



Prof. Wolfgang Kurz

Conductor. Composer

Wolfgang Kurz, born 1954, studied conducting with Prof. Jan Koetsier and Prof. Hermann Michael at the Academy of Music in Munich as well as in classes with Sergiu Celibidache. In addition, he received a Bachelor of Philosophy at the Academy of Philosophy in Munich.

He started his musical career at the Bavarian State Opera in Munich as a coach and musical assistant of the General Music Director (highest ranking conductor at the Bavarian State Opera) Wolfgang Sawallisch. After six years as a conductor at the Hessen State Theater in Wiesbaden from 1980 to 1986 he was engaged at the Würzburg Theater. Since 1988 Wolfgang Kurz has been lecturer of conducting at the Würzburg Music Academy. In addition, he was a teacher in the Frankfurt/Main Music Academy from 1992 to 1993. Wolfgang Kurz received several invitations as a visiting Professor for conducting through the European ERASMUS (European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students) Programme which included giving masterclasses in Porto (Portugal), Salamanca (Spain), and Monopoli (Italy).

Beside his many duties as guest conductor of various orchestras, he also performs as a Lied accompanist.

Wolfgang Kurz is a guest conductor at: Ensemble Insieme (Seoul, South Korea), Incheon Opera Company, Bach-Collegium Munich, the Baden-Baden Philharmonic Orchestra, Vogtland Philharmonic Orchestra, Kurpfalz Chamber Orchestra of Mannheim, Nürnberg Symphony, Salieri Chamber Orchestra (Hungary), Bavarian Chamber Opera in Veitshöchheim, Symphony Orchestra of the University of Technology Darmstadt, Ansbach Chamber Orchestra, Sinfonia Mozartiana, Chamber Orchestra of Bad Mergentheim, and the Allgäu Sinfonietta (Concert Tour in South Korea) among others.

His activities as a composer include compositions and arrangements for choir and orchestra. In 1999, he was a prize winner at the Valentin-Becker-Competition for Choral Music. In 2002, he was triple prize winner at the Competition for Choral Music of the Hessen Choral Union.

Conducting Repertoire: Operas/Operette

Chief Conductor

Auber, F.	Fra Diavolo
Britten, B.	The Beggar s Opera
Gluck, C.W.	Orpheus und Eurydice
Hindemith, P.	Back and Forth
Jessel, L.	Black Forest Girl
Millöcker, C.	The Beggar Student
Mozart, W.A.	The Magic Flute
Mozart, W.A.	The Abduction from the Seraglio
Nicolai, O.	The Merry Wives of Windsor
Offenbach, J.	La Vie Parisienne
Rossini, G.	The Barber of Seville
Strauss, J.	The Gypsy Baron

Guest Conductor

Beethoven, L.v.	Fidelio
Berlioz, H.	Beatrice and Benedict
Bizet, G.	Carmen
Donizetti, G.	Viva la Mamma
Donizetti, G.	The Elixir of Love
Donizetti, G.	Don Pasquale
Ferrero, L.	Salvatore Giuliano
Glass, P.	The Juniper Tree
Gounod, C.	Faust
Humperdinck, E.	Hansel and Gretel
Kálmán, E.	The Csárdás Princess
Lehár, F.	The Merry Widow
Lehár, F.	The Count of Luxembourg
Leoncavallo, R.	Bajazzo
Lortzing, A.	Tsar and Carpenter
Mozart, W.A.	The Impresario
Mozart, W.A.	Bastien and Bastienne
Mozart, W.A.	Zaide
Puccini, G.	Manon Lescaut
Puccini, G.	La Bohème
Rossini, G.	Cinderella
Smetana, B.	The Bartered Bride
Verdi, G.	Il Trovatore
Verdi, G.	Rigoletto
Verdi, G.	Otello
Weber, C.M.v.	The Marksman

Conducting Repertoire: Oratorios

Bach, J.S.	Christmas Oratorio I-III
Bach, J.S.	Christmas Oratorio IV-VI
Bach, J.S.	Saint Matthew Passion
Berlioz, H.	The Childhood of Christ
Bizet, G.	Te Deum
Brahms, J.	Alto Rhapsody
Brahms, J.	A German Requiem
Chabrier, E.	Ode à la musique
Cherubini, L.	Requiem in c minor
Duruflé, M.	Requiem
Dvořák, A.	Biblical Songs
Dvořák, A.	Stabat Mater
Fauré, G.	Requiem
Gounod, C.	St Cecilia Mess
Handel, G.F.	Messiah
Handel, G.F.	Ode for St. Cecilia s Day
Handel, G.F. (arr. Mendelssohn)	Acis and Galatea
Haydn, J.	The Seasons
Haydn, J.	The Creation
Lesueur, J. F.	Christmas Oratorio
Liszt, F.	Christus (Sections)
Mendelssohn Bartholdy, F.	The 95th Psalm
Mendelssohn Bartholdy, F.	Elijah
Mendelssohn Bartholdy, F.	Vom Himmel hoch (From Heaven above)
Mendelssohn Bartholdy, F.	Saint Paul
Mendelssohn Bartholdy, F.	Symphony No. 2 in Bb Major (The Hymn of Praise)
Mozart, W.A.	Davide penitente
Orff, C.	Carmina Burana
Purcell, H.	Midsummer Night s Dream
Rheinberger, J.	The Star of Bethlehem
Saint-Saëns, C.	Christmas Oratorio
Purcell, H.	Midsummer Night s Dream
Saint-Saëns, C.	Christmas Oratorio
Schubert, F.	Mass in A Major; Symphony No. 7 in b Minor (Unfinished)
Spohr, L.	The Crucifixion
Wineberger, P.	Der Sieg des Lichts (Première)

Reviews

„Wolfgang Kurz held his young ensemble together thanks to demanding and enlivening gestures, which brought all the accents precisely together, which is a feature of the superbly funny, Bohemian influenced Dvořák-Suite.

Main-Echo, Aschaffenburg

„...a challenge for a musician like Wolfgang Kurz, who always understands how to lead his singers and instrumentalists to perform at their limits in the service of the work...“ (Dvořák, Stabat Mater)

Tauber-Zeitung, Bad Mergentheim

„...let Kurz perform with much humour from his musicians bursting with energy.“
(Mozart, Linzer Sinfonie)

Main-Echo, Miltenberg

„...Kurz discovers more feeling, more emphasis, gave the sound more body, and appropriately shaped the conflicting rhythms. He not only lets the violins in their expressive high register shine, the cello lines sonorously sing and the wind section ecstatically exult at the end, but also he had appreciation for overcrowding and for drama...Here reigned a purposeful and dynamic will.“
(Brahms, 2. Sinfonie)

Ansbacher Landeszeitung

„...and Wolfgang Kurz has already many times proved that he is a genius and more-than-competent Bach interpreter.“ (Bach, Weihnachtsoratorium)

Fränkische Nachrichten, Bad Mergentheim

„...Even his most recent performance with the Mergentheim Chamber Choir and Würzburg Chamber Orchestra showed his eminent capability once again to form a cohesive and homogenous sound from musicians with very different requirements.“ (Händel, Acis und Galatea)

Tauberzeitung, Bad Mergentheim

„...Edvard Grieg's orchestration of the *Lyric Pieces* was very successful under the baton of Wolfgang Kurz. Facinating aural charms with many voices and shades inspired. The musicians from Würzburg played exceptionally colourfully.“

Echo am Sonntag, Künzelsau