

Maximiliano Valdés



Maximiliano Valdes is Chief Conductor of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra and Artistic Director of Casals Festival. Until June 2010, he was Chief Conductor and Musical Director of the Principality of Asturias Symphony Orchestra , position held since 1994.

Born in Santiago de Chile, he studied piano and violin in this city at the Music Conservatory and then he graduated in piano, composition and orchestra conducting at the Academy of Santa Cecilia in Rome. Although he graduated "suma cum laude "in piano, he decided to devote himself to the orchestra conducting and in the following years he studied with Franco Ferrara in Italy and Sergiu Celibidache in France and Germany.

Early in his career, he was appointed Assistant Conductor in Teatro La Fenice in Venice and the following year he was granted a scholarship by the Tanglewood Festival, where he worked with Leonard Bernstein and Seiji Ozawa.

He won the first prize in the Nicolai Malko Competition for young conductors in Copenhagen, the first prize at the Vittorio Gui Competition in Florence and the second prize in a conductors competition organized by the BBC of London and the Rupert Foundation.

From 1989 to 1998 he was the Chief Conductor of the U.S. Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Since then, he has led the most important Symphony Orchestras, including, Saint Louis, Philadelphia,

Montreal, Baltimore, Indianapolis, Seattle, Houston, Dallas, New Jersey, the National Symphony Orchestra Washington, Toronto Calgary and the National Art Center in Ottawa.

In Europe he conducted orchestras in London, Paris, Berlin, Rome, Madrid and Lisbon, such as London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, National de France, Opera di Roma, Nacional de España, etc.

In the summer festival cycle, he performed at the Mann Music Center with the Philadelphia Orchestra, with St. Luke Orchestra in Caramoor and in Interlochen, Grand Teton, Eastern Music Festival, Chautauqua, Music Academy of the West and Grant Park in Chicago.

From the beginning of his career, Valdes contributed to shape the project of Youth Orchestras in Venezuela and other orchestras included in the FESNOJIV project.

In October 2007 he made an extensive tour through Mexico with his Principality of Asturias Orchestra and in January 2008 through several cities in China.

Maximiano Valdes Soubllette

Experienced conductor in operas production, he successfully debuted conducting La Traviata at the Nice Opera House in France. He also conducted Gounod's Romeo and Juliet and Verdi's Don Carlos at the Paris Opera House. At the Liceo de Barcelona he conducted Massenet's Werther and Mozart's Marriage of Figaro; at the Rome Opera, Agnese di Hohenstaufen's Spontini and Rossini's Barber of Seville; at the Bonn Opera, Tchaikovsky's Eugene Onegin; Adriana Lecouvreur at the Barbican Centre in London; and Bizet's Opera Carmen in Oslo.

Maestro Valdés has been very active within the Oviedo Opera's development in Spain, where he conducted several productions including The sonnambula, Carmen, Così fan tutte, The Marriage of Figaro, Don Juan, Salome and Elektra, Jenufa, Tristan and Isolde and Dialogues Carmelites. Additionally, he conducted important productions at the Opera in Chile like Faust, Romeo and Juliet, Lohengrin and Tosca, among others. He debuted in the U.S. conducting the Opera Così fan tutte at the Seattle Opera House and later returned to conduct Gounod's Faust.

In Puerto Rico, he conducted Tosca and La Traviata. His future projects include Il Postino of Catan and Katia Kabanova, at the Oviedo Opera House.

His discography includes recordings with the Royal Philharmonic of London, the Monte Carlo Philharmonic, the Nice Philharmonic and the London Symphony. Together with Caracas Simon Bolivar Orchestra he has recorded works by Ginastera, Revueltas, Moncayo and Carreño for the Dorian label. With the Naxos label Maestro Valdes recorded works by Latin American and Spanish composers with the Principality of Asturias Symphony Orchestra. In this collection, works for guitar and orchestra, harp and orchestra and only orchestra by Joaquin Rodrigo have already been published; The brief life and The three cornered hat by Manuel de Falla, and the symphonic work of the Cuban-Spanish composer Julián Orbón.