

ROSSEN MILANOV

Associate Conductor

2010-2011 Season

A sought-after guest conductor on the international music scene, **Rossen Milanov** has been hailed as “one of the most-promising figures in the upcoming generation of conductors” (*Seattle Times*). He currently holds the position of associate conductor of The Philadelphia Orchestra. In July 2010 he concluded his tenure as artistic director of The Philadelphia Orchestra at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts.

In the 2010-2011 season Mr. Milanov makes his debut as music director of the Princeton Symphony. Other debuts include the Hong Kong Philharmonic, his Spanish debut with the Orquesta Sinfónica del Principado de Asturias, and his European operatic debut conducting Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of the Mtsensk District* for Komische Oper Berlin. With The Philadelphia Orchestra, he leads the opening week performances of the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts featuring a newly choreographed version of Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* with Pennsylvania Ballet and Falla's *The Three Cornered Hat*. This season he also makes a return to Royal Swedish Opera for performances of a ballet version of Handel's *Messiah*.

A committed supporter of youth and music, Mr. Milanov is music director of both the New Symphony Orchestra, a privately-funded youth orchestra in his native city of Sofia, and Symphony in C, one of America's leading professional training orchestras. He regularly conducts opera productions at the Curtis Institute of Music and appears each season at Carnegie Hall for LinkUP!, a program supported and promoted by the Weill Music Institute. He has led tours with the Australian Youth Orchestra, the New Zealand Youth Orchestra, conducted the Aspen Chamber Symphony, and was music director of the Chicago Youth Symphony from 1997 to 2001.

Mr. Milanov's ongoing relationship with The Philadelphia Orchestra has included critically-acclaimed performances at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival, and the Kimmel Center, where highlights have included John Adams's Violin Concerto with Leila Josefowicz, Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto with Yo-Yo Ma, Shostakovich's Symphony No. 15, and the world premiere of Nicholas Maw's English Horn Concerto. A recent highlight was the release of *A Grand Celebration: The Philadelphia Orchestra Live with the Wanamaker Organ at Macy's Center City*, his first recording with the Orchestra.

A well-known figure in North America, Mr. Milanov has appeared with the National Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, and the symphony orchestras of New Jersey, Seattle, San Antonio, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Charlotte, and Baltimore. He has also worked with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Rotterdam Philharmonic, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. On his regular tours to the Far East he has led the NHK Symphony, the Singapore Symphony, the Hyogo Symphony, the Guangzhou Symphony, the China Philharmonic, and the Seoul Philharmonic.

As an opera conductor, Mr. Milanov's recent performances of Puccini's *La bohème* with The Philadelphia Orchestra both at the Mann Center and at Bravo! were received with critical acclaim. He has worked with the legendary Bulgarian bass Nikolai Ghiaurov, and in 2008, as chief conductor of the Bulgarian National Radio Orchestra, led the orchestra in a European tour featuring the international star mezzo-soprano Vesselina Kasarova.

Mr. Milanov's recording of Dominick Argento's opera *Postcard from Morocco* with the Curtis Opera Theatre is available on Albany Records. He has recorded the works of the Russian composer Alla Pavlova with the Moscow Philharmonic for the Naxos label, and a live performance of Shostakovich's Symphony No. 15 with The Philadelphia Orchestra is available online.

Mr. Milanov studied conducting at the Juilliard School (where he received the Bruno Walter Memorial Scholarship), the Curtis Institute of Music, Duquesne University, and the Bulgarian National Academy of Music. He has received the Award for Extraordinary Contribution to Bulgarian Culture, awarded by the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture, and in 2005 was chosen as Bulgaria's Musician of the Year.

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