

Marc Soustrot, Conductor

Biography

Marc Soustrot, our favourite conductor from France, was in top form as usual – and the musicians love him for this [...]. And for something else, which other conductors [...] rarely give: heart.
Stuttgarter Zeitung

Marc Soustrot has broad experience and expertise in the major works of the classical and Romantic repertoire, as well as in the music of Bach and contemporary works. He is particularly beloved by audiences for his interpretations of French orchestral compositions. He has been the artistic director and chief conductor of the Orchestre Philharmonique des Pays de la Loire (1976–1994), the Beethoven Orchester Bonn (1995–2003), Het Brabants Orkest Eindhoven (1996–2006) and the Malmö Symphony Orchestra (2011–2019). Marc Soustrot is chief conductor of the Aarhus Symphony Orchestra, which he has led since the 2015/16 season. From the 2021/22 season he has been appointed as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Real Orquesta Sinfónica de Sevilla.

As a guest conductor, Soustrot has worked with the Staatskapelle Dresden, Munich Philharmonic, Bamberg Symphony, MDR Symphony, English Chamber Orchestra, Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Real Orquesta Sinfónica de Sevilla, Filharmonie Antwerpen, Residentie Orkest Den Haag, and the Philharmonic Orchestras of Copenhagen, Stockholm, Oslo, Helsinki, Luxembourg, Barcelona, Warsaw and Tokyo.

Marc Soustrot has many years of experience in the opera world and with a vast operatic repertoire, including works such as *Don Giovanni*, *Carmen*, *Werther*, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, operas by Giuseppe Verdi, Giacomo Puccini, Jacques Offenbach, as well as Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and Alban Berg's *Wozzeck*. He has also successfully conducted a number of contemporary operas, such as Ernst Krenek's *Karl V*. He has worked with the orchestras of the Opéra de Monte-Carlo, Teatro Real Madrid, Grand Théâtre de Genève, La Monnaie de Munt, Royal Danish Opera Copenhagen, Frankfurt Opera and the Norwegian National Opera Oslo.

In 2012 he garnered much praise for his interpretation of Francis Poulenc's *Les Dialogues des Carmélites* at the Royal Swedish Opera and the Stuttgart Opera; in 2019 in Stockholm he conducted the work again to great acclaim. In Stuttgart, Marc Soustrot guest conducted *Götterdämmerung*, *Siegfried*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, Bizet's *Carmen* and Gounod's *Faust* in recent seasons. In 2015 he gave his successful debut conducting the Staatskapelle Dresden in a new production of Claude Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande* (staging: Álex Ollé/La Fura dels Baus) at the Semperoper Dresden, and later continued his fruitful collaboration with Álex Ollé with Honegger's *Jeanne d'Arc au bûcher* at the Oper Frankfurt. In 2018 he conducted Berlioz's *Damnation de Faust* on an astounding tour with Sophie Koch, Paul Groves, Bryn Terfel, the Malmö Symfoniorkester, and the MDR-Rundfunkchor, with performances in Dresden, Antwerp, Amsterdam, and Hamburg. In 2019, the MDR-Rundfunkchor also took part in Berlioz's Requiem *Grande Messe des Morts* at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig. In the 2022/23 season Marc Soustrot will return to the Symphony Orchestras of Malmö and Zuidnederland.

Marc Soustrot has conducted on numerous prize-winning CDs and recorded the complete symphonic works of Camille Saint-Saëns with the Malmö Symphony Orchestra for Naxos. In 2008 he was honoured with the title of Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur.

Born in Lyon, Soustrot studied trombone and piano at the Conservatoire de Lyon until 1969, when he began training as a conductor with Manuel Rosenthal in Paris.

2022/23 season

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