

Sebastian Kohlhepp

Biography

German tenor Sebastian Kohlhepp is one of the most widely hailed singers of his generation, much in demand on the international opera and concert scene.

Sebastian recently gave his successful début at Bavarian State Opera (Munich) in the role of Crown Prince Georg in Franz Lehár's 'Schön ist die Welt', and covered the role of Tamino in Mozart's 'Magic Flute' on the stage of the Semperoper in Dresden. With SWR Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Teodor Currentzis, he sang Hans Zender's arrangement of Schubert's 'Winterreise' in a widely hailed audiovisual staging.

Sebastian Kohlhepp was born in Limburg, where he received his initial musical training at the local boys' choir. After his studies with Hedwig Fassbender in Frankfurt he was successively engaged as a member of the ensembles in Karlsruhe, Vienna, and Stuttgart. He has been freelancing since the 2017/18 season.

He achieved outstanding success in his acclaimed Salzburg Easter Festival début in 2019 as David in Wagner's 'Meistersinger' under the baton of Christian Thielemann, and he took up the same role in early 2020 at the Semper Opera House in Dresden, thrilling the audience and the press.

Further guest appearances have led him to perform at venues including Theater an der Wien in Vienna (Tamino), the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam (Ferrando), the Salzburg Mozart Festival (Belmonte), Cologne Opera (Don Ottavio), and Basel Theater (Tamino).

In the course of the 2021/22 season, Kohlhepp will return to participate in productions at Bavarian State Opera in Munich and the Semperoper in Dresden, and he will perform for the first time at the opera houses of Valencia, Zürich, and Berlin (Deutsche Oper).

Sebastian Kohlhepp is likewise much in international demand as a concert soloist. In the summer of 2018 he gave his Salzburg Festival début appearance in Beethoven's 9th Symphony conducted by Teodor Currentzis.

In December of the same year, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and their chief conductor Andris Nelsons invited him to perform in the United States. To roll in the year 2020, he was featured live on German television (ZDF) in a concert version of Lehár's 'The Land of Smiles' in the traditional New Year's Eve concert with the Staatskapelle Dresden conducted by Christian Thielemann.

Kohlhepp makes regular appearances with renowned orchestras and ensembles, including the Dutch Radio Philharmonic, MDR Radio Symphony Orchestra (Leipzig), Akademie für Alte Musik (Berlin), the RIAS Chamber Choir (Berlin), Collegium Vocale Gent, Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, NDR Radio Choir (Hamburg), the Gürzenich Orchestra (Cologne), Gaechinger Cantorey (Stuttgart), and Stuttgart Chamber Choir. He collaborates with eminent conductors including Philipp Ahmann, Sylvain Cambreling, Peter Dijkstra, Adam Fischer, Pablo Heras-Casado, René Jacobs, Alexander Liebreich, Christophe Rousset, Andreas Spering, and Lorenzo Viotti. He has been invited to perform in major venues such as Concertgebouw Amsterdam, the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, the Philharmonic Halls in Paris, Berlin, and Cologne, the Konzerthaus in Vienna, the Tonhalle in Zurich, the Laeiszhalle in Hamburg, Shanghai Concert Hall, Seoul Arts Center, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, the Rheingau and Schleswig-Holstein Music Festivals, and the Menuhin Festival in Gstaad.

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Upcoming projects for the 2021/22 season include concert appearances in Beethoven's 'Christ on the Mount of Olives' in Linz, Katowice, Essen, and Brussels with the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées and Philippe Herreweghe, Bach's 'St John Passion' with Collegium 1704 (dir.: Václav Luks), and Mozart's 'Requiem' with the Staatskapelle Dresden conducted by Manfred Honeck.

Sebastian Kohlhepp's multifarious talents are on display in a great number of CD, DVD and radio broadcast recordings. One of his most recent releases is a live recording of Wagner's 'Meistersinger' under the baton of Christian Thielemann for the Profil/Hänssler label. Kohlhepp's lied début album will be released in 2022 in coproduction with SWR Broadcasting (Stuttgart).

(Visit his website for further information: www.sebastian-kohlhepp.de)