2011 he led the world premiere of *Winnie*, by Bongani Ndodana-Breen, an opera about the life of Winnie Mandela, at the South African State Theatre in Pretoria. He conducted *The Magic Flute* at the Hamburgische Staatsoper in 2011/12, and *Così fan tutte* in 2012/13. He made his opera debut at the Opéra de Rouen Haute Normandie in autumn 2014, conducting a new production of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* with additional performances in Versailles.

JONAS ALBER collaborates with singers and soloists such as Joyce DiDonato, Isabelle Faust, Martin Fröst, Sol Gabetta, Håkan Hardenberger, Franz Hawlata, Schlomo Mintz, Steven Osborne, René Pape, Anne Schwanewilms and Iris Vermillion, among others.

His numerous recordings include the complete symphonic works of Schumann and selected symphonic works by Mendelssohn, Franck, Mahler, Sibelius, and Richard Strauss. He has recently made broadcast recordings with the WDR Symphony Orchestra Cologne, the Leipzig MDR Symphony Orchestra, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. His DVD recording Mernier's *Frühlings Erwachen* earned ALBER the prestigious French recording prize, the Diapason d'Or.

JONAS ALBER was born in Offenburg, Germany. He studied violin and conducting in Freiburg, and qualified as a conductor at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Vienna. There he was awarded a scholarship by the Herbert von Karajan Foundation.

(Autumn 2016)