

MICHAEL FRANCIS

— C O N D U C T O R —



Music Director, *The Florida Orchestra*

Music Director, *Mainly Mozart Festival, San Diego*

Michael Francis has quickly established himself internationally. Known for maintaining a diverse repertoire while paying particular homage to the composers of his native Britain, Francis enjoys great reception throughout North America, Europe and Far East Asia.

This season, Francis debuts with Berlin Radio Symphony, Philharmonia, Minnesota and Pacific Symphony orchestras. He returns to Komische Oper Berlin, Seoul Philharmonic, Milwaukee, and Indianapolis Symphony orchestras. Furthermore, he will conduct the international ARD competition with Bavarian Radio Symphony.

Other guest and return appearances in North America have included Cleveland Orchestra, New York, Cincinnati, Houston, Atlanta and Pittsburgh, as well as the symphonies of Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa. His European engagements have included Dresden Philharmonic, MDR Leipzig, Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfalz, Helsinki Philharmonic, Orquesta Sinfónica de RTVE Madrid and Mariinsky Orchestra. In the UK, he has worked with London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, BBC Philharmonic, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and BBC Scottish Symphony. In Asia, Maestro Francis has conducted the NHK Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan as well as Hong Kong and Japan philharmonics and has returned to Malaysia and Seoul philharmonics.

Working with young musicians has always been a priority for Maestro Francis. Aside from a six-city Canadian tour with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, Francis has made frequent visits to Miami's New World Symphony and recently returned to the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland.

After several years as a tenured double-bass player in the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO), he came to prominence as a conductor in January 2007, replacing an indisposed Valery Gergiev for concerts with the LSO during the BBC's Gubaidulina festival at the Barbican Centre. Just one month later, Francis was asked, this time with only two hours' notice, to replace the composer/conductor John Adams in a performance of his own works with the LSO with the Philharmonie Luxembourg. Soon after in January 2009, he replaced André Previn leading a German tour of the Stuttgart Radio Symphony with Anne-Sophie Mutter.

Soloists that he works with include Lang Lang, Arcadi Volodos, Itzhak Perlman, Christian Tetzlaff, Vadim Gluzman, Nicola Benedetti, Javier Perianes, Jamie Barton, Truls Mørk, Håkan Hardenberger, Daniel Müller-Schott, Miloš, Benjamin Grosvenor, Emanuel Ax, Ian Bostridge, James Ehnes, and Rufus Wainwright.

Francis' discography includes the Rachmaninov piano concertos with Valentina Lisitsa and the London Symphony Orchestra, Wolfgang Rihm's *Lichtes Spiel* with Anne-Sophie Mutter and the New York Philharmonic, and the Ravel & Gershwin piano concertos with Ian Parker.

Now entering his third season as Music Director of The Florida Orchestra, Michael Francis' contract has already been extended to 2021. He is also Music Director of the Mainly Mozart Festival in San Diego, where he has launched an ambitious multi-year exploration of Mozart's life. He was recently Chief Conductor and Artistic Advisor of the Norrköping Symphony Orchestra from 2012 to 2016.

Francis makes his home outside of Tampa, FL with his wife Cindy and two-year-old daughter Annabella.

Worldwide Management: Columbia Artists Management (CAMI), Doug Sheldon, Senior Vice President

European Management: Konzertdirektion Schmid, Enrico Fischer, Artist Manager