

マリインスキー歌劇場管弦楽団

The Mariinsky Orchestra

<ワレリー・ゲルギエフ プロフィール>

1988年、マリインスキー劇場の芸術監督に選出され、同劇場を世界中が注目する一流歌劇場へ発展させた、カリスマ性を備えた現代屈指の指揮者。ロッテルダム・フィルの首席指揮者(1995～2008/現在は名誉指揮者)、メトロポリタン・オペラ首席客演指揮者(1997～2002)、ロンドン交響楽団首席指揮者(2007～)など、国際的な主要ポストを歴任し、同時にウィーン・フィル、ベルリン・フィル等の一流オーケストラに客演。また、サンクトペテルブルグの「白夜の星」音楽祭、フィンランドのミッケリ国際音楽祭、コーカサス平和音楽祭、ロッテルダム・ゲルギエフ・フェスティバルなど、数々の国際音楽祭を創設し、芸術監督および音楽監督を務める。

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マリインスキー歌劇場管弦楽団は、ロシアで最も古い音楽団体として、由緒ある歴史を誇っている。ピョートル大帝の治世のもと、18世紀に創設され、ロシア革命以前はロシア帝室劇場管弦楽団として知られていた。1860年以来、サンクトペテルブルグのマリインスキー劇場(アレクサンドル二世の皇后 MARIA に因んで名付けられた)で演奏を行っていたこのオーケストラは、19世紀後半からエドゥアルド・ナプラヴニク(1839-1916)の指揮のもとで真の黄金時代を迎えた。ナプラヴニクは帝室劇場に半世紀以上(1863-1916)君臨し、その指揮のもとでヨーロッパ有数のオーケストラとして認められるようになった。彼はまた、一代の優れた指揮者たちを指導し、後に「ロシア流」として知られるようになった指揮法を編み出した。

当劇場は19～20世紀の名作オペラやバレエが多数生まれた場所でもあり、グリンカの《皇帝に捧げし命》《ルスランとリュドミラ》、ボロディンの《イーゴリ公》、ムソルグスキーの《ボリス・ゴドゥノフ》《ホヴァーンシチナ》、リムスキー＝コルサコフの《プスコフの娘》《見えざる町キーテジと聖女フェヴローニヤの物語》、チャイコフスキーの《スペードの女王》《くるみ割り人形》《眠れる森の美女》や、プロコフィエフ、ショスタコーヴィチ、ハチャトゥリアンによるオペラ、バレエなどの初演も行った。また、チャイコフスキーは同オーケストラを指揮していたばかりでなく、自らの交響曲第5番、幻想序曲「ハムレット」および交響曲第6番の初演を行うなど、オーケストラと深い関わりを持っていた。ラフマニノフもカンタータ「春」や詩曲「鐘」の初演をはじめとして、いくつもの公演を指揮。また同オーケストラは、若きストラヴィンスキーの「幻想的スケルツォ」やバレエ《火の鳥》組曲なども初演した。

一方、同オーケストラのレパートリーには、ロシアのみならずヨーロッパの作曲家によるものも多く含まれており、ハンス・フォン・ビューロー、フェリックス・モットル、フェリックス・ワインガルトナー、アレキサンダー・フォン・ツェムリンスキー、アルトゥール・ニキシュ、ウィレム・メンゲルベルグ、オットー・クレンペラー、ブルーノ・ワルター、エーリヒ・クライバーなど、世界的な著名指揮者たちも次々と客演した。

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ちなみに、1847年と1867年には、ベルリオーズが自作の「ファウストの劫罰」「ロメオとジュリエット」「幻想交響曲」「イタリアのハロルド」を指揮し、日記に「何というオーケストラだろう！何という正確さ！何というアンサンブル！」と記し、1867年の手紙には「ベートーヴェンは自分の作品をかくも見事に演奏してもらったことがないだろう」と綴っている。そしてマーラーは1902年と1907年にオーケストラと共演し、自身の交響曲第5番を含む5つのコンサートを指揮。1912年には、シェーンベルクが交響詩「ペレアスとメリザンド」のプレミアを指揮した。

キーロフ・オペラと改名されていたソ連時代、オーケストラはエフゲニー・ムラヴィンスキーとユーリー・テミルカーノフの指導のもとで高い芸術的水準を維持していたが、1988年、ワレリー・ゲルギエフがオペラの芸術監督に選出され、1996年にはロシア議会からマリインスキー劇場の芸術監督および総裁に任命された。レニングラードがサンクトペテルブルグと改名されて間もなく、キーロフ劇場は設立当初のマリインスキー劇場に名前を戻し、オペラ、バレエそして当管弦楽団の本拠地となった。

ゲルギエフの指導のもと、同劇場はメトロポリタン・オペラ、英国ロイヤル・オペラ、サンフランシスコ・オペラ、ミラノ・スカラ座などの世界的な歌劇場と密接な関係を結び、オペラやバレエ団とのツアーに加えて、当オーケストラも世界中で演奏している。そして最も優れたオーケストラのひとつとして数えられるようになり、継続的なツアー活動の成功によって、あるジャーナリストが言うところの「世界初のグローバルなオーケストラ」という名声を得るに至っている。そして1998年に行われた中国への歴史的な初ツアー（ロシアのオーケストラとしては実に40年ぶりの訪中）では、北京の人民大会堂において江沢民中国国家主席の前でコンサートを行い、それは500万の人々に中継された。

録音は、1989年以来専属契約を結ぶフィリップス・クラシックスに、ゲルギエフの指揮で数多く行っており、グラモフォン誌最優秀オペラ賞、日本レコード・アカデミー大賞など数々の賞を受賞している。

*プロフィールの一部を使用する場合、日数が経過している場合は、ジャパン・アーツの校正チェックをお受け頂きますようお願い申し上げます。

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The Mariinsky Orchestra

“Gergiev carries a disproportionately large portion of the contemporary music world on his shoulders. Under his command, the Mariinsky Theatre has emerged as one of the world’s most respected (and recorded) opera companies.”

The New Yorker (1998)

“As the star conductor he undoubtedly is, Gergiev is one of those conjurors of sounds who can draw the audience to them in such a way that it feels the earth move.”

Bublinger Bote (2000)

“We all admire Valery Gergiev for his truly inspirational performances which, together with his unbelievable energy, passion for the music and wonderful amicable qualities have taken him to great heights of performing in the world of music.”

The Guardian (2005)

Has turned the Mariinsky Theatre with its centuries-old traditions into the world’s most dynamic opera and ballet company, nurturing an endless stream of brilliant singers and dancers. The maestro fully deserves his rating by Time magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world today.

The Times (2010)

Valery Gergiev graduated from the Leningrad State Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatoire in symphony conducting under Professor Ilya Musin. At the age of twenty-three he won the Herbert von Karajan Conducting Competition in Berlin and, while still a student at the Conservatoire, was invited to join the Kirov Theatre (now the Mariinsky). At the age of thirty-five, Valery Gergiev was appointed Artistic Director of the Opera Company, and since 1996 he has been Artistic and General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre.

At the Mariinsky Theatre Gergiev has overseen the emergence of a plethora of world-class singers. Under his direction, the theatre’s opera and ballet repertoire has expanded significantly. Today it encompasses a broad range of works from 18th to 20th century classical masterpieces to works by contemporary composers.

Highlights include performances of every opera by Prokofiev and Shostakovich at the Mariinsky Theatre, as well as the return of Wagner’s operas Lohengrin, Parsifal, Der Fliegende Holländer and Tristan und Isolde to the St Petersburg stage. For the first time in the history of Russian theatre, Gergiev staged a production of Wagner’s tetralogy Der Ring des Nibelungen in the original German (2003), the Western European premiere of which in Baden-Baden (2004) was feted by the German media as a truly historic event in world music. In June 2005 Der Ring des Nibelungen was performed

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to great acclaim in Moscow, and later in South Korea and Japan. In the 2006 - 2007 season, Wagner's tetralogy was performed in the USA, Great Britain and Spain. In 2009 Gergiev oversaw an international production of Berlioz' operatic duologue *Les Troyens*, which resulted in a series of concert performances of this work by the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra, Chorus and soloists in Russia, Israel and the USA.

Gergiev has established and directs such international festivals as the Gergiev Festival (the Netherlands), the Moscow Easter Festival and the Stars of the White Nights festival (St Petersburg), which Austria's respected *Festspiele Magazin* listed as one of the world's ten greatest festivals.

Thanks to Valery Gergiev's efforts, the Concert Hall was built in 2006, which has significantly broadened the repertoire possibilities of the company and the orchestra. This stunning theatre and concert complex is remarkable for its outstanding acoustics. At the Concert Hall of the Mariinsky Theatre there are not only performances of operas and philharmonic programmes, but also recordings of works for the Mariinsky label, established on the initiative of Valery Gergiev in 2009. The Mariinsky label has already released sixteen discs that have received great public and critical acclaim. In 2010 a recording of the opera *The Nose* the label's first project received a MIDEM Classical Award.

The maestro devotes much attention to programmes for children and young people and he has revived the practice of offering subscriptions for this audience group as well as gratis concerts for students.

Valery Gergiev is also well-known for his active role in the protection of humanistic ideals. The maestro initiated the worldwide series of charitable concerts *Beslan: Music for Life* that were held in New York, Paris, London, Tokyo, Rome and Moscow. In August 2008 the maestro conducted a requiem concert in front of the ruined Government House of South Ossetia in Tskhinval.

Since 2007 Valery Gergiev has been Principal Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra and he also collaborates with the Metropolitan Opera, the Wiener Philharmoniker, the orchestra of La Scala and the New York and Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestras. He is a member of the Council for Culture and Art of the President of the Russian Federation and headed the Organisational Committee of the XIV International Tchaikovsky Competition.

In February 2010 the Academic Council of the St Petersburg State University elected Valery Gergiev Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

For his services to music and to society, Valery Gergiev has been the recipient of numerous awards and prizes. These include the title of People's Artist of Russia (1996), the State Prize of Russia (1994 and 1999), Government awards of Germany (Bundestverdienstkreuz, first class, "For Services"),

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Italy (Grand'ufficiale dell'Ordine al merito), France (L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres), the Netherlands (Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion), Japan (Order of the Rising Sun), Poland (Gloria Artis Gold Medal), the honorary title UNESCO Artist of the World and the Polar Music Prize of the Swedish Royal Academy of Music. In December 2008 the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra under Valery Gergiev was included in a list of the world's top twenty ensembles published by Gramophone magazine. Of the three Russian orchestras included in the list, the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra was ranked highest. In 2009 Great Britain's Royal Philharmonic Society named Valery Gergiev "Conductor of the Year". One of the maestro's most recent awards was Europe's Glashütte Original Music Festival Prize (2010) which he received for his support of talented young musicians. In 2011 Valery Gergiev was made Honorary President of the Edinburgh International Festival. In November 2011 respected French magazine *Classica* named him "Artist of the Year."

The orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre enjoys a long and distinguished history as one of the oldest musical institutions in Russia. Founded in the 18th century during the reign of Peter the Great, it was known before the revolution as the Russian Imperial Opera Orchestra. Housed in St Petersburg's famed Mariinsky Theatre (named after Maria, the wife of Czar Alexander II) since 1860, the Orchestra entered its true "golden age" during the second half of the 19th century under the music direction of Eduard Napravnik (1839-1916). Napravnik single-handedly ruled the Imperial Theatre for more than half a century (from 1863-1916) and under his leadership, the Mariinsky Orchestra was recognized as one of the finest in Europe. He also trained a generation of outstanding conductors, developing what came to be known as "the Russian school of conducting."

The Mariinsky Theatre was also the birthplace of numerous operas and ballets which are meanwhile regarded as masterpieces of the 19th and 20th century. World premiere performances include Glinka's *A Life for the Tsar* and *Ruslan and Lyudmila*, Borodin's *Prince Igor*, Musorgsky's *Boris Godunov* and *Khovanshchina*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Maid of Pskov*, *The Snow Maiden* and *Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh*, Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*, *Iolanta*, *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, Prokofiev's *The Duenna*, as well as operas by Shostakovich and ballets by Khachaturian.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was closely associated with the Mariinsky Theatre, not only conducting the orchestra but also premiering his Fifth Symphony there, as well as the fantasy overture *Hamlet* and the Sixth Symphony. Sergey Rakhmaninov conducted the Orchestra on numerous occasions, including premieres of his *Spring Cantata* and the symphonic poem *The Bells*. The Orchestra also premiered the music of the young Igor Stravinsky, such as his *Scherzo Fantastique* and the suite from *The Firebird* ballet.

Throughout its history, the Mariinsky Theatre has presented works by Europe's leading opera composers. In 1862, Verdi's *La forza del destino* was given its world premiere at the theatre in the presence of the composer. Wagner was a favorite at the Mariinsky Theatre, where his operas were frequently performed from the 19th through the beginning of the 20th century, including the first

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Russian performances of the complete Ring cycle, Tristan und Isolde, Die Meistersinger and Parsifal. The Mariinsky Orchestra also gave the first Russian performances of Richard Strauss' Elektra, Salome and Der Rosenkavalier, and Berg's Wozzeck in a production that took place two years after its world premiere in Berlin and twenty years before its premiere in Vienna.

By 1917 the orchestra's name had changed to the Royal Imperial Theatre Orchestra, and was regarded as St Petersburg's leading symphony orchestra. Its repertoire operatic and orchestral has traditionally included not only music of Russian composers, but also of European composers. Numerous internationally famous musicians conducted the Orchestra, among them Hans von Bulow, Felix Mottl, Felix Weingartner, Alexander von Zemlinsky, Otto Nikisch, Willem Mengelberg, Otto Klemperer, Bruno Walter and Erich Kleiber.

On two occasions, in 1847 and 1867, Hector Berlioz conducted performances of his own works, including The Damnation of Faust, Romeo and Juliet, Symphony Fantastique and Harold in Italy. Berlioz wrote in his memoirs "Such an orchestra! Such precision! Such an ensemble!". And in a letter dated December 1867, he stated: "I don't think Beethoven ever had a better performance of his compositions!" In March and April 1863, Richard Wagner visited St Petersburg and led the Royal Imperial Theatre Orchestra in six programs of Beethoven Symphonies and his own compositions, including the world's first concert performance of Prelude und Liebestod. Gustav Mahler appeared with the Orchestra in both 1902 and 1907, conducting five concerts, including a performance of his Fifth Symphony. In 1912, Arnold Schoenberg conducted the premiere of his symphonic poem Pelleas and Melisande.

Renamed the Kirov Opera during the Soviet era, the orchestra continued to maintain its high artistic standards under the leadership of Yevgeny Mravinsky and Yuri Temirkanov. In 1988, Valery Gergiev was elected artistic director of the opera company and in 1996 the Russian Government appointed him as Artistic and General Director of the Mariinsky Theatre. Soon after the city of Leningrad was renamed St Petersburg, the Kirov Theatre reverted to its original title of the Mariinsky Theatre, home to the Kirov Opera, the Kirov Ballet, and the Kirov Orchestra.

Under the leadership of Valery Gergiev, the Mariinsky Theatre has forged important relationships with the world greatest opera houses, among them the Metropolitan Opera House, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, the San Francisco Opera, the Théâtre Châtelet in Paris, La Scala in Milan just to name a few. Besides extensive touring of the opera and the ballet company, the Mariinsky Orchestra has performed throughout world and has become one of the outstanding orchestras. The success of the orchestra's continual traveling has led to the reputation of, what a journalist called, "the world's first global orchestra".

2015/16 season only. Please contact Japan Arts if you wish to edit this biography.

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