

Koen Schoots

CONDUCTOR – ARRANGER – ORCHESTRATOR

Conductor, arranger and orchestrator Koen Schoots was born and educated in the Netherlands. His work spans the worlds of classical and popular music

After finishing his studies in conducting, piano and voice at the Conservatory of Maastricht in 1984 he worked as a conductor and coach for the theaters in Linz, Klagenfurt and Gelsenkirchen.

From 1992 he extended his repertoire and work field by becoming musical director for various commercial musical theaters, such as CATS and the BUDDY HOLLY STORY (both in Hamburg) as well as JEKYLL & HYDE (European Premiere) in Bremen and Cologne while still maintaining to work as a conductor with classical repertoire. As such, from 2003 to 2005 he worked as a conductor for the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf and Duisburg.

From 2004 to 2010 he served as chief conductor for the Opernfestspiele St. Margarethen (Austria). He established close relationships with the Komische Oper Berlin and Barrie Kosky (in 2004) and Konzert und Theater St. Gallen (2005) that continue to this day.

For the Komische Oper he served as musical director for SWEENEY TODD (2004-05), KISS ME, KATE (2008-2015), IM WEISSEN RÖSSL (2010-11), WEST SIDE STORY (2013-), FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (2017-) LA CAGE AUX FOLLES (2023-) as well as the children's opera DIE ZAUBERMELODIKA (2021-22) and the operettas DIE BLUME VON HAWAII (2021) and MARINKA (2016)

In St. Gallen he conducted and supervised numerous productions, starting with LES

MISÉRABLES (2007-08 and returning 2023-2024), HELLO DOLLY (2019) REBECCA (2012) and the world premiere productions of DRACULA (2005), THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO (2009), XCALIBUR (2014), DON CAMILLO AND PEPPONE (2016), MATTERHORN (2018) DESERT FLOWER (2020) and LADY BESS (2022).

From 2010 to 2018 he was music director musical for the Vereinigte Bühnen in Vienna, the

most prestigious musical theater company in the German speaking territory with two theaters and an orchestra of 84. He conducted all musical premieres, such as TANZ DER VAMPIRE, SISTER ACT, ELISABETH, MOZART!, LEGALLY BLONDE, MARY POPPINS, MAMMA MIA!, EVITA, SCHIKANEDER (world premiere) as well as concert productions of JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, LOVE NEVER DIES, MESSIAH ROCKS and numerous galas and other events. He also conducted the Japanese tour of ELISABETH in Osaka and Tokyo.

For Broadway composer Frank Wildhorn, he serves as arranger, orchestrator, musical

supervisor and conductor in Europe and Asia. In this capacity he conducted the world

premieres of DRACULA (St. Gallen) RUDOLF (Budapest, Vienna, Tokyo, Seoul), THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO (St. Gallen, Seoul) XCALIBUR (St. Gallen and revised in Seoul) CARMEN

(Prague) as well as the world premiere of the Donau Symphony with the Wiener Symphoniker at the Musikverein in Vienna.

TIMELINE

1984-1989 Stadttheater Klagenfurt: Répétiteur and conductor

1989-2001 Musiktheater im Revier Gelsenkirchen: conductor / guest conductor

1992-1994 Operettenhaus Hamburg: musical director for Cats

1994-2001 Neue Metropol Hamburg: artistic director for Buddy Holly Story

1991-2001 Neue Metropol Bremen: artistic director and md for Jekyll & Hyde

2001-2003 Friedrichstadtpalast Berlin: conductor

2003-2005 Deutsche Oper am Rhein: conductor

2004- Guest conductor Komische Oper Berlin

2005- Guest conductor Konzert und Theater St. Gallen

2005-2010 Freelance conductor and arranger

2010-2018 Vereinigte Bühnen Wien: music director

2018- Freelance conductor and arranger

PRIZES AND AWARDS

2011 Platinum DVD – Die Zauberflöte Opernfestspiele St. Margarethen

2009 Berlin Audience Award – Best Musical Theater Production of the Season: Kiss Me, Kate

2012 Golden CD – Elisabeth – 20-year Anniversary Production Vienna

2018 Berlin Audience Award – Best Musical Theater Production of the Season: fiddler on the Roof

2021 German Musical Academy – Best Arrangements for a new Show: Wüstenblume (Desert Flower)

PRODUCTIONS AND CONCERTS (EXCERPT)

Klagenfurt 1984-1989

- Don Quichote (Massenet)
- La Bohème (Puccini)
- Madama Bokerfly (Puccini)
- Simon Boccanegra (Verdi)
- Nabucco (Verdi)
- Les pêcheurs de perles (Bizet)
- Les Contes d'Hofmann (Offenbach)
- La Sonnambula (Bellini)
- I Capuleti ed i Montecchi (Bellini)
- Die Csárdásfürstin (Kálmán)
- Die lustige Witwe (Lehár)
- Die tote Stadt (Korngold)
- Elektra (Strauss)
- Tannhäuser (Wagner)
- Das Land des Lächelns (Lehár)
- My Fair Lady (Loewe & Lerner)

Gelsenkirchen 1989-2001

- Cabaret (Kander & Ebb)
- Rigoleko (Verdi)
- Tosca (Puccini)
- Le Nozze di Figaro (Mozart)
- Aufsteg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny (Weill)
- Jesus Christ Superstar (Lloyd Webber)
- Evita (Lloyd Webber)
- West Side Story (Bernstein)
- La Cenerentola (Rossini)
- Barbe-Bleu (Offenbach)
- The Black Rider (Waits)
- The Rocky Horror Show (O'Brien)

Deutsche Oper am Rhein 2003-2005

- West Side Story (Bernstein)
- Hänsel und Gretel (Humperdinck)
- Carmen (Bizet)
- Die Fledermaus (Strauß)
- The Wooden Prince (Bartók)
- Coppélia (Delibes)
- Macbeth (Verdi)
- Carmina Burana (Orff)
- La Ferosa - Die Jüdin von Toledo (World Premiere – I. Schmidt)
- Erda (World Premiere – P. Vasks)

Komische Oper Berlin 2004-

- Sweeney Todd (Sondheim)
- Kiss Me, Kate (Porter)
- Im Weißen Rössl (Benatzky)
- West Side Story (Bernstein)
- Marinka (Kálmán)
- Fiddler on the Roof (Bock)
- Die Zauber melodika (World Premiere - Rantala)
- Die Blume von Hawaii (Abraham)
- La Cage aux Folles (Herman)

Opernfestspiele St. Margarethen 2004-2010

- Aida (Verdi)
- Carmen (Bizet)
- Nabucco (Verdi)
- La Traviata (Verdi)
- Rigoleko (Verdi)
- Die Zauberflöte (Mozart)

Konzert & Theater St. Gallen 2005-

- Dracula (Swiss Premiere - Wildhorn)
- Les Misérables (2007 Swiss Premiere, Returning 2023 - Schönberg)
- The Count of Monte Cristo (World Premiere – Wildhorn)
- Rebecca (Swiss Premiere – Levay)
- Xcalibur (World Premiere – Wildhorn)
- Don Camillo & Peppone (World Premiere – Farina)
- Makerhorn (World Premiere – Hammond)
- Hello Dolly (Herman)
- Wüstenblume (World Premiere – Fahrenkrog)
- Lady Bess (Europe Premiere – Levay)

Vereinigte Bühnen Wien 2010-2017

- Rudolf (World Premiere – Wildhorn)
- Ich war noch niemals in New York (Austrian Premiere - Jürgens)
- Tanz der Vampire (Steinman)
- Jesus Christ Superstar (Lloyd Webber)
- Elisabeth (Levay)
- The Phantom of the Opera (Lloyd Webber)
- Sister Act (Austrian Premiere - Menken)
- Love Never Dies (European Premiere - Lloyd Webber)
- Legally Blonde (Austrian Premiere – O'Keefe)
- Der Besuch der alten Dame (Austrian Premiere – Schneider & Reed)
- Mamma Mia! (Austrian Premiere – Andersson & Ulvaeus)
- Mary Poppins (European Premiere – Stles)
- Messiah Rocks (European Premiere – Howland)
- Mozart! (Levay)
- Don Camillo & Peppone (Austrian Premiere – Farina)
- Evita (Lloyd Webber)
- Schikaneder (World Premiere – Schwartz)

OTHER NOTEWORTHY EVENTS (SELECTION)

- Opéra National du Rhin Strasbourg – Fiddler on the Roof (Bock)
- Operék Színház Budapest – Rudolf (World Premiere – Wildhorn)
- Umeda Arts Center, Osaka and Theater Orb, Tokyo – Elisabeth in Concert (Levay)
- EMK Productions Seoul – Rudolf, The Count of Monte Cristo, Xcalibur (Wildhorn), Elisabeth, Mozart! (Levay)
- Musical Comedy St. Petersburg – Wildhorn & Friends in Concert
- De Doelen Rokerdam – Musical Meets Opera – Rokerdam Philharmonic Orchestra
- Musikverein Vienna – Wiener Symphoniker - Donau Symphonie (World Premiere – Wildhorn)

CD & DVD (SELECTION)

- Donau Symphonie (Wildhorn) – Wiener Symphoniker (CD)
- Rigoleko – Opernfestspiele St. Margarethen (CD & DVD)
- Die Zauberflöte – Opernfestspiele St. Margarethen (CD & DVD, awarded platinum DVD for best selling classical DVD in Austria)
- Elisabeth 2012 Anniversary Producton (CD, awarded gold)
- Mozart! (CD & DVD)
- Jesus Christ Superstar (CD)
- Lady Bess (CD)
- Sister Act (CD)
- Mary Poppins (CD)
- Der Besuch der alten Dame (CD)
- Schikaneder (CD)
- Rudolf (CD & DVD)
- Wildhorn & Friends, live from Vienna (CD & DVD)
- Xcalibur (Korean Cast CD – live stream Broadway On Demand)
- Etc. (full list available on demand)

ARRANGING AND ORCHESTRATING (EXCERPT)

- Rudolf (Wildhorn) – vocal arrangements, incidental, dance (Budapest, Vienna) orchestrator (Seoul)
- The Count of Monte Cristo (Wildhorn) – vocal arrangement, incidental, dance (St. Gallen) orchestrator (Seoul)
- Xcalibur – arrangements and orchestrator
- Carmen (Wildhorn) – vocal arrangements, incidental, dance (Prague)
- Dracula (Wildhorn) – arrangements and orchestrator
- Don Camillo & Peppone (Farina) – orchestrator (Vienna)
- Pippin (Schwartz) – new extended orchestrator (Dresden)
- Schikaneder (Schwartz) – vocal arrangements (Vienna)
- Dracula Suite (Wildhorn) – orchestrator (Wiener Symphoniker Vienna)