

ALEXANDER LIEBREICH – 2024/25 SEASON BIOGRAPHY

Music Director of the Orquestra de València and Artistic Advisor of the Palau de la Música València since the 2022/23 season, the distinguished conductor Alexander Liebreich, has previously held the positions of Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra (2018-2022), Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra (NOSPR / 2012-2019 season), and Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Munich Chamber Orchestra (2006–2016). A German conductor with Moravian-Jewish roots, Liebreich has also been Chairman of the Richard-Strauss-Gesellschaft since 2018, following Wolfgang Sawallisch and Brigitte Fassbaender in this position.

His extensive career has seen him as guest conductor with many prestigious orchestras including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin, Munich Philharmonic, Bamberg Symphony, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo, Dresden Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Luxembourg, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, NHK Symphony Orchestra and Tonhalle Orchestra Zürich. Recent and upcoming highlights include debuts at the Grafenegg Festival, George Enescu Festival, La Folle Journée in Warsaw, the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie and the Gulbenkian Orchestra Lisbon, He regularly performs with distinguished soloists such as Lisa Batiashvili, Veronika Eberle, Krystian Zimerman, Frank Peter Zimmermann, Gautier Capuçon, Alban Gerhardt, Leila Josefowicz, and Isabelle Faust. On the opera stage his repertoire has included Enescu's *Oedipe* and Otmar Schoeck's *Penthisilea* for Oper Frankfurt, Massenet's *Cendrillon* at the Grand-Théâtre du Luxembourg, and *Madama Butterfly* for the Netherlands Reisopera, and he has led concert performances of major repertoire from Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* and Gluck's *Orfeo ed Eurydice* to Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* and Strauss's *Salome* and *Elektra*.

The 24/25 season sees him bringing signature symphonic and choral repertoire to the Orquestra de Valencia, including Strauss's *Eine Alpensinfonie* and *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, Zemlinsky's *Lyrische Sinfonie*, Mendelssohn's 3rd, Mahler's 9th and Bruckner's 7th symphonies, Bartok's *Concerto for Orchestra* and Wagner's *Die Walkure*. He appears as guest conductor with the Orchestre de l'Auvergne, the George Enescu Philharmonic and the Taipei Symphony, and leads a tour of Hong Kong and Korea with the Sinfonia Varsovia. Recently he opened the season of the MDR Sinfonieorchester in Leipzig, and returned to the Antwerp Symphony and the Japan and Brno Philharmonic Orchestras, in repertoire ranging from John Adams, Beethoven and Janacek, to Gubaidulina and Weinberg.

Alongside his concerts and opera performances, Liebreich has established a reputation for producing innovative projects. In 2011 he became the first European Artistic Director of the Tongyeong International Music Festival in South Korea, one of the biggest and most important festivals in Asia. With the goal of encouraging intercultural encounters, he implemented the "east-west-residence-programme", inviting guest artists like Heiner Goebbels, Unsuk Chin, Martin Grubinger, Toshio Hosokawa and Beat Furrer to South Korea. As Artistic Director of the festival "Katowice Kultura Natura", from 2015–2018, he invited some of Europe's finest orchestras, ensembles and soloists, including the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Budapest Festival Orchestra and Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin. In 2014 he inaugurated the new "NOSPR" concert hall in Katowice, the orchestra's home, with a performance including Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 with Krystian Zimerman.

Liebreich's wide-ranging discography includes works from Bach, Mozart and Mendelssohn, to Isang Yun and Toshio Hosokawa. His collaboration with the Polish National Radio Symphony and the label Accentus Music produced a series of acclaimed recordings Lutosławski, Szymanowski, Penderecki and Zemlinsky (the third release becoming winner of the International Classical Music Awards 2017 "Best Collection" category), and with the Munich Chamber Orchestra his ECM Classics release of Tigran Mansurian's "Requiem"; with RIAS Kammerchor, received a nomination for a Grammy Award in 2018 and won the ICMA Award 2018 in the category "Contemporary Music". His most recent release is a disc of the harpsichord concertos of Martinů, Krása and Kalabis with Mahan Esfahani and the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Alexander Liebreich, was born in Regensburg and studied at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater München and the Salzburg Mozarteum and gained much of his early artistic experience with both Michael Gielen and Nikolaus Harnoncourt. He was significantly influenced by his mentor Claudio Abbado, who invited him to join and assist productions at Salzburger Osterfestspiele with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra and in Bolzano with the Gustav-Mahler-Jugend Orchestra. In October 2016 the Bavarian Ministry of Education, Culture, Science, and Art announced that Alexander Liebreich is the recipient of the Bavarian Culture Prize Special Award.