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PATRICK FLYNN

CONDUCTOR



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www.thephilharmonic.org

BIOGRAPHY

British conductor Patrick Flynn is noted for his vast repertoire and enthusiastic responses from audiences around the world. He has been described by critic Jean Pierre Barricelli as “the complete conductor-- the podium equivalent of a polymath”. After his Covent Garden debut the London Daily Telegraph wrote: “Here is a conductor to treasure”. His career has encompassed the entire spectrum of musical production including symphony, opera, theatre and film.

He has conducted for the BBC Philharmonic, the BBC Concert Orchestra and the Paris Opera. World premieres include Roland Petit’s Phantom de l’Opera in Paris, John William’s Clarinet Concerto in California and Gareth Farr’s Ruauamoko in New Zealand. In London, he conducted the Sherrill Milnes TV special “Salute to America” and the English National Ballet’s historic ballet-in-the-round Swan Lake at the Royal Albert Hall. His recording of the score was selected by Fanfare magazine as one of the best new releases of 1996.

For the theatre, he has conducted for Joan Sutherland and Kiri Te Kanawa with the Australian Opera at the Sydney Opera House and at Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber’s request, he led the first concert performances of Jesus Christ Superstar.

Following a much-lauded New York debut, Flynn conducted for many prominent orchestras and festivals throughout the United States and Europe. A partial listing includes the Spoleto Festival, The Varna International Festival, the orchestras of Louisville, Memphis, San Diego, the Los Angeles Mozart Orchestra, and the Manhattan and Florida Philharmonics. 2003-4 guest appearances included the gala season opening of Wisconsin’s Madison Symphony with Pinchas Zukerman, performances with the Finnish National Opera, the Balanchine Festival in Amsterdam and an acclaimed debut with the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra in Michigan, after which he was offered and accepted the post of Music Director. Since 2001, he has been a regular guest conductor for the Holland Symfonia and Symphony Silicon Valley.

Patrick Flynn celebrates his sixteenth season with California’s Riverside County Philharmonic. His accessible style in outreach and programming has been the driving force behind that orchestra’s 300% audience growth and has established him as a true Pied Piper for symphonic music in Southern California.

Beginning his career as a pianist, Flynn studied with Cyril Smith and Julius Katchen, winning Britain’s Cassell Prize while still a student. He achieved his Licentiate of London’s Royal Academy of Music in conducting and continued studies with Sir John Barbirolli. His first professional appointment was as a conductor for the Australian Opera in 1970.

Mr. Flynn is a U.S. resident and lives in West Hollywood. pflynnmusic@cs.com

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

Flynn and the players turned on the high voltage, and the electricity reached all corners of the hall.

- The Press Enterprise

The music here in Riverside is so valiant and beautiful, that hearing it makes even the cheapest wine taste like private stock.

- The Highlander

This orchestra knows the real meaning of crescendo and decrescendo, astutely using them to build emotion in the listener, thereby creating energy and power.

- The Desert Sun

The orchestra has become a major cultural presence in Southern California, let alone the Inland Empire. If the word 'asset' has any meaning, it belongs to Flynn and the orchestra.

- The Press Enterprise

Their lively performances have a conviction and tautness that compel...a high level of communication.

- The Los Angeles Times

The effect was dazzling, and the patrons left humming the catchy melody.

- The Daily Bulletin

2004 Press Quotes

Patrick Flynn, making his Covent Garden debut last night conducting "Romeo and Juliet" showed himself a masterly artist---doing justice to all aspects of the music. Here is a conductor to treasure. I heard things in the score I have never heard before.

- London Daily Telegraph

Patrick Flynn not only put together a challenging, emotionally resonant agenda for the Los Angeles Mozart Orchestra, but also conducted it with authority and wit, with a panache and zest rare at any symphonic concert. Whether these works would make such a strong impact under other hands than Flynn's---he conducts from memory, with utter concentration and not one wasted motion---one can only wonder.

- Los Angeles Times

Flynn, always animated and passionate, proves once again he is an everyman's conductor.

Watching him is like watching a general commanding a ship, or an artist painting sound with fast, intense brushstrokes. He never fails to light dynamite with his unique, dynamic conducting style.

- Ontario Daily Bulletin

The amazing clarity of Mr. Flynn's performances, their polish, their finesse, their delicate and inevitable balances, their subtleties of nuance, their convincing demonstration of the composer's intent--Haydn's music demonstrates all of these, and the orchestra executed to the ultimate degree Mr. Flynn's most exigent requirements. It was a performance of special magic.

- The Spectator

Every detail emerged in full sonic bloom. It was a moving night of music---expertly coaxed from the players by guest conductor Patrick Flynn, a gangly figure on the podium who had everything calibrated just so---and received an ovation from the orchestra when it was over.

- San Jose Mercury News

Flynn is a tall man, all arms and legs, with large hands that he uses to manage pace, shade dynamics, shape legato and staccato, and cue entrances and cut-off, sans baton. There is economy in his gestures even with occasional choreographic tendencies. More relevant, however, was the orchestra's enthusiastic response to his lead. The orchestra's heart came through and won acclaim from its audience at the Center for Performing Arts.

- San Francisco Classical Voice

Last Saturday, an irrepressible conductor made the Riverside Symphony sound as it has never sounded before. Patrick Flynn displays casually his engaging personality and charm, which match his intellectual intensity as a musician. There is no doubt that this conductor possesses formidable musical acumen and knows how to use it, indeed exude it-- a relentlessness, an ambitious force, reminiscent of Toscanini and Beecham.

- The Press Enterprise

Musicians' Comments (Complete letters available)

New York Philharmonic-- Michelle Kim, Associate Concert Master:

"I do not usually recommend conductors, but Patrick Flynn is so special that I am happy to make an exception. Before my New York appointment I served as Concert Master for his Inland Empire Philharmonic. This turned out to be a great musical experience for me. Mr. Flynn is one of the very finest conductors I have ever worked with. During rehearsals he is self-effacing and serious. But in concert he is absolutely inspiring...and he has the special gift of allowing musicians the space and freedom to phrase. I am honored to give Mr. Flynn my highest possible recommendation."

Ann Arbor Symphony-- Gregg Powell, Personnel Manager and Principal Bass:

"I have had a huge amount of feedback from the orchestra members, and it is overwhelmingly positive, more so than for any guest conductor in my memory (I overheard our 2nd oboist telling someone in the Flint Symphony that the concert was a "religious experience"). The most frequent comment from people in the audience was that they could not help but notice the joy on our faces, and to be caught up in that".

Holland Symfonia -- Leendert Booyens, Chair of Artistic Committee:

"Dear Mr. Flynn, the questionnaire musicians filled in after your production last year was 100% positive-- Meaning all the musicians were very happy working with you. Which is very rare in Holland Symfonia and this is what made them put you up on the A-list of conductors for our orchestra. That's why they asked you back".

San Francisco Ballet Orchestra-- Roy Malan, Concert Master:

"Working under Patrick Flynn has provided some of the most treasured musical experiences of my career. He is a consummate musician, great conductor, first-rate human being and inspiring leader. I cannot recommend him more highly".

Riverside County Philharmonic--David Mergen, Personnel Mngr and Princ. Cellist:

"In 15 years of playing for many orchestras, including the Hollywood Bowl, I have never worked with a conductor whose artistry, musical integrity and knowledge are comparable to that possessed by Maestro Flynn. He inspires audiences as much as the musicians".

Patrick Flynn - Conductor

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Saginaw Bay Symphony--Kristin Van Ausdal -- Concert Master:

"Thank you again for such an amazing experience in Saginaw - the life you brought to the orchestra and the music - well, words don't seem to properly express my gratitude. It was a real pleasure".

Louisville Orchestra--Jack Griffin, Principal Viola and Union Steward:

"Beginning with the first rehearsal, Mr. Flynn impressed us with his knowledge of the score, ability to clearly communicate his ideas and emotions, as well as his sense of humor. I am particularly impressed with Mr. Flynn's abilities. But I would like to relay some thoughts of my colleagues. The management requested the players to play an additional performance on Christmas Eve. The penalty payment was deemed too expensive and we were asked what we would like to have other than compensation. The players committee stated flatly "make sure Patrick is conducting." I believe that statement says it all."

CURRICULUM VITAE

Extensive background in all forms of musical production during 30 years of conducting for symphony, opera and ballet. Traditionalist as well as innovator in large repertory. A highly motivated, 21st century style Music Director with notable track records in orchestra building and audience development. Collaborated with many leading American and New Zealand composers. Effective outreach and innovative educational programs. Successfully combine musical with the myriad non-musical duties required of today's Music Director. Effective presentation and public speaking skills.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Music Director, Inland Empire/Riverside County Philharmonic, California 1998-Present

- * Directed all concerts; developed orchestra's quality. Enthusiastic reviews from LA press.
- * Collaborated with Executive Director in developing out-reach concerts into neighboring communities.
- * Audiences tripled within three years.
- * Led World Premieres of music by John Williams, Gareth Farr and Michael Daugherty.
- * Orchestra rated highest by California Arts Council's touring roster; concerts broadcast over KUSC radio in Los Angeles.

Music Director, Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, Michigan 2002-Present

Music Director, English National Ballet 1995-2000

Principal Guest Conductor, ENB 2003-Present

Annual Guest Conductor, Symphony Silicon Valley 2000-Present

Annual Guest Conductor, Holland Symfonia 2000-Present

Principal Guest Conductor, Wellington Sinfonia (NZ) 1995-2000

Freelance Guest Conductor: Partial list of orchestras conducted includes the BBC, Paris Opera Ballet, Varna Festival Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Mozart Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia, The New Zealand Symphony, West LA Symphony, Florida Philharmonic, Madison Symphony, the San Francisco Ballet and the Gang Nam Symphony

1982-1994

Staff Conductor, American Ballet Theatre 1978-1981

Prior to moving from Australia to United States 1970-1977

Australian Opera, Staff conductor for Australian Opera.
 Conductor for Victoria University Chamber Orchestra
 Music Director for Canberra Opera and Cammerata Players
 Composed three Australian film scores
 Guest conducted Sydney Symphony and Brisbane Symphony Orchestras
 Freelance piano soloist and accompanist

EDUCATION / TRAINING

Piano: Alan Bixter, Phyllis Sellick and Julius Katchen

Associate of the Royal College of Music in piano performance, 1962

Flute: Peter Wastall and Trevor Wye

Cassel Prize Silver Medallion 1963

Composition: Kenneth Leighton

Conducting: Myers Foggin, Dr. John Bacon and John Barbirolli

Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music in conducting, 1968

Personal mission statement: *People who come to a concert bring with them two worlds: the phenomenal world of the five senses and the greater world of their souls and spirits. These worlds are connected yet often seem far apart. Our job is to connect these worlds through the music that connects us all to each other. We then bring our listeners to an altered state, and the feel-nothing world that they've been living in for the greater part of their daily lives has vanished. All else is for naught-- marketing, community involvement and outreach -- if the concerts are not indelibly emblazoned on the memory of every member of the audience.*

REFERENCES

Executive Directors

Neil Birnbaum, Executive Director, Long Island Philharmonic: (631) 293-2223

Andrew Bales, Executive Director, Symphony Silicon Valley (408) 286-2620

Maurits Haenen, Executive Director, Holland Symphonia: 011-31-20-5518823, 011-31-20-6659003

Heikki Riikonen, Orchestra Director, Finnish National Opera: 011-358940302220

Richard Mackie, Executive Director, Madison Symphony: (208) 255-5161

Conductor

Gustav Meier, (734) 769-5234, (734) 764-0583

Soloists

Pinchas Zukerman, (613) 947-7000 ext. 325

Miranda von Kralingen (Premiere Dutch soprano), 011-31-70-3505622

Musicians

Martin Chalifour, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Concertmaster, (626) 458-9603, Mchalifour@aol.com

Kevin Nutty, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Principal Percussion and Players Committee Chairman,
011-44-(207) 602-5196

Jan Eberle, Chautauqua Symphony and Saginaw Symphony, Principal Oboist, (517) 355-7727,
(517) 337-9723

Michelle Kim, N.Y. Philharmonic Associate Concertmaster, (201) 386-0530, Bellazzi@kaynet.com.

Geoff Osika, Riverside County Philharmonic Principal Bass and Personnel Mngr, (818) 239-9243,
(818) 549-0283

Toni Clements, Symphony Silicon Valley, Tuba and Personnel Manager

Hal Grossman, Saginaw Bay Symphony and Interlochen Concertmaster, (408) 377-3493, cell:
(231) 357-0784