

# **JAMES JUDD**

## **CONDUCTOR**

Music Director of the Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra, the Israel Symphony Orchestra, Little Orchestra Society New York, Music Director Emeritus of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and from the 2017/18 season, Music Director of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, British 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 Vienna to Tokyo, from Istanbul to Wellington, attest to his rapport with audiences and musicians alike.

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, tours of Europe and Australia and the orchestra's first appearance at the BBC Proms. Past positions have included Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestre National de Lille in France, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and a groundbreaking 14 years as Music Director of the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra.

In addition to his international conducting career, James Judd has led the orchestras of the Juilliard School, Curtis Institute of Music, Manhattan School of Music, Guildhall School, Trinity College of London, Aspen Music Festival and the National Youth Orchestras of Australia and New Zealand. Since 2007, he has been Principal Guest Conductor of the Asian Youth Orchestra, an ensemble of the most gifted musicians from mainland China, Hong Kong, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam, Taiwan, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Korea.

An outstanding exponent of the works of Gustav Mahler, Judd's performances of this monumental 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. Judd's many orchestral recordings are also featured on the Decca, EMI and Philips labels.

Recent concert highlights have included performances of Britten's *War Requiem* in Bucharest and Bernstein's *Mass* at the Radio France Festival, staged performances of *Carmina Burana* at the spectacular desert ruins of Masada, a concert with the Monte Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Palace in

Monaco, a month-long tour with the New Zealand Symphony, a tour of Asia celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Asian Youth Orchestra, concerts with the Vienna Concertverien in the new opera house Dubai, and in China with the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra and concerts in the Berlin Konzerthaus as part of the celebrations of Sir Yehudi Menuhin's centenary.