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David Ramael

CONDUCTOR



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BIOGRAPHY

Heralded as a “highly gifted conductor” and for his “exceptional command and professional demeanor”, Dr. David Ramael has been in high demand as guest conductor, clinician and lecturer in the tri-state area. In recent years, he has appeared with the Long Island Chamber Virtuosi, the Massapequa Philharmonic, the Suffolk County All-County Orchestra, the Easton District Festival Orchestra, and with the Gettysburg College-Community Orchestra at the Sunderman Conservatory of Music. For the 2007 season, Dr. Ramael will be guest conducting the University of Dayton Symphony Orchestra, the Division 4 Nassau All-county Orchestra and he has been asked to return by the Suffolk County Music Educators Association to conduct their Division 3 East Festival Orchestra.

Dr. Ramael is Director of Orchestral Activities at Hofstra University on Long Island. At Hofstra, he conducts the Hofstra Symphony Orchestra, the Hofstra String Orchestra, the annual opera production, and he teaches orchestral conducting at the graduate level. In his short tenure at Hofstra, he has led the HSO to high artistic levels, expanding the ensemble’s repertoire and doubling the number of concert appearances. His recent performance of Johannes Brahms’ *German Requiem* has been called “moving and exciting”. A champion of new and unknown repertoire, Dr. Ramael also conducted an all-Belgian program with the Hofstra Symphony Orchestra, including many American premieres of works by Belgian composers, as well as the world premiere of acclaimed composer Luc Brewaeys’ *Concerto for English Horn and Orchestra*.

Equally at home in opera, Dr. Ramael has led acclaimed productions of Bizet’s *Carmen* and Mozart’s *Le nozze di Figaro* with the Hofstra Opera Theatre, and he will be conducting a new production of Kirke Mechem’s *Tartuffe*.

Dr. Ramael began his musical studies in his native Belgium. He studied trumpet and music theory at the Royal Brussels Conservatory, as well as musicology at the Free Brussels University. In 1996, he was awarded the Erasmus Fellowship for study abroad in the European Union, which he spent at the University of Vienna. He obtained a Master’s degree in Musicology at the Free University Brussels, as well as degrees from the Royal Brussels Conservatory in solfège, harmony, counterpoint and music management.

In 1998, he was awarded the prestigious Belgian American Education Foundation Fellowship for study in the United States. He chose the University of Minnesota to pursue a doctorate in musicology, while also developing his skills as a conductor. At the University of Minnesota, Dr. Ramael obtained in quick succession the Master in Music and Doctor in Musical Arts degrees in conducting.

Upon graduating from the University of Minnesota, Dr. Ramael worked as a freelance conductor in the greater Twin Cities area. He served as the conductor of the Concertino Northeast with the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, and as Music Director of the Golden Valley Orchestra, the Lake Waconia Wind Ensemble and Twin Cities Chamber Orchestra.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Education

Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting
University of Minnesota, 2003

Master of Music in Conducting
University of Minnesota, 2002

Master of Arts in Musicology
Free Brussels University, Brussels, Belgium, 1998

Bachelor of Arts in Music Theory
Royal Brussels Conservatory of Music, Brussels, Belgium, 1996

Awards and Fellowships

University of Minnesota International Student Award, 2002 – 03

Belgian American Education Foundation Fellow
Fellowship award for study in the United States of America, 1998 – 99

ERASMUS Award
Grant award for study exchange in the European Union Universität Wien,
Vienna,
Austria, 1996 – 97

Orchestral Affiliations (long term)

Hofstra University, Long Island, NY (2004 – present) – Director of Orchestral Activities

- Music Director - Hofstra Symphony Orchestra
- Music Director – Hofstra Opera
- Professor – Orchestral Conducting, graduate level

Golden Valley Orchestra, Golden Valley, MN (2003 – 04) – Music Director

Roseville Chamber Orchestra, Roseville, MN (2003 – 04) – Music Director

Lake Waconia Wind Ensemble, Lake Waconia, MN (2003 – 04) – Music Director

Concertino Northeast, Greater Twin Cities Youth Orchestras (2003 – 04) –
Conductor

Orchestral Affiliations (guest appearances)

'08) Suffolk County MEA Division 3 East Festival Orchestra, Long Island, NY (March

University of Dayton Symphony Orchestra, Dayton, OH (February '08)

Nassau County All-county Orchestra (grade 5), Long Island, NY (January '08)

Massapequa Philharmonic, Long Island, NY (January '07)

Easton District Festival Orchestra, Easton, PA (January '07)

'06) Suffolk County All-county Orchestra (NYSCAME), Long Island, NY (November

Sunderman Conservatory Orchestra, Gettysburg, PA (November '06)

Long Island Chamber Virtuosi, Long Island, NY (September '06)

Linden Hills Community Orchestra, Minneapolis, MN (November '03)

'03) University of Minnesota Campus Symphony Orchestra, Minneapolis, MN (April

University of Minnesota Wind Ensemble, Minneapolis, MN (March '03)

University of Minnesota Symphonic Band, Minneapolis, MN (November '02)

University of Minnesota Contemporary Ensemble, (October '02)

Primary Conducting Studies

Craig Kirchhoff and Akira Mori, University of Minnesota, 2001 – 03

Lukas Vis, Royal Brussels Conservatory, 1997 – 98

Additional Conducting Studies

Workshops with Frederick Fennell, Gunther Schuller, Joseph Kreines, Frank Battisti, Bastiaan Blomhert, Warren Benson, Stanley DeRusha and Michael Haithcock

Teaching Experience

Hofstra University, Long Island, NY (2004 – present)

- Orchestral Conducting, graduate level
- Orchestral Literature
- Aural Training
- Music History, Late Baroque – Late Romanticism
- Music Appreciation

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN (1999 – 2003)

- Fundamentals of Music, instructor
- Music Theory, graduate assistant
- Music History, graduate assistant
- Music Appreciation, graduate assistant

Professional Associations

College Orchestra Directors Association
Conductors Guild
League of American Orchestras
World Federation of Amateur Orchestras

REPERTOIRE

Orchestra

Bach (CPE), *Concerto per cembalo Wq. 43/3*
Bach/Stokowski, *Passacaglia and Fugue in c minor*
Bartok, *Five Pieces for Younger Orchestra*
Beethoven, *Overture to Coriolanus*
Beethoven, *Overture to Egmont*
Beethoven, *Symphony No. 1*
Beethoven, *Symphony No. 5*
Beethoven, *Violin Concerto*
Benoit, *Overture "Dorp in het gebergte"*
Berlioz, "March to the Scaffold" from *Symphonie fantastique*
Bernstein, "We Are Women" and "Glitter and Be Gay" from *Candide*
Bernstein, *Orchestral Suite from Candide*
Bizet, *Carmen Suite No. 1*
Bizet, *L'Arlesienne Suite No. 1*
Bizet, *L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2*
Blockx, *Five Flemish Dances*
Brahms, *Akademische Festouvertüre*
Brahms, *German Requiem*
Brewaeyns, *Concerto for English Horn* (world premiere)
Britten, *Matinees musicales*
Britten, *Simple Symphony*
Britten, *Soirées musicales*
Chopin, *Grande Polonaise*
Corigliano, *Elegy*
De Boeck, *Dahomeyan Rhapsody*
De Boeck, *Fantasy on Two Flemish Folksongs*
Dvorak, *Slavonic Dance No. 2*
Elgar, "Nimrod" from *Enigma Variations*
Fauré, *Masques et bergamasques*
Gilson, *Alvar*
Glière, *Russian Sailors' Dance*
Grainger, *Country Gardens*
Handel, *Water Music Suite in D*

Haydn, *Symphony No. 104*
Haydn, *Symphony No. 88*
Holesovsky, *Slaviana*
Holst, *Egdon Heath*
Jacob, *A Noyse of Minstrels*
Khachaturian, "Adagio" from *Spartacus*
Kodaly, *Four Dances from Gyermektancok*
Koppel, *Toccata*
Mahler, *Songs of a Wayfarer*
Maxwell-Davies, *Five Klee Pictures*
Mortelmans, *In Memoriam*
Mozart, *Hornconcerto No. 2*
Mozart, *Symphony No. 39*
Nagy, *Hungarian Village Overture*
Ovanin, *Hatikvah*
Pachelbel, *Canon in D*
Prokofieff, *Classical Symphony*
Rodgers/Bennett, *Selections from Oklahoma*
Rodrigo, *Quatro Madrigales amatorios*
Rossini, *Overture to La Gazza Ladra*
Saint-Saëns, *First Symphony*
Schubert, *Symphony No. 3*
Schubert, *Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished"*
Shostakovich, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra
No. 2*
Shostakovich, *First Ballet Suite*
Sibelius, *Finlandia*
Strauss, *Emperor Waltz*
Stravinsky, "Berceuse and Finale" from *Firebird
Suite*
Telemann, *Concerto for Flute and Recorder in e
minor*
Traditional, *Shenandoah*
Verdi, *Overture to Nabucco*
Wagner, "Prelude to Act III" from *Lohengrin*
Wagner, *Overture to Rienzi*

Wind Ensemble/Band

Bach/Reed, *Come Sweet Death*
Henze, *Ragtimes and Habaneras*
Holst, *First Suite in Eb*

Chamber Ensemble

Beethoven, *Rondino*

Broberg, Kirsten Bartus, *Five Poems from Mexico*. For Soprano and Chamber Orchestra

Kim, Jih Jung, *For Peace*. For violin, cello, clarinet, flute, piano and xylophone (World Premiere)

McLea, Douglas Scot, *Four Songs for Soprano and Chamber Ensemble (World Premiere)*

Strauss, *Serenade*

Varèse, *Octandre*

Opera

Bizet, *Carmen*

Mechem, *Tartuffe*

Mozart, *Le nozze di Figaro*

SAMPLE PROGRAMS

Bizet, *L'Arlesienne Suite No. 1*
CPE Bach, *Concerto per cembalo Wq. 43/3*
Holst, *Egdon Heath*
Bizet, *L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2*

Schubert, *Symphony No. 8 "Unfinished"*
Brahms, *German Requiem*

Beethoven, *Overture to Egmont*
Shostakovich, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 2*
Shostakovich, *First Ballet Suite*
Bernstein, *Orchestral Suite from Candide*

Wagner, *Overture to Rienzi*
Chopin, *Grande Polonaise*
Maxwell-Davies, *Five Klee Pictures*
Saint-Saëns, *First Symphony*

Bach/Stokowski, *Passacaglia and Fugue in c minor*
Mahler, *Songs of a Wayfarer*
Corigliano, *Elegy*
Schubert, *Symphony No. 3*

Beethoven, *Overture to Coriolanus*
Mozart, *Symphony No. 39*
Beethoven, *Symphony No. 5*