
Stilian Kirov

conductor

"Kirov conducted with great vitality and energy as well as a fine sense of both balance and timing, and got exciting performances from all hands - chorus, soloists, and orchestra."

– THE SEATTLE TIMES

First Prize Winner of the 2017 **“Debut Berlin” Concert Competition**, Stilian Kirov made his debut in June at the **Berlin Philharmonic Hall**. He returned to the U.S. to begin the 2017/2018 season as the newly-appointed Music Director / Chief Conductor of the **Illinois Philharmonic** in Chicago’s Southland. He will continue his music directorships with the **Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra** in California and New Jersey’s **“Symphony in C” Orchestra**. A 2016 recipient of the **Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award**, Mr. Kirov has proven to be not only a dynamic artistic director, but also an enthusiastic educator and community leader, continuing to build upon his previous successes as Associate Conductor of the **Seattle Symphony Orchestra** and Associate Conductor of the **Memphis Symphony Orchestra**.



Highlights of Mr. Kirov’s 2017/2018 season include guest performances with the Kalamazoo Symphony and the Venice Symphony in Florida. Other recent engagements include guest appearances with the Victoria Symphony (B.C.), Amarillo Symphony, and the symphonies of South Bend, Tucson, and West Virginia. Following his highly acclaimed debut in 2012, he also appears regularly as guest conductor with the Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle. Mr. Kirov’s international appearances included engagements in France, Ukraine, Greece, Russia, Croatia, Canada and Germany.

Earlier on in his career, Stilian Kirov was engaged as an assistant conductor to Bernard Haitink with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as well as a cover conductor for Stéphane Denève, the late Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Christoph von Dohnányi, and Andrew Davis, all with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Also during that season, he stepped in to replace Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos with the Seattle Symphony, conducting “spectacular” performances of Orff’s “Carmina Burana”.

A prize winner at Denmark’s Malko International Competition for conductors, Stilian Kirov is the recipient of numerous awards and prizes, including an Emmy for the Memphis Symphony’s Soundtrack Project, the Orchestra Preference Award, and Third Prize at the 2010 Mitropoulos Conducting Competition, as well as Juilliard’s Bruno Walter Memorial Scholarship and the Charles Schiff Conducting Award for outstanding achievement. He is also the recipient of France’s ADAMI Conducting Prize.

Mr. Kirov is a graduate of The Juilliard School in orchestral conducting. In 2012, he studied at the Aspen Academy of Conducting, and in 2013, was a Conducting Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center. Mr. Kirov also holds a degree in conducting from the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris. Also a gifted pianist, Stilian Kirov was the Gold Medalist of the 2001 Claude Kahn International Piano Competition in Paris.

AWARDS

- *Malko Conducting Competition. Prizewinner*
- *Mitropoulos Conducting Competition. Prizewinner*
- *Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award*
- *Bruno Walter Memorial Scholarship*
- *Charles Schiff Conducting Award for outstanding achievement*

POSITIONS

- *Illinois Philharmonic. Music Director/Chief Conductor*
- *Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra. Music Director/Chief Conductor*
- *“Symphony in C” Orchestra. Music Director/Chief Conductor*
- *Seattle Symphony Orchestra. Associate Conductor*
- *Memphis Symphony Orchestra. Associate Conductor*

PROGRAM PROPOSALS

- **“BERNSTEIN 101”**

Bernstein - Candide Overture

Bernstein - The Serenade, after Plato: Symposium, for solo violin, strings and percussion

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Bernstein - Symphony No. 1 "Jeremiah"

Bernstein - Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

- **“EASTERN EUROPEAN MASTERS”**

Kodaly - Dances of Galanta

Ligeti - Concert Românesc

or

Suk - Fantasy for Violin & Orchestra

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Bartok- Concerto for Orchestra

- **“ALL RUSSIAN”**

Glinka - Ruslan and Lyudmila Overture

Tchaikovsky - Violin Concerto

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Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade

- **“ALL RESPIGHI”**

Respighi - The Birds

Respighi - Concerto Gregoriano for Violin

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Respighi - Pines of Rome