

Franz Welser-Möst and Tugan Sokhiev to Conduct, Replacing Mariss Jansons

(SF, 8 January 2020) **Mariss Jansons** died on 1 December 2019, causing an outpouring of grief throughout the music world. Like many others, the Salzburg Festival is left to remember with the utmost gratitude all the wonderful musical gifts Mariss Jansons brought to the Festival for three decades.

The Salzburg Festival has managed to engage **Franz Welser-Möst** to conduct the opening concerts of the Vienna Philharmonic on 26 and 29 July 2020, which had been planned to take place under Mariss Jansons' baton. The programme remains unchanged:

RICHARD STRAUSS
Suite from the Opera *Der Rosenkavalier* Op. 59

FRANK MARTIN
Six Monologues from *Jedermann* for Baritone and Orchestra

RICHARD STRAUSS
Eine Alpensinfonie (An Alpine Symphony) Op. 64

The opera *Boris Godunov* by Modest Mussorgsky will be conducted by **Tugan Sokhiev**, thereby making his Salzburg Festival debut. The opera premieres on 20 August 2020 and is directed by Christof Loy.

Biographies and Photographs

Franz Welser-Möst



Franz Welser-Möst has been the music director of the Cleveland Orchestra for the last 18 years and during that time has shaped the orchestra's distinctive sound and performance style, ensuring that the musicians are regularly praised by international critics for their outstanding musical achievements. Innovative projects and cooperative ventures have ensured that the orchestra has continued to appeal to and engage with a young audience, with the result that a fifth of all concert goers are now under the age of 25. Franz Welser-Möst has conducted numerous world premieres and concert opera productions on the Severance Hall stage in Cleveland. In addition to their orchestral residencies in the United States, Europe and China, conductor and orchestra have also appeared together at every major festival. As a guest conductor Franz Welser-Möst has enjoyed a particularly close and productive artistic partnership with the Vienna Philharmonic. He has twice conducted its New Year Concerts and appears with the orchestra regularly at subscription concerts in the Vienna Musikverein as well as on tour in Japan, China, Australia and the United States. Under his musical direction the orchestra has also given memorial concerts in Sarajevo in 2014 and in Versailles in 2018, marking the beginning and the end of the First World War.

Franz Welser-Möst regularly appears at the Salzburg Festival, setting new interpretative standards in operatic and symphonic works, most notably in *Rusalka*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Fidelio*, *Die Liebe der*

Danae, Aribert Reimann's *Lear* and Strauss's *Salome*, which made history at the 2018 Festival. His highly acclaimed *Der Rosenkavalier* of 2014 was revived the following summer, as his 2018 *Salome* was in 2019. In 2020 Franz Welser-Möst conducts the new production of *Elektra* by Richard Strauss.

Franz Welser-Möst has received numerous honours and awards. He is an honorary member of the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Vienna and the holder of the Vienna Philharmonic's Ring of Honour, the Kilenyi Medal of the Bruckner Society of America and the Kennedy Center Gold Medal in the Arts. Franz Welser-Möst has released numerous CDs and DVDs, many of which have received international awards, notably a live recording of *Der Rosenkavalier* from Salzburg. Other opera productions from Salzburg have likewise appeared as DVDs. Among his most recent recordings with the Cleveland Orchestra are the symphonies of Johannes Brahms and Anton Bruckner.

Franz Welser Möst © Jennifer Taylor

Tugan Sokhiev



Internationally renowned conductor Tugan Sokhiev divides his time between the symphonic and the operatic repertoires, appearing with orchestras all over the world and enjoying a particularly close working relationship with the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse (ONCT) and Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre. He is currently the music director of both of these institutions.

As one of the last students of the legendary teacher Ilya Musin, Tugan Sokhiev is eager to share his expertise with others and in 2016 established a conducting academy in Toulouse. His interest in Franco-Russian relations in classical music is one that he has been able to pursue as artistic director of the festival Les Musicales franco-russes in Toulouse. Under his direction the Bolshoi Orchestra often appears not only at this festival but also at the Philharmonie in Paris.

As a guest conductor Tugan Sokhiev regularly conducts many of the world's leading orchestras: the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Vienna, Berlin and New York Philharmonics, the Boston and Chicago Symphony Orchestras, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester in Berlin, where he was principal conductor from 2012 to 2017. He has a rich and varied discography, while his work is also documented on a wide range of DVDs.

In 2019/20 Tugan Sokhiev's guest engagements include appearances with the Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Orchestre de Paris, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic, with whom he will be touring and appearing at the Baden-Baden Festival, the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia and the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester on Berlin. His appearances at the Bolshoi this season include *Eugene Onegin*, *The Tale of Tsar Saltan*, *Mazeppa*, *Anna Bolena* and *Don Giovanni*.

Tugan Sokhiev © Mat Hennek

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