

## Thierry Fischer

### Conductor



Thierry Fischer has been Music Director of the São Paulo Symphony since January 2020 and of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León since September 2022. He is also Music Director Emeritus of the Utah Symphony (where he was Music Director 2009-2023).

Fischer has conducted orchestras across the globe, notably the Cleveland Orchestra, the Boston, Atlanta and Cincinnati Symphonies, London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, Oslo Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Maggio Musicale Firenze among others. He has performed and commissioned many world premieres, and works with the London Sinfonietta, Ensemble Intercontemporain but also other leading chamber orchestras such as the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Swedish Chamber.

April 2024 saw the launch of *Frank Martin: Odyssey*, of which Fischer is Artistic Director. To celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his compatriot's death Fischer has curated a series of concerts running through to the end of 2026 in which every note of Martin's oeuvre will be performed in Geneva. As part of the festival he conducts the world premiere of a newly commissioned orchestration of the ballet *Die Blaue Blume* with the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne in their main season and at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw.

In 24/25 he opens the Berlin Festwochen with the Sao Paulo Symphony in their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, also taking the orchestra to the Edinburgh and Rheingau festivals and to the Concertgebouw. He continues his Mahler symphony cycle for the orchestra's own label, recorded in the studio with the latest audio technology. Together with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León he tours this season to the Hamburg Elbphilharmonie, Madrid Teatro Monumental, and to the Cartagena Festival (Colombia) for 6 concerts featuring Spanish music, continues his Beethoven cycle, and gives the European premiere of Gabriela Ortiz' cello concerto – co-commissioned by OSESP (and also by the LA Philharmonic, Carnegie Hall, and Philharmonia).

Concluding a transformative 14 years in Utah - including the orchestra's first visit to Carnegie Hall for the first time in 40 years, a Saint-Saëns cycle on Hyperion and many other highlights – in 2023 Fischer released on Hyperion Messiaen's *Des Canyons aux Étoiles* (directly inspired by the awe-inspiring landscape of Utah State). The disc was shortlisted for the 2023 Gramophone Awards (orchestral category). In 2025 he returns to conduct the orchestra in a two-week Mahler festival, and at the League of American Orchestra conference, hosted this year in Salt Lake City.

Whilst Principal Conductor of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales 2006-2012, Fischer appeared every year at the BBC Proms, toured internationally, and recorded for Hyperion, Signum and Orfeo. In 2012 he won the ICMA Award for his Hyperion recording of Frank Martin's *Der Sturm* with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus. His discography also includes a Beethoven disc with the London Philharmonic on the Aparté label.

Fischer started out as Principal Flute in Hamburg and at the Zurich Opera. His conducting career began in his 30s when he replaced an ailing colleague, subsequently directing his first few concerts with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe where he was Principal Flute under Claudio Abbado. He spent his apprentice years in Holland and became Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of the Ulster Orchestra 2001-2006. He was Principal Guest of the Seoul



Philharmonic 2017-2020 and Chief Conductor (now Honorary Guest) of the Nagoya Philharmonic 2008-2011.

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