

EMMANUEL VILLAUME

Emmanuel Villaume is in his tenth season as Spoleto Festival USA's Music Director for Opera & Orchestra. During that time he has led numerous symphonic concerts and opera performances for Spoleto Festival USA, including a noted Mahler symphonies cycle, the American première of Henze's *Der Prinz von Homburg*, and acclaimed productions of *Manon Lescaut*, *Der Fliegende Holländer*, *Lakme*, *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Don Giovanni* and *Louise*. He became Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra in October 2008, and in August of 2009 was appointed Chief Conductor of the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra in Bratislava.

Maestro Villaume opened the 2009-2010 season conducting concerts (with Anna Netrebko) in Duisburg, Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm, followed by performances with the Slovenian Philharmonic in Ljubljana. He appeared with the Utah Symphony, and returned to Lyric Opera of Chicago for *The Merry Widow* in December. In early 2010 he conducts both the Slovak Philharmonic and Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestras in a series of performances, returns to Charleston, SC for the Spoleto Festival USA, and conducts *Werther* with San Francisco Opera and *Samson et Dalila* with Opera Marseille.

In 2008-2009, Maestro Villaume conducted *Manon* (with Natalie Dessay) to open the Lyric Opera of Chicago season, *Carmen* at Los Angeles Opera, *Tosca* in Berlin and *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* in Turin. Orchestra performances included the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Slovak Philharmonic, and a return to the Juilliard Orchestra.

In 2007-2008, Maestro Villaume's performances included *Carmen* at the Metropolitan Opera, *Ariane et Barbe Bleue* at the Teatro Regio di Torino, Meyerbeer's *Il Crociato in Egitto* for the opening of the 2007 season at La Fenice in Venice, *La Bohème* for Washington National Opera's 2007-08 season opening, *Thaïs* at La Fenice, and *Padmâvatî* at Festival dei Due Mondi. He conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London and Vienna in concert performances with Anna Netrebko and Rolando Villazon, the Orchestre National de Belgique with Anna Netrebko and Rolando Villazon at the Festival de Saint-Denis, the Slovak Philharmonic at the Bratislava Festival, a special concert in Oberammergau, Germany with Renee Fleming, Rolando Villazon and the Münchner Rundfunkorchester, the NHK Orchestra in Tokyo, and the China National Opera Orchestra for three concerts during the Olympic Games of 2008. He also appeared with the North Carolina Symphony and the Juilliard Symphony, as well as returning to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

During the 2005-06 season he returned to the Metropolitan Opera for *Samson et Dalila*, starring Olga Borodina, to the Washington National Opera for *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Teatro Lirico di Cagliari for Massenet's *Cherubin*, to the Los Angeles Opera for *La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein*, and appeared at the Aspen and Grant Park Music Festivals. Other engagements include his debut at the Metropolitan Opera for *Madama Butterfly*, his return to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for *La Rondine* with Angela Gheorghiu, and to the Los Angeles Opera for *La Bohème* starring Angela Gheorghiu and Roberto Alagna.

Born in Strasbourg in 1964, Emmanuel Villaume began his musical education at the Strasbourg Conservatory and continued his studies in Paris, where he received degrees in literature, philosophy and musicology. He also studied dramatic arts and performed in theatrical productions. The author of noted musicological articles and research papers, he was appointed Dramaturg of the Opéra du Rhin in Strasbourg at the age of 21. During his tenure there he came to the attention of Spiros Argiris, Music Director of the Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy, who invited him to conduct and narrate Debussy's *Chansons de Bilitis* in 1987, followed by an invitation to make his American debut at the 1990 Spoleto Festival USA with *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

Maestro Villaume has appeared with the Metropolitan Opera for *Madama Butterfly*, *Samson et Dalila*, and *Carmen*; with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and *La Rondine*; the Lyric Opera of Chicago for *Samson et Dalila*, *Manon*, and *The Merry Widow*; the Washington National Opera for *La Rondine*, *Norma*, *Le Cid*, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and *Lucia di Lammermoor*; San Francisco Opera for *Madama Butterfly*; Los Angeles Opera for *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, *La Rondine* and *Grande Duchesse*; Santa Fe Opera for *Carmen*; Dallas Opera for *Faust* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*; Sarasota Opera for *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, *Die Zauberflöte* and *Manon*; Opera Theatre of Saint Louis for *La Rondine* and *Faust*; Cologne Opera for *La Bohème* and *Werther*; Bastille Opera for *Rigoletto*; Hamburg Staatsoper with *Der Fliegende Holländer*; Toulouse Opera for *Mignon*; Bonn Opera for *La Fanciulla del West*; Tokyo Bunka Kaikan for *Der Rosenkavalier*; Martina Franca Opera for *La Grande-Duchesse de Gérolstein*; Montreal Opera for *La Vie Parisienne*; Opéra Marseilles for *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *Carmen* and *Norma*; Nice Opera for *Faust*; Monte Carlo Opera for *La Périchole* and *Werther* and the Klangbogen Festival in Vienna for *Don Quichotte* and *Goya* with Plácido Domingo.

He has led the Montreal Symphony in Montreal and at Carnegie Hall; the Chicago Symphony; the Boston Symphony at Symphony Hall and Tanglewood; the Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Detroit and Utah Symphonies; the Minnesota Orchestra; Orchestre de Paris; Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France; Beethovenhalle Orchestra of Bonn; Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra; Duisburger Philharmoniker; Orchestre symphonique national du Danemark, Orchestre de la Radio norvégienne; Kungliga Filharmonikerna and the Prague Philharmonic; the Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane symphonies; Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana, Orchestra Verdi di Milano; and, in concert, the orchestras of the Bastille Opera, Monte Carlo Philharmonic, Teatro alla Scala, the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and La Fenice, the latter in a concert performance of Berlioz' *Les Troyens*.

Emmanuel Villaume holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Indianapolis. He makes his home in Paris and New York.

www.emmanuelvilllaume.com

January 2010