



Jan Latham-Koenig

Conductor

Under Jan Latham-Koenig (...) the orchestra played with terrific richness of tone and focus, and the chorus was fabulous... this was a revelation.
The Spectator



Jan Latham-Koenig is Music Director of the Novaya Opera in Moscow and Chief Conductor of the Flanders Symphony Orchestra in Bruges, Belgium.

The first British born conductor to have ever held a Music Directorship at any Russian opera company, at Novaya Opera, he has recently conducted an acclaimed production of Alexander Borodin's *Prince Igor* and was the driving force behind the company's first UK appearance when he took this production to London's Coliseum in 2014. This season, he takes *Prince Igor* to Shanghai, conducts *La Bohème* on tour in Dublin and a new production of *Faust* in Moscow. In 2014, he was awarded the prestigious Russian Golden Mask Award for Best Conductor for *Tristan und Isolde*. In June 2016, Latham-Koenig conducted Krzysztof Penderecki's *St Luke's Passion* in Moscow with the Ensemble of Novaya Opera. This season includes the Moscow premiere of Weinberg's *The Passenger* on Holocaust day in January 2017, as well as the world premiere of Konstantin Boyarsky's opera *Pushkin* in February.

Recent opera engagements include the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, the Savonlinna Festival, Göteborg Opera, the New National Theatre in Tokyo, Finnish National Opera and Polish National Opera. He has just conducted Rossini's *Tancredi* at the Teatro Municipal in Santiago de Chile and will return to the State Opera in Prague in 2017 for *Le Rossignol and Iolanta*. Other future plans include a new production of *Les Dialogues des Carmélites* for the Teatro Regio in Torino in April 2019, as well as *Peter Grimes* in Monte Carlo.

Appointed Chief Conductor of the Flanders Symphony Orchestra in 2013, he took the orchestra on a UK tour in 2015, including two concerts in London, where they presented two unique programmes remembering the invasion of Belgium in the First World War, including newly commissioned works by Richard Blackford and Piet Swerts. Next summer, he will appear with the orchestra at the Harrogate Festival and will also take the orchestra to the Concertgebouw Amsterdam for a concert in August 2017.

Previous Music Director positions included the Orquesta Filarmónica de la UNAM in Mexico City, Teatro Massimo di Palermo, Orchestra of Porto, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg and Opéra National du Rhin. He was founder and Artistic Director of the Young Janacek Philharmonic, has held positions as Principal Guest Conductor at Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Teatro Regio di Torino and Permanent Guest Conductor at the Wiener Staatsoper. A close collaborator of Hans Werner Henze, he premiered many of the composer's works and was Artistic Director of the Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte di Montepulciano from 2004 to 2007.

As a guest conductor, some recent appearances include the Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa, New Japan Philharmonic and Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, and in China the Beijing Symphony Orchestra, Hangzhou and Qingdao Philharmonic. He has conducted the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Dresden Philharmonic and Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. Upcoming performances include the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as concerts in Vilnius with the Lithuanian National Orchestra, Novosibirsk Philharmonic, and concerts and master classes in Bloomington.

Latham-Koenig has assembled an extensive and varied discography of over 40 CDs. A renowned interpreter of Poulenc's music, his first album with the Filarmonica del Teatro Regio in a programme of Poulenc was voted Record of the Month by BBC Music Magazine. His DVD recording of *Les Dialogues des Carmélites* with the Opéra National du Rhin in Strasbourg won the Diapason d'Or for best opera video in 2001.

Coming from French, Danish, Polish as well as Mauritian origin, Jan Latham-Koenig was born in England and studied at the Royal College of Music, London, before winning the coveted Gulbenkian Fellowship and founding his own group, the Koenig Ensemble, in 1976.