

# Christian Arming

Conductor



*Christian Arming* is one of Austria's most sought after conductors, highly successful in both the symphonic and operatic fields. Since 2011, he has held the post of Music Director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of Liège in Belgium. He has also held music directorships with the New Japan Philharmonic in Tokyo from 2003 to 2013, and the Lucerne Theatre and Symphony Orchestra from 2002 to 2004. In 2017, he was named Principal Guest Conductor of the Hiroshima Symphony Orchestra.

In North America, he has conducted the Boston Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Cincinnati, Houston, Colorado, Fort Worth, New Jersey, Utah, and Vancouver symphonies. Most recently, he made highly acclaimed debuts with the St. Louis Symphony, and the Atlanta Symphony. He is also invited annually to both the Aspen and Roundtop Festivals in the U.S. A regular guest conductor in Asia, he has worked with the NHK, Hiroshima, and Shanghai symphonies, as well as the philharmonic orchestras of Taiwan and Malaysia.

Born in Vienna, *Mr. Arming* studied conducting under Leopold Hager at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. Seiji Ozawa has also been a mentor and supporter of his career, introducing him to Boston and Tokyo. At the age of 24, he was appointed Chief Conductor of the Janáček Philharmonic in Ostrava, Czech Republic, a position he held from 1996 to 2002.

Since conducting the Czech Philharmonic at the opening concert of the Prague Spring Festival in May 2003, *Christian Arming's* career has continued to flourish. He has conducted many of the top European orchestras, including the Staatskapelle Dresden, Deutsches Sinfonieorchester, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, Munich Philharmonic, NDR Hamburg, Salzburg Mozarteum, Vienna Symphony, Polish National Radio Symphony, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Prague Symphony, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Barcelona Symphony, Belgium National, Capitole de Toulouse, and RAI Turin orchestras. Highlights of the 2017/2018 season included performances with the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra and return engagements with the Polish National Radio Symphony; the Stuttgart and Monte Carlo philharmonic orchestras; and the Janáček Festival. He will also conduct a tour with the Orchestre national d'Ile-de-France, culminating in Paris in the new hall "La Seine Musicale."

Equally at home with operatic repertoire, *Mr. Arming* has won many supporters in the operatic world since his 1997 debut at the Salzburg Festival; two immediate re-invitations followed. His subsequent productions have included Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* (Cincinnati); *Der Rosenkavalier* (Trieste); *La Bohème* (Lucerne); *Salome* and *Elektra* (Verona); *Prince Igor* (Strasbourg); as well as *The Flying Dutchman*, *Don Giovanni*, *Jenůfa*, *Tales of Hoffmann*, and *Der Zwerg* for the Frankfurt Opera. He regularly conducts productions in Tokyo, the most recent being *Pelleas and Mélisande*, *Leonore*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Salome*, *A Florentine Tragedy*, *Lohengrin*, and *Die Fledermaus*.

*Christian Arming's* varied discography includes works by Janáček and Schubert with the Janáček Philharmonic (Arte Nova and Rosa Classic); Brahms Symphony No. 1 and Mahler Symphonies Nos. 3 and 5

with the New Japan Philharmonic (Fontec); and more recently, with the Liège Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Franck's Symphony in D Minor (Diapason d'Or) and a CD of Wagner Opera Arias with Russian bass-baritone Evgeny Nikitin (Naïve). All have received positive reviews in the international music press.

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*"Arming is an extremely graceful conductor and under his hand the romanticism of this most muscular and exuberant of the four Schumann symphonies [No. 3] came beautifully to light. He caressed phrasings in the third movement, brought out all the dancing/drinking song character of the scherzo, and [the] fourth movement was nobility itself."*

*THE VANCOUVER SUN*