

# Jonathan Stockhammer, Conductor

## Biography

In just a few years, Jonathan Stockhammer has made a name for himself in the worlds of opera, symphonic repertoire, and contemporary music. As a superb communicator, he has a great talent not only for presenting concerts but also for working on an equal footing with a variety of performers – whether they are young musicians and rappers or stars such as Imogen Heap or the Pet Shop Boys.

Opera is central to his work. The operas he has conducted, including Zemlinsky's *Eine florentinische Tragödie*, Sciarrino's *Luci mie traditrici* and *Monkey: Journey to the West* by Damon Albarn, identify him as a conductor who welcomes and masters the difficulties presented by complex scores and special, interdisciplinary productions. He has been a regular guest at the Opéra de Lyon since first appearing there in 1998, where he has most recently conducted Ravel's *L'heure espagnole*. In 2009, he conducted the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra in Wolfgang Rihm's *Proserpina* and *Deus Passus*. In 2013, he made his debut at the New York City Opera in Thomas Adès' *Powder Her Face*. In 2016, he made his debut at the Vienna State Opera in a new production of Peter Eötvös's *Tri Sestri* (Three Sisters) and returned in the spring of 2020. In 2019, he made his debut at the Zurich Opera with Michael Pelzel's *Last Call* and will return in the season of 2021/22. Following the new production of Philip Glass' *Satyagraha* by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui at the Komische Oper Berlin and Theater Basel, he opened Basel's season 2019/2020 with Luigi Nono's *Al gran sole carico d'amore*.

Jonathan Stockhammer has worked with numerous renowned orchestras such as the Oslo Philharmonic, NDR Symphony Orchestra Hamburg, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and has appeared at the Salzburg Festival, Lucerne Festival, Schwetzingen Festival, Donaueschingen Festival, Biennale Venice, the Wiener Festwochen and Wien Modern.

Aside from conducting classical and romantic masterpieces and contemporary classical works, he enjoys delving into music that blurs the boundaries between classical music, rock, pop, and hip-hop. His CD *Greggery Peccary & Other Persuasions* with Ensemble Modern (RCA, 2003), featuring works by Frank Zappa, won an Echo Klassik Award. He also recorded a new soundtrack to Sergei Eisenstein's 1925 film *The Battleship Potemkin*, composed and performed by the Pet Shop Boys. His live recording of *The New Crystal Silence* with Chick Corea, Gary Burton and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra won a Grammy in 2009. His collaboration with spoken word artist Saul Williams on *Said the Shotgun to the Head*, featuring music composed by Thomas Kessler, has also been particularly successful. To date, he has conducted the work with the WDR Symphony Orchestra, Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Oslo Philharmonic.

Highlights of the 2021/22 season include his debuts with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra as well as return visits to the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO), the Dresdner Philharmonie, the Munich Chamber Orchestra, the Filharmonia Szczecin, the Sinfonieorchester Basel and the Orchestre de l'opéra national de Lorraine. He premieres a new oratorio by Thomas Kessler with performances at the Musikfest Bern, the ZeitRäume Basel and at Wien Modern. As part of the „CONNECT – The Audience as artist“ project, he performs *Night Shift* by Cathy Milliken with Ensemble Modern, London Sinfonietta, Asko/Schönberg and the Remix Ensemble Casa da Música.

Jonathan Stockhammer first studied Chinese and political science before moving on to studies in composition and conducting in his hometown of Los Angeles. During his studies, he filled in for a series of concerts with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, after which he was asked to become chief conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen's assistant. After completing his studies, he moved to Germany where he formed close relationships with well-known European ensembles such as Ensemble Modern, Collegium Novum Zürich and Ensemble Resonanz.

2021/2022 season

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