

Tobias Ringborg

Conductor

Tobias Ringborg is one of the most prolific musical talents to emerge from Sweden in later years. He is equally at home on the concert podium as a conductor and violinist, as well as in the opera house. His career started in 1994 when he, as a violinist, won the prestigious Swedish Soloist Prize. The same year he graduated with the highest honours from the Royal College of Music in Stockholm, and went on to study at the Juilliard School in New York, graduating in 1996.

As a violinist Tobias Ringborg has appeared with every Swedish orchestra and has collaborated with conductors such as Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Neeme Järvi, Okko Kamu, Sakari Oramo, and Daniel Harding. He is an active champion of Swedish music, and his discography includes about twenty CD:s with chamber music and violin concertos, mostly by Swedish composers. In between operatic and orchestra engagements, Tobias Ringborg maintains an active career as a chamber musician, often performing with his longtime collaborator, pianist Anders Kilstrom, with whom he recorded the Brahms violin sonatas in 2005.

He plays a Gagliano violin, on loan from the Järnäker foundation of the Royal Academy of Music.

In 2000, Tobias Ringborg decided to expand his musical career and won an important conducting competition in Helsingborg, which led to invitations from all Swedish orchestras. His lifelong passion for opera led to his operatic debut at the Stockholm Folkoperan in 2001, with Verdi's *La Traviata*. In 2002 he began a two year association with the Malmö Opera, leading productions of a. o. Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos* and Verdi's *Otello*.

In 2001 he made his debut at the Stockholm Royal Opera with Puccini's *La Bohème*, and since then he has maintained a strong connection to that company, leading performances of a.o. Puccini's *Manon Lescaut* and *Tosca*, Bizet's *Carmen*, Donizetti's *L'elisir d'Amore*, Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and *Die Zauberflöte*, Verdi's *Don Carlo* and Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*.

Specializing in the Italian, French and Mozart repertoire, operatic activities of recent seasons include Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* and Puccini's *Turandot* (televised in Sweden in 2005) at Norrlandsoperan in Umeå, Mozart's *Così fan tutte* (directed by Peter Konwitschny) at Värmlandsoperan in Karlstad, Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* at the Norwegian Opera in Oslo, Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West* in Malmö, and Gounod's *Faust* at the Danish National Opera. In 2008 he conducted *La Traviata* for his German debut at Oper Leipzig, and in 2009 *Così fan tutte* for his British operatic debut at Scottish Opera, in an acclaimed production by David McVicar.

The symphonic repertoire he has explored with most major Swedish and Danish orchestras (such as the Stockholm Royal Philharmonic, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, the orchestras of Gothenburg, Malmö, Norrköping, Aarhus and Odense and the Copenhagen Philharmonic). He maintains a strong connection to the Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra, to which he returns every season. In 2005, he made his London debut with the English Chamber Orchestra at Barbican, in the role both as conductor and soloist.

The current season (09/10) include concerts with several Swedish and Danish orchestras (a.o. his return to the Stockholm Royal Philharmonic in May 2010), Puccini's *Il Tabarro* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* at the Swedish summer festival Opera på Skäret, Mozart's *Idomeneo* at the Danish National Opera (touring all over Denmark), and *La Bohème* for his debut at Opera North in Leeds, England.

Future plans include his returns to Stockholm Royal Opera and Scottish Opera (at both houses

with Verdi's *Rigoletto*), *Don Giovanni* at the Danish National Opera, concerts with the orchestras of Aarhus, Norrköping (Orff's *Carmina burana*), Malmö, Helsingborg and the Royal Danish Academy of Music. Studio projects include the world premiere recording of the 1849 belcanto masterpiece *Cristina, Regina di Svezia*, by Italian/Swedish composer Jacopo Foroni. It was performed in Vadstena in 2007, and will now be recorded by the Sterling label in August 2010, with the forces of Gothenburg Opera.

May 2010