

Clément Mao - Takacs

Conductor



“Clément Mao – Takacs is a young conductor with an original vision and daring, who defends the rare repertoires from yesterday to today”

Les Échos

Clément Mao - Takacs is one of the rising stars of the new generation of conductors.

He graduated from the Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris and the Accademia Chigiana in Siena, and was awarded the Prix "Jeune Talent" by the Fondation del Duca (Institut de France / Académie des Beaux-Arts).

As guest conductor, he has been invited to give concerts by Norwegian Radio Orchestra, Stavanger Symphony, Oslo Philharmonic, Odense Symphony, Orchestre des Pays de La Loire, Orchestre Symphonique de Bretagne, Festival Orchestra of Sofia, Avanti! Chamber Orchestra Finland, and Bit 20 Bergen.

In 2011 he founded *Secession Orchestra*, of which he is both Artistic and Musical Director. Taking the ideals of the Viennese Secession movement as the starting point, the repertoire encompasses music from Mahler and Debussy through rarely performed scores to contemporary music. They give over 50 concerts each year including residencies at venues such as the Musée du Louvre and Festival Saint Denis.

With stage director Aleksí Barrière he founded and leads the collective *La Chambre aux échos*, working on musical theatre and chamber opera. He also created and is Artistic Director of the festivals INTERVALLES in Paris and TERRAQUÉ in Carnac, Brittany.

As a specialist of Kaija Saariaho's music, he has conducted the world premiere and several national premieres of the chamber version of her opera *La Passion de Simone*, including performances in Bratislava, Saint-Denis, Lublin, Clermont-Ferrand, Copenhagen, Bergen and Nantes.

Further Saariaho credits include the world premiere of the chamber version of *Quatre Instants* which is also dedicated to him, the Danish premiere of the concerto *Notes on Light* (with cellist Jakob Kullberg), and regularly performs numerous works from her catalogue.

Clément Mao-Takacs's recordings include Stockhausen's *Adieu* for Crystal Classics, a disc of Jacques Ibert's music for Timpani (awarded '5 diapasons' by DIAPASON magazine). Upcoming releases include music by Debussy, Zemlinsky and Saariaho.

Recent highlights include a portrait of Kaija Saariaho's music with the Oslo Philharmonic and *La Chambre aux échos*, his debut with Orchestre de Paris, and the world premiere of Kasper Rofelt's cello concerto with the Odense Symphony Orchestra. He also conducted Saariaho's *Aile du songe* with soloist Camilla Hoitenga in his debut at the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire

The 18/19 season saw his US debut with San Francisco Opera. Further projects with *La Chambre aux échos* include Henze's *Violences* with Finnish National Opera in Helsinki, *La Passion de Simone* with the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire. He returned to the Orchestre de Paris to conduct Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde*, and made his debut with the Stavanger Symphony with a programme of works by Saariaho and Wagner. In the current season, his concert series with the Secession Orchestra at the Musée du Louvre and as the Festival Royaumont ensemble-in-residence continues, as does his collaboration with Kaija Saariaho.

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