



YANNICK NÉZET-SÉGUIN

Music Director

Biography, January 2012

Over the past decade, Yannick Nézet-Séguin has established himself as a strong musical leader and one of the most exciting talents of his generation. Music director of the Rotterdam Philharmonic, principal guest conductor of the London Philharmonic, and artistic director and principal conductor of Montreal's Orchestre Métropolitain, he has made wildly successful appearances with the world's most revered ensembles—the Vienna Philharmonic, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, among many others. Throughout Europe and North America, Yannick's appearances have left indelible marks on the international classical music scene, making him one of the most sought after conductors in the world.

Widely praised for his musicianship, dedication, and charisma, Yannick Nézet-Séguin's talents extend beyond symphonic music and into the world of opera and choral music. His critically acclaimed performances at New York's Metropolitan Opera, Milan's La Scala, London's Royal Opera House, and the historic Salzburg Festival demonstrate that he is an artist of remarkable versatility and depth.

Named music director of The Philadelphia Orchestra in June 2010, Yannick Nézet-Séguin made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut in December 2008, with Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony and Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 featuring André Watts. He has since led the Orchestra in a breadth of repertoire ranging from the intimate—Haydn's Symphony No. 100—to the monumental—Mahler's Symphony No. 5 and launched a multi-year exploration of the world's great requiems with performances of the Mozart Requiem in January 2011 and Brahms's *German Requiem* in November 2011. Yannick Nézet-Séguin will commence his inaugural season as music director of The Philadelphia Orchestra with the Verdi Requiem in October 2012.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin has already made an impact on The Philadelphia Orchestra and its community. His concerts are attracting sold-out houses and he has established a regular forum for connecting with audiences through Post-Concert Conversations following his performances. His announcement as music director in June 2010 was followed by a full day traveling through Philadelphia, with stops at City Hall, the Liberty Bell, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Orchestra's free Neighborhood Concert, and a visit to a Phillies game, where he led the crowd in "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

A native of Montreal, Yannick Nézet-Séguin studied piano, conducting, composition, and chamber music at Montreal's Conservatory of Music and continued his studies with renowned conductor Carlo Maria Giulini; he also studied choral conducting with Joseph Flummerfelt at Westminster Choir College. His honors include a Royal Philharmonic Society Award, an Echo Award, the Virginia Parker Prize from the Canada Council, and the National Arts Centre Award. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Quebec in Montreal in 2011.

Nézet-Séguin and the Rotterdam Philharmonic received an Edison Award for their recording of works by Ravel with EMI/Virgin, and he has recorded several award-winning albums with the Orchestre Métropolitain for ATMA.