



## Geoffrey Simon

Australian conductor Geoffrey Simon is resident in London and has appeared there with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, London Chamber Orchestra and English Chamber Orchestra.

Internationally, he has appeared with the Adelaide, Atlanta, Bournemouth, Canberra, City of Birmingham, Fort Worth, Melbourne, Milwaukee, Queensland, Sapporo, Shanghai, St Louis, Sydney, Tasmanian, Vermont and West Australian Symphony Orchestras, the Israel, Moscow, Munich and New Japan Philharmonic Orchestras, the American Symphony, the Residentie Orchestra of The Hague, the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony and the Australian Opera.

His music directorships have included the Albany Symphony Orchestra (New York), the Australian Sinfonia (London), the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra (Indiana), the Orquestra Simfònica de Balears "Ciutat de Palma" (Majorca) and the Sacramento Symphony (California). With the Palma Orchestra he conducted Paul Patterson's *Te Deum* for the King and Queen of Spain, and with the Sacramento Symphony he created the *World View* series of concerts, attracting audiences from twenty non-European cultures.

Geoffrey Simon is Music Director Emeritus of the Northwest Mahler Orchestra in Seattle, with which he has conducted the Mahler symphonic cycle and Messiaen's *Turangalila Symphony*. He is Consultant for Classical Special Projects for Arts Global (a foundation for emerging artists, London, Montreux and New York) and has served as a jury member for Young Concert Artists, PianoTexas, Australian Cello Awards and Australian Music Foundation.

Geoffrey Simon was a student of Herbert von Karajan, Rudolf Kempe, Hans Swarowsky and Igor Markevich, and a major prize-winner at the first John Player International Conductors' Award. He has made forty five recordings for a number of labels, combining discoveries with familiar works by Tchaikovsky, Respighi, Borodin, Mussorgsky, Smetana, Bloch, Grainger, Debussy, Ravel, Saint-Saëns and *Les Six*. Amongst the contemporary composers he has recorded are Barry Conyngham, John Downey, Paul Patterson and Zhou Long.

For his own label, Cala Records, Geoffrey Simon has brought together large ensembles of single instruments—violins, violas, cellos, double basses, horns, trumpets, trombones and harps—drawn from London's leading solo, orchestral and chamber musicians. Known as *The London Sound Series*, the recordings have attracted interest amongst instrumentalists worldwide. Geoffrey Simon's virtuoso 20-cello ensemble, The London Cello Orchestra, has performed live for H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, and toured Switzerland and South Korea in 2013. A return visit is scheduled in 2015.

*"A born conductor, whose every gesture expresses music."* DIE PRESSE Vienna

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