



Stefan Soltesz Conductor

Stefan Soltesz is a frequent guest conductor at the Vienna State Opera and at the major opera houses throughout Europe, for instance at the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, the state opera houses in Berlin, , Hamburg and Munich, the opera houses of Frankfurt and Cologne, Grand Théâtre de Genève, Bolshoi Theatre Moscow and Hungarian State Opera in Budapest. He has also appeared at Netherlands Opera Amsterdam, Bilbao Opera, Paris Opéra, Royal Opera House Covent Garden in London, Teatro Bellini in Catania, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Washington and San Francisco opera houses, Zürich Opera, New National Theatre Tokyo, and at the festivals in Taipei, Montpellier, Aix-en-Provence, Pisa, Savonlinna, Tongyeong and Baden-Baden, where he recently has conducted a highly acclaimed production of "Mefistofele" by Boito. He gave his debut at the Teatr Wielki in Warsaw with Wagner's "Lohengrin" in 2014, followed by "Tristan und Isolde" as well as "Salome".

Stefan Soltesz was born in Nyiregyhaza (Hungary) in 1949 and moved as a child to Vienna. He studied conducting with Hans Swarowsky at the Vienna Academy of Music, where he also had training in composition and piano. As regular conductor of the avant-garde-ensemble "die reihe" he led numerous world premieres of contemporary music. His artistic career progressed as conductor at the *Theater an der Wien*, followed by engagements as coach and conductor at the Vienna State Opera (1973-1983) and as guest conductor at the Opera House in Graz (1979-1981). During three editions of the Salzburg Festival, in 1978, 1979 and 1983, he worked as a musical assistant to Karl Böhm, Christoph von Dohnányi and Herbert von Karajan.

Maestro Soltesz held the position of regular conductor at the Hamburg State Opera (1983-1985) and at the *Deutsche Oper Berlin* (1985-1997). He served as general music director of the State Theatre of Brunswick from 1988-1993 and as chief conductor of the Flemish Opera in Antwerp and Ghent from 1992-1997. From 1997 to 2013 he served as chief conductor of the *Essener Philharmoniker* and as artistic director of the Essen opera house *Aalto Theater*.

Stefan Soltesz has led radio performances and concerts in Berlin, Dresden, Genoa, Hanover, Hamburg, Milan, Munich, Paris, Rome, Palermo, Turin, Nagoya, Budapest, Vienna and Moscow. His discography includes operas by Giacomo Puccini, Giuseppe Gazzaniga and Alexander von Zemlinsky, as well as various symphonic works. His recording of music by Alban Berg and Hans Werner Henze won a Grammy nomination as well as an ICMA nomination. Strauss' "Salome" and Boito's "Mefistofele" from the Baden-Baden festival as well as Debussy's "Pelléas et Mélisande" from Aalto Theater were published as DVD.

Stefan Soltesz holds Austrian citizenship and lives in Berlin, Germany