

James Judd

Music Director of the Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra
Conductor Emeritus of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra
Principal Conductor of the Asian Youth Orchestra
Music Director of the Little Orchestra Society New York

British born conductor James Judd is sought after for both his passionate musicianship and his charismatic presence on and off the podium. Known for his extraordinarily communicative style and bold, imaginative programming, repeat engagements in concert halls from Prague to Tokyo, from Istanbul to Adelaide, attest to his rapport with audiences and musicians alike.

Judd came to international attention as Lorin Maazel's Assistant Conductor at the Cleveland Orchestra, and as Associate Music Director of the European Community Youth Orchestra invited by Claudio Abbado. Since then he led the Berlin Philharmonic, Israel Philharmonic, Vienna Symphony, Gewandhaus Orchestra, Prague Symphony, Orchestre National de France, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra, the Monte Carlo Symphony, the Brussels Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Seoul Philharmonic, Japan's NHK Orchestra and the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg, and the major British ensembles as the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, Hallé Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, and the English Chamber Orchestra. He was co-founder of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, which he led on tours throughout the United States, the Far East and Europe. In North America he is a frequent guest conductor with the orchestras of St. Louis, Montreal, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Dallas, Seattle, Indianapolis, Utah, Vancouver and Ottawa. As opera conductor, he has appeared with the English National Opera conducting productions of *Il Trovatore*, *La Traviata*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Rigoletto*, and *Le Nozze di Figaro*; and at the Glyndebourne Opera Festival in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*. James Judd also served as Artistic Director of the Florida Grand Opera from 1993-1996.

During his eight years as Music Director of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Judd brought the ensemble to a new level of visibility and international renown with acclaimed recordings for the Naxos label of works by Copland, Bernstein, Vaughan Williams, Gershwin and many others. Other music directorships have included Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestre National de Lille in France and a groundbreaking 14 years as Music Director of the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra. An outstanding exponent of the works of Gustav Mahler, Judd's performances of this composer have been praised the world over. His recording of Mahler's Symphony No. 1 was awarded the Gold Medal by France's *Diapason* as well as the Toblacher Komponierhäuschen for the best Mahler recording of the year. He also recorded Brahms symphonies with the Royal Philharmonic and works by Copland, Steve Reich, Takemitsu, Gershwin, Bernstein, Bernard Herrmann Elgar, Lilburn, Vaughan Williams, Tippett and many others, for Decca, EMI and Philips, and the complete operas by Meyerbeer and Donizetti on the Opera Rara label.

Recent highlights includes a Britten's *War Requiem* in Bucharest and Bernstein's *Mass* at the Radio France Festival, staged performances of *Carmina Burana* at the ruins of Masada, concerts with the Monte Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra, Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra, Slovenian National Orchestra, Noord Nederlands Orchestra and Vadim Repin, concerts in Berlin within the celebrations of Yehudi Menuhin's centenary, as well as long tours with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Asian Youth Orchestra celebrating its 25th anniversary.