



OTTO TAUSK

Conductor

“The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra conjured up clouds of fluid, silky sounds of all dynamic ranges. All these extreme contrasts in registers, tones, dark shadows and luminous lights were brought together with great precision, masterly framed by Otto Tausk.” **Bachtrack**

In all collaborations he leads Dutch conductor Otto Tausk energises those he works with earning him enthusiastic and critical acclaim. Since 2012 he has been Music Director of the Symphony Orchestra and Opera Theatre St Gallen. Otto Tausk is also a hugely respected musical personality in his native Holland, working with all its major orchestras and composers. The skill and knowledge imbued with the energy and charisma with which he conveys the music amongst his musicians is utterly infectious.

On the international platforms across the globe, Otto Tausk has opened Los Angeles Philharmonic's 'Green Umbrella' Series, Concertgebouw Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi, the Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, the orchestras of Perth, Tasmania, Auckland and the radio orchestra of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

Otto Tausk has recorded with the Concertgebouw Orchestra (Luc Braeways, and an animated digital version of Prokofiev's 'Peter and the Wolf'), Tonhalle Orchestra St Gallen (Korngold and Diepenbrock), BBC Scottish (Mendelssohn) and the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra (Gavin Bryers) amongst others. For the cpo label in 2011 Hans Pfitzner's enchanting Orchesterlieder, garnered international praise, not least the Classica France's "Choc du mois".

In 2011 Otto Tausk was presented with the 'de Olifant' prize by the City of Haarlem. He received this prestigious award for his contribution to the Arts in the Netherlands, in particular his extensive work with Holland Symfonia serving as Music Director 2007 to 2012. In reflecting on their work together in The Netherlands, Valery Gergiev paid particular tribute to Tausk on this occasion.

Born in Utrecht, Otto Tausk studied violin with Viktor Liberman and Istvan Parkanyi as well as orchestral conducting with Jurjen Hempel and Kenneth Montgomery. He continued his studies with Lithuanian conductor and professor Jonas Aleksa at the Vilnius Conservatoire. Between 2004 – 2006 Tausk was assistant conductor to Valery Gergiev with the Rotterdam Philharmonic a period of study that had a profound impact on him.

The 2016/17 season has seen Otto Tausk continuing his guest conducting relationships with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales with violinist Simon Lamsma, further afield with Vancouver Symphony Orchestra also with Lamsma and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and Choir conducting Haydn's *Die Schöpfung*. Beethoven Symphony No. 9 features on programmes both with the Tonhalle orchestra of St Gallen and Stuttgart Philharmonic. Tausk has also conducted the Orchestra of the Casa da Musica Porto, the Dortmund Philharmonic and with another choral work he ends St Gallen's 2016/17 season performing Alfredo Catalani's Mass in e minor with the Prague Philharmonic Choir.

The 2016/17 season in St Gallen saw Otto Tausk in the opera pit conducting Lohengrin, and in Spring 2017 he will conduct a world premiere title, "*Annas Maske*", by swiss composer David Philip Hefti. Highlights in recent seasons have also included the swiss premiere of George Benjamin's *Written on Skin*, Korngold's *Die Tote Stadt* and further titles including *Don Giovanni*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Westside Story*, and *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

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