

JOSEPH R. OLEFIROWICZ - Dirigent

An accomplished and versatile musician, Joseph R. Olefirowicz successfully maintains an active conducting career leading symphonic, operatic and music theater productions around the world. He last appeared in Moscow with the Russian National Orchestra for the inaugural 2018 "Silvester" concert in the new Zaryadye Concert Hall in Moscow, featuring soloists Albina Shagimuratova (soprano) and pianist Mikhail Pletnev. Further appearances with the RNO include his concert production of Bernstein's *Candide* in Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall.

Olefirowicz enjoyed a twelve-year relationship as guest conductor with the Vienna Volksopera. Beginning with his podium debut in 2008 (*Fiddler on the Roof* (Anatevka)), Olefirowicz has since led acclaimed Volksopera productions of *Guys and Dolls*, *Abrahams Jazz-Operetta Die Blume von Hawaii*, *Bernstein's Candide* (where he became the Internet sensation, the "Dancing Conductor"), as well the 2015 Austrian Musiktheater Preis award winning production of *Sondheim's Sweeney Todd*. Further productions have included the critically-acclaimed concert staging of *Kismet* (Wright & Hall / Borodin), as well as premieres of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel*, and repertory performances of *Lehar's Die lustige Witwe*. His February 2019 concert production of *Gershwin's Porgy and Bess* at the Vienna Volksopera, *Weiner Zeitung* declared "Conductor Joseph Olefirowicz held all participants masterfully together and led with a deep through-concept of the entire work." *Die Presse* raved "All in all, the evening is successful mostly thanks to Joseph Olefirowicz...the first call for American repertory."



Last season, Olefirowicz returned for his fourth season at the Hannover State Opera in Germany to lead *Bernstein's West Side Story*. Additionally, he made his podium debut with the Munich Rundfunkorchester for the European debut of *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*.

Equally at home leading symphonic repertoire, Olefirowicz's orchestral credits include his recent engagements with the Warsaw National Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Russian National Orchestra Moscow, Munich Symphony, Braunschweig State Orchestra, the State Opera Unter den Linden in Berlin, Leipzig Opera, Orchestra of the Musikalischen Komödie Leipzig, the Loh-Orchestra Sondershausen, German Film Orchestra, and the Lower Saxony State Orchestra of Hannover. In the States, Olefirowicz has made guest conducting appearances with the Springfield (MA) Symphony Orchestra and Symphony New Hampshire—both of which are located close to his home in New Hampshire. Future podium appearances include a return to the Munich Radio Orchestra and his debut with the Stanislavsky Theater in Moscow.

Raised and trained in the US, Olefirowicz's distinguished European career began in 1994 with a touring production of *Bernstein's On the Town*. The next year, Olefirowicz was named Music Director of the Bochum (Germany) production of *Starlight Express*. He then progressed into commercial musical theatres in Stuttgart and Berlin, and conducted the original productions of *Miss Saigon*, *Disney's The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. He further worked in Budapest and London as Music and Choral Supervisor for the NBC/Hallmark production of *Menken & Ahrens' A Christmas Carol*, and was presented an Emmy Craft Citation from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles for his contributions to this film.

In 2003, Olefirowicz made his European opera podium debut with *Cherubini's Lodoïska* at the Nordhausen Opera, where he then developed a broad repertory of Opera, Operetta, Musical Theatre, Ballet and Symphonic literature, as First Kapellmeister.

In addition to his conducting, Olefirowicz is an international concert organist. For the past eleven seasons, Olefirowicz has served as Artistic Director of First Music Concert Series and Director of Church Music for The First Church of Nashua (New Hampshire) – The large choral and music program under his leadership has been recognized twice by *New Hampshire Magazine*, as Best of New Hampshire 2012 & 2017.

Joseph Olefirowicz was born 1972, in Methuen, Massachusetts, near Boston. He is a distinguished graduate of the Ithaca College (New York) School of Music.

Really the dancing conductor Joseph R. Olefirowicz Он танцует! «танцующий дирижёр» Джозеф Олефирович



The dancing conductor J.R. Olefirowicz & Rossini: Overture to Wilhelm Tell. Олефирович, Россини



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