

Holly Hyun Choe, Conductor

Biography

Holly Hyun Choe, born in South Korea and raised in Los Angeles, impresses with her presence and charisma on the podium. From 2020/21 to 2021/22, she has served as assistant conductor of the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich under Paavo Järvi. At the same time she has already conducted the Orchestre de Paris, Sinfonieorchester Basel, and the Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra.

In the 2023/24 season the up-and-coming conductor will continue her series of exciting debuts on the podium of orchestras such as Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, the Beethovenorchester Bonn, Musikalische Akademie Mannheim, Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, the Spokane Symphony Orchestra, and Orchestre National de Cannes. Also, she will start her role as Artiste Associée of the Geneva Chamber Orchestra for the next three seasons.

Further, Holly Hyun Choe holds the position of principal conductor of the chamber orchestra Ensemble Reflektor, which envisions itself as a messenger of music culture without boundaries. Together, they will make their debut at the Beethovenfest Bonn and return to the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival / Elbphilharmonie as well as to Alte Oper Frankfurt.

As part of her commitment to promoting female composers, she regularly programmes works by Clarice Assad, Grazyna Bacewicz, Lili Boulanger, Britta Byström, Louise Farrenc, Fanny Hensel, Jennifer Higdon, Jessie Montgomery, Emilie Mayer, Caroline Shaw, Ethel Smyth, Dobrinka Tabakova, Anna Thorvaldsdottir, and Galina Ustvolskaya.

Holly Hyun Choe recently completed her studies with Prof. Johannes Schlaefli at the Zurich University of the Arts. She began her musical journey self-taught: having learned to play the clarinet at the age of 13 by herself, she did not receive her first music lessons until the age of 19. In 2015, Holly Hyun Choe completed a master's degree with Prof. Charles Peltz at the New England Conservatory. She has attended master classes with Bernhard Haitink, Jorma Panula, Fabio Luisi (Concertgebouw Orkest), Peter Eötvös, Sylvia Caduff, and Jaap van Zweden, and has assisted Esa-Pekka Salonen (Orchestre de Paris), Leonard Slatkin (Orchestre national de Lyon), Simone Young (Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne/Zurich Opera), as well as François-Xavier Roth, and Karina Canellakis (Gürzenich-Orchester Cologne).

In 2018, she was selected for the German Music Council's Grant Forum Dirigieren; she has also been supported by a Solti Foundation Career Assistance Award, a scholarship of the Taki Alsop Conducting Fellowship, and as a participant in the Peter Eötvös Foundation Mentoring Programme.

2023/2024 season

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