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JAMES MICHAEL CASWELL

CONDUCTOR

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**** Repertoire available upon request.

JAMES MICHAEL CASWELL CONDUCTOR

Conductor James Michael Caswell has been described by the Salt Lake Tribune as a 'true maestro' and 'a conductor of exceptional refinement and creativity'. Characterized by a special blend of technical virtuosity, scholarship and raw energy, his performances often inspire standing ovations and enthusiasm. Currently, Mr. Caswell is in his eighth season as music director of the Salt Lake Symphony and is also the music director of the Ruby Mountain Symphony. He has appeared as conductor with the Utah Symphony, the New Mexico Symphony, the New Mexico Symphony Chorus, the University of Texas Symphony Orchestra, the University of Utah Philharmonia, the University of Utah Symphony, the University of Utah Concert Chorale, the Utah Chamber Ensemble, the Madeleine Festival Orchestra and the Ruby Mountain Symphony. Most recently, he guest conducted the Orquesta Sinfonica Carlos Chavez in Mexico City.

Mr. Caswell's world premiere performance of Marie Barker Nelson's Symphony of the Millennium was recently released on the MMC Recordings label. An active trumpeter, he has performed recitals throughout the United States, Canada and Europe, and has appeared as soloist with the Salt Lake Symphony, Ruby Mountain Symphony and the Duke University Wind Ensemble.

An Austin native, Mr. Caswell received his Bachelor of Music in performance and education from the University of Texas School of Music.

His career led him to Vienna, where he studied opera, music history and German literature. He then served as apprentice conductor with the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra and was apprentice to Roger Melone.

Mr. Caswell earned a Master of Music degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Utah, where is also held the position of assistant conductor. Mr. Caswell has also studied conducting with Jorge Mester, music director of the Naples Philharmonic and former music director of the Aspen Music Festival and the Juilliard School."

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Currently:

Music Director, The Salt Lake Symphony
 Music Director, Ruby Mountain Symphony

Formerly:

Assistant Conductor, University of Utah Orchestras: Utah Philharmonia, University of Utah Symphony, Crimson Chamber Orchestra.
 Apprentice Conductor, New Mexico Symphony Orchestra and Chorus: apprentice to Roger Melone, Associate Conductor and Chorus Director.

Guest Conductor:

Carlos Chavez Orchestra in Mexico City 6/03
 Utah Symphony, Utah Chamber Ensemble, Madeleine Festival Orchestra, Ruby Mountain Symphony

FORMAL EDUCATION

Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting, University of Utah
 Bachelor of Music in Education and Performance, University of Texas School of Music

OTHER EDUCATION

Private conducting studies with Jorge Mester.
 Private conducting studies and apprenticeship with Roger Melone.
 Selected conductor for the American Symphony Orchestra League Conductor's Workshops: studies with Jorge Mester, Gustav Meier, Kenneth Keisler, Joseph Gifford, and Donald Thulean. Selected conductor for the California Conducting Symposium: studies with Jorge Mester and John Alexander.
 Selected conductor and organizer for Jorge Mester conducting workshops.
 Post-Baccalaureate study in Opera, Music History, and Austrian Literature in Vienna, Austria through Duke University.

HONORS

Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honor Society
 Outstanding Trumpeter and third place, Kingsville International Concerto Competition
 1987

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

“Caswell and the orchestra gave a first-rate performance of this delightful symphony, capturing the good-natured character of the work perfectly.”

Deseret News

“Caswell had this miniconcerto for orchestra totally under his control. He knew what he wanted from the score, and his musicians adeptly and gleefully delivered the goods.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

“Caswell and his orchestra understood the work they were presenting and were extraordinary in its execution.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

“James Caswell couldn’t have picked a better piece to showcase his unique expressive gifts.... proved himself the master of them all.”

Deseret News

“Caswell’s eye for detail in the tempos, articulation and phrasing was superb.”

Deseret News

“Under the clearly wrought and elegant baton of James Michael Caswell, the Salt Lake Symphony went for the zest of the music, which set the stage for a top-notch concert by this reigning king of community orchestras.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

“Caswell’s undeniable scholarship was stamped all over this rendition. The orchestra exceeded all expectations and continuously dazzled its audience.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

“Caswell had meticulously prepared his instrumentalists with his knowledge of the score and reliable baton technique.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

“Caswell ... proved himself to be a true maestro.... Caswell elegantly drove this work with passion and exuberance.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

“Caswell presented stunning creativity in this fantastic tone-poem and the orchestra played with effervescence.”

The Salt Lake Tribune

REFERENCES

Mr. Jorge Mester
Music Director, Pasadena Symphony
Music Director, Orquesta Filarmonica de la
Ciudad de Mexico
Musical Advisor & principal guest conductor,
Orquesta Sinfonica Carlos Chavez
150 South Los Robles Ave., Suite 400
Pasadena, CA 91101
818-541-0236

Mr. Donald L. Andrews
Chief Executive Officer, Utah Symphony
Maurice Abravanel Hall
123 West South Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1496
801-273-7444

Mr. Roger Melone
Associate Conductor and Chorus Director,
New Mexico Symphony Orchestra
405 Tulane S.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87106
505-255-4046

Ms. Paula A. Crider
Former Director of Bands, University of Texas
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22100 Hazy Hollow Dr.
Spicewood, TX 78669-6428
512-264-1002

Dr. John Cooksey
Director of Choral Activities, University of Utah
1375 East Presidents Circle, Room 204
Salt Lake, UT 84112
801-581-7368

Mr. Raymond Crisara
Professor of Trumpet, University of Texas
School of Music
University of Texas at Austin
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Ms. Laurel Ann Maurer
Principal Flutist, Salt Lake Symphony
P.O. Box 1045
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801-253-3759

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