



HARTMUT HAENCHEN
Conductor

The Tower Building
11 York Road
London
SE1 7NX

T +44 (0)20 7902 0520
F +44 (0)20 7902 0530

info@vanwalsum.com
www.vanwalsum.com

The Paris Opera orchestra rose to the challenge of Shostakovich's often knotty score with a reading of incomparable fire and melting delicacy as required. Rarely has this fine band been heard to such advantage in a house noted for its variable acoustic..... based on this evening's thrilling result (and every other Haenchen performance I have heard) he is way higher up in my conductors' pantheon than other more highly publicized baton wavers.

Opera Today, May 2009

Summary

- Hartmut Haenchen's high intellect and musical integrity have assured him a place in the forefront of musical life.
- Hartmut Haenchen is a man of considerable gravitas, a highly dedicated artist with a breadth of experience who exudes warmth and charm. Particularly well-known and respected for his interpretations of Richard Strauss, Wagner and Mahler, he has considerable understanding of how these composers structured their music, which comes across when he conducts

Background

- In the days of the old East German regime, Hartmut Haenchen was given special permission to work with the West's finest orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic, with whom he appeared four times
- Shockingly, just as all was going so well, continual interference by the authorities led to severe setbacks in his career
- Hartmut Haenchen then found a welcome home in the Netherlands where a new public has recognised his genius, and where eventually he became Music Director of both the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra and the Netherlands Opera. In 2008 he was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit of the German Republic, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to music and the arts. Better late than never!

Orchestras and opera companies

- Recent and future orchestral engagements include appearances with the Stockholm Philharmonic (Strauss series), Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de France, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Academia di Santa Cecilia, Tonhalle Zurich, Japan Philharmonic, WDR Cologne and a series of Mahler concerts with the Orchestre du Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie.
- In 2005 in Amsterdam, performed Wagner's *Ring* to critical acclaim, in partnership with director Pierre Audi. This well-reviewed Ring cycle is available on CD/DVD. Other recent successes at DNO include *Tannhäuser*, Strauss' *Capriccio* and a new production of *Der Fliegende Holländer*. Current and future plans include a revival of Zimmerman's *Die Soldaten*, as well as another complete *Ring Cycle* (2012-2014).
- Other opera work includes *Salome* at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden and new productions of *Parsifal* at both la Monnaie Brussels and at the Royal Opera, Copenhagen, as well as several appearances at Teatro Real, Madrid including new productions of *Boris Godunov* and *Lohengrin*.
- A regular guest at the Opéra National de Paris, Haenchen has enjoyed critical success for Strauss' *Salome*, *Capriccio*, *Parsifal* and *Lady Macbeth of Mtsenk* for which he won the French Grand Prix de la Critique: Most recently Berg's *Wozzeck* for the opening of the 09/10 season.

Contact

Van Walsum Management: Sally Donegani, Tel: +44 (0)20 7902 0524

sdonegani@vanwalsum.com, www.vanwalsum.com