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DAVID EATON

CONDUCTOR



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BIOGRAPHY

With triumphs in music capitals from New York to Paris to Moscow, David Eaton has established a reputation as one of his generation's most accomplished musicians. Since assuming the position of music director of the New York City Symphony in 1985, Mr. Eaton has been instrumental in restoring the orchestra's reputation as one of New York's most important cultural institutions. He also served as conductor of the Goldman Memorial Band and led that historic ensemble in its summer concert series in New York City from 1998 to 2000.

In addition to leading the New York City Symphony in its highly acclaimed Lincoln Center concert series at Alice Tully Hall, Mr. Eaton has led the New York City Symphony and its Chamber Ensemble and Brass Choir in concerts at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall, the Manhattan Center, Merkin Hall, Harlem's Apollo Theater, the United Nations and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. After his Carnegie Hall debut in 1989, the New York Daily News hailed the New York City Symphony as "one of America's finest orchestras." He has subsequently appeared with the NYC Symphony at Carnegie Hall on four other occasions including a concert during Carnegie Hall's Centennial Celebration in 1991.

Mr. Eaton made his professional conducting debut with the New York City Symphony Chamber Ensemble in 1977 and has since led the ensemble in numerous concerts in New York City as well as a United States tour in 1995. The tour included concerts in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Washington, D.C. and Boston. In 1997 he led the NYCS Chamber Ensemble in a program at the United Nations during the U.N.'s 50th Anniversary celebration honoring its Non-Governmental Organizations. He returned to the U.N. for two subsequent appearances with the NYC Symphony Chamber Ensemble in 1998 and 1999.

In 1988, he led the New York City Symphony on its first international tour. The tour included four concerts in Japan and seven performances at the Olympic Arts Festival in Seoul, Korea. The orchestra's appearance at the newly completed Seoul Arts Center marked the first time that a Western Orchestra had performed at that hall.

That same year Mr. Eaton and the NYC Symphony introduced New York audiences to the music of the Academy Award winning composer Tan Dun. The concert, presented at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall, featured four of Tan's works including the world premieres of his Violin Concerto and Third Symphony.

In 1997 he served artistic director and producer of the World Culture and Sports Festival III in Washington, D.C. where he conducted two concerts with the NYC Symphony as part of that week-long festival. The festival also featured appearances by renowned violinist Aaron Rosand, jazz greats Spyro Gyra, legendary Gospel stars Mavis Staples and Vicki Winans, world music performers Un Mundo, Alhambra and Hassan Hakmoun and the Japanese chamber ensemble, Shin Sekai.

In 1989, Mr. Eaton made his European conducting debut with L'Orchestra Symphonique Francias at the Flaine Summer Music Festival. In 1990 he made two subsequent guest conducting appearances with that ensemble in Flaine and at the famed Salle Geveau in Paris.

Mr. Eaton appeared as a guest conductor with the Ukrainian National Symphony Orchestra in a program of music by American composers at the Kiev International Music Festival in 1991. The concert was broadcast nationally by the Ukraine National Television and Radio network. In March of 1992 he was invited to conduct an all-Mozart program with the Neri Symphony Orchestra of Moscow

at the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory as part of the International Mozart Bicentennial Festival in Moscow.

Other recent guest conducting appearances include concerts with members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Chamber Symphony, the Les Amis Chamber Ensemble of Toronto at the St. Lawrence Performing Arts Center, the Taipei City Symphony Orchestra at the National Concert Hall in Taiwan, the Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional de Guatemala, the Soo Won Symphony (Korea), the Asuncion Symphony Orchestra (Paraguay), the Goldman Memorial Band at Lincoln Center, the Metropolitan Repertory Ballet and the Chamber Players of the Americas at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Eaton studied at the Cleveland Music Settlement, Ohio State University and the Tanglewood Institute of Music. He has attended conducting master classes with Herbert von Karajan, Seiji Ozawa, Zubin Mehta, Roger Norrington, Gustav Meier and Gunther Herbig.

In addition to his conducting career he has been an active composer, arranger and orchestrator with thirty-eight original compositions to his credit. Two of his compositions, "Fantasie for Violin, Cello, Piano and Strings" and his "Three Miniatures for Chamber Orchestra," were performed at Carnegie Hall by the New York City Symphony under his direction. His symphonic band work, "Melavations" was premiered by the Goldman Memorial Band at Lincoln Center as part of that ensemble's 2000 summer concert season. Another recent composition, "Morning's Calm" for Soprano and Chamber Orchestra, was presented at the United Nations in January 2001 as part of the International World Peace Assembly.

In observance of the first anniversary of the tragedy of September 11, he was commissioned to write music for the International and Interreligious Federation for World Peace conference in New York in September 2002. The resulting music, "The Hope of All Ages" featured narrated texts by world leaders in the realms of religion, diplomacy and human rights.

In September 2004 he produced and directed the first annual Ambassador for Peace Concert at the International Convention Center in Jerusalem featuring Israeli superstar David D'Or and the Ranana Symphonette Orchestra. He is scheduled to conduct a concert with David D'Or in May 2005 at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall.

As an arranger/conductor/producer he worked with a wide array of artists including Gennifer Holliday, Philip Michael Thomas, and Paul Sorvino. In the recording studio he has produced numerous tracks utilizing MIDI sequencing synthesizers as well as conventional instrumentation.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

“The New York City Symphony and its excellent conductor, David Eaton, served the piece honorably....careful and sympathetic performances.”

New York Times

“Give credit where it is due...the New York City Symphony has become one of America’s finest orchestras. The NYCS played Carnegie Hall, apparently for the first time in its 63 year history, and gave outstanding performances under its alert music director, David Eaton.”

New York Daily News

“Maestro Eaton clearly conducts with erudition and showmanship, and the ensemble reveals enormous promise for future distinction.”

New York City Tribune

The New York City Symphony at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, “..the alert performances conducted by music director David Eaton were virtually faultless, as usual.”

New York Daily News

“The New York City Symphony....rest assured it’s a very good one as proved Monday under music director David Eaton. Tone was solid, intonation right on the button and virtuosity no problem....rousing performances, most eloquent and beautifully performed.”

New York Daily News

David Eaton “...was the picture of the proper conductor, flamboyant in his baton work at the podium.”

New York Post

“Best of all was Petrouchka...a performance of sinew, virtuosity and sweep.”

New York Times

“It was an outstanding evening of music-making, sparked by excellent playing..glowing music, and on this occasion it was most glowingly performed.”

New York Daily News

“Martinu’s Symphony No. 1 has much good in it...it deserves performance...and this one was estimable.”

New York Times