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Culture | Communications  
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## **ELCCNY NEWS**

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### **DAVID ROBERTSON 2019 HIGHLIGHTS**

#### *DEATH IN VENICE*

**DAVID ROBERTSON and the ROYAL CONCERTGEBOUW ORCHESTRA**  
Directed by IVO VAN HOVE – Original Music by NICO MUHLY  
A Co-Production with Internationaal Theater Amsterdam  
APRIL 4 – 13 at the ROYAL THEATRE CARRÉ, AMSTERDAM

The Gershwins'

#### *PORGY & BESS*

#### **THE METROPOLITAN OPERA**

**DAVID ROBERTSON TO CONDUCT NEW PRODUCTION BY JAMES ROBINSON  
TO OPEN 2019-20 SEASON, SEPTEMBER 23**  
With ERIC OWENS and ANGEL BLUE  
Additional Performances September 27-30, October 5-16, 2019,  
January 8 – February 1, 2020

As Juilliard Director of Conducting Studies, Distinguished Visiting Faculty  
Robertson to Conduct the Juilliard Orchestra  
MESSIAEN's *TURANGALÎLA-SYMPHONIE*  
David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center, May 3

**DAVID ROBERTSON and the DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
Stravinsky, and Bernstein's Symphony No. 2 (The Age of Anxiety)  
With Orli Shaham, Piano, April 25 – 28

**ROBERTSON RETURNS TO BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
Shostakovich, Britten, Raymond Yiu – May 15 at the Barbican

#### **SYNDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

2019 Valedictory Season as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director to Feature  
Musical Celebrations with Lang Lang and Susan Graham in June and July  
CONCERT PRODUCTION of BRITTEN'S *PETER GRIMES*, JULY 25 and 27

**DAVID ROBERTSON / SSO RECORDING RELEASED on ABC CLASSICS  
NIGEL WESTLAKE's *Spirit of the Wild* with STEVE REICH's Desert Music  
REACHES #1 CLASSICAL and #2 CROSSOVER on ARIA AUSTRALIAN CHARTS**

In 2019, Conductor David Robertson – an independent thinker and champion of the art form, associated with the world's most noted musical institutions – will conduct two innovative music/theater/opera productions with a distinct group of artistic collaborators, as he continues his journey of performances spanning centuries of repertoire with a special focus on music's future, opera and the theatrical setting of music. As always, teaching and cultivating the next generation of musical leaders, particularly on the podium, remains a paramount pursuit.

In a complex and unusual musical performance, David Robertson will return to Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra to conduct a theatrical production of Thomas Mann's *Death In Venice*, directed by Ivo van Hove, with original music by Nico Muhly. The project is a co-production of the Concertgebouw and van Hove's Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (formerly Toneelgroep Amsterdam), and will take place at the Royal Theatre Carré, in Amsterdam, April 4 – 13, 2019. Neither musical theater nor opera, the production is a rendering of an iconic literary work in an amalgam of art forms.

Following a dense Spring season, Robertson begins preparation this summer for James Robinson's production of The Gershwins' *Porgy & Bess* – to open The Metropolitan Opera's 2019-20 season on September 23. Featuring Eric Owens and Angel Blue in the title roles, the Metropolitan Opera premiere is a co-production with the Dutch National Opera and the English National Opera. Additional performances will take place in September and October, and in Winter 2020, all conducted by Robertson.

As teacher of the art and practice of conducting, Robertson begins his second academic year as Director of Conducting Studies, Distinguished Visiting Faculty, of The Juilliard School, in September 2019. Using a wide range of repertoire, from Wagner to Sibelius, Messiaen to John Adams, to draw aspiring conductors into the rapidly evolving sensibility of orchestral vision and leadership, Robertson is also expanding the opportunities to Juilliard conducting students by inviting each to be part of a professional conducting engagement selected from his international schedule. Preparation for a significant public performance is a key part of learning conducting, and students will participate in the process for Robertson's May 3, 2019, concert with the Juilliard Orchestra, at David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center, of Messiaen's *Turangalila-Symphonie*.

In addition to the New York performance, a series of Spring 2019 orchestral concerts include a visit to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra to conduct Stravinsky's *Firebird* (Complete) and Bernstein's Symphony No. 2 (The Age of Anxiety) with pianist Orli Shaham, April 25 – 28. On May 15, Robertson returns to the BBC Symphony Orchestra, at the Barbican in London, to conduct Britten's Serenade for Tenor and Horn, Shostakovich's Symphony No. 1, and Raymond Yiu's *The London Citizen Exceedingly Injured*.

In a rich landscape of concerts to open his 2019 valedictory season as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra – including the Australian premiere of Wynton Marsalis's *The Jungle*, Symphony No. 4, with Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in

residence – Robertson conducted Nigel Westlake’s *Spirit of the Wild* and Steve Reich’s *Desert Music*, recorded for ABC Classics. Upon release in February, the recording reached #1 on the Australian ARIA Core Classical Chart, and achieved the rare distinction of #2 in the ARIA Crossover Chart. Robertson’s musical celebration as leader of the SSO continues throughout 2019 – in June and July, they will be joined by Lang Lang and Susan Graham, and on July 25 and 27 they will present staged concert performances of Britten’s *Peter Grimes*. Additional concerts and celebrations will take place in Autumn 2019, and David Robertson will conduct the Orchestra in future seasons as renovation of the Sydney Opera House begins.

Details and information about additional highlights will be announced.

For more information, visit:

Website: [ConductorDavidRobertson.com](http://ConductorDavidRobertson.com)

Facebook: [Facebook.com/ConductorDavidRobertson](https://www.facebook.com/ConductorDavidRobertson)

## **DAVID ROBERTSON**

David Robertson – conductor, artist, thinker, and American musical visionary – occupies some of the most prominent platforms on the international music scene. A highly sought-after podium figure in the worlds of opera, orchestral music, and new music, Robertson is celebrated worldwide as a champion of contemporary composers, an ingenious and adventurous programmer, and a masterful communicator whose passionate advocacy for the art form is widely recognized.

Robertson has served in numerous artistic leadership positions, such as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and a transformative 13-year tenure as Music Director of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, where he solidified its status as among the nation’s most enduring and innovative, established fruitful relationships with a spectrum of artists, and garnered a 2014 Grammy Award for the Nonesuch release of John Adams’ *City Noir*. Earlier artistic leadership positions include at the Orchestre National de Lyon; as a protégé of Pierre Boulez, the Ensemble InterContemporain; as Principal Guest at the BBC Symphony Orchestra; and as a Perspectives Artist at Carnegie Hall, where he has conducted numerous orchestras. He appears regularly with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Czech Philharmonic, Bayerischen Rundfunk, and other major European orchestras and festivals. Robertson continues a longstanding and rich collaboration with the New York Philharmonic, and conducts numerous North American orchestras, including the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati and Dallas Symphony Orchestras, and the Juilliard Orchestra, where he serves as Director of Conducting Studies, Distinguished Visiting Professor.

Robertson continues to build upon his deep conducting relationship with The Metropolitan Opera, including James Robinson’s premier production of *Porgy and Bess* (2019), and the premier of Phelim McDermott’s celebrated production of *Così fan tutte* (2018). Since his 1996 Met Opera debut, *The Makropulos Case*, he has conducted a breathtaking range of projects, including the Met premiere of John Adams’ *The Death of Klinghoffer* (2014); the 2016 revival of Janáček’s *Jenůfa*; and many favorites. Robertson has frequent projects at the world’s most prestigious opera houses, including La Scala, Théâtre du Châtelet, San Francisco and Santa Fe Operas.

Robertson is the recipient of numerous musical and artistic awards, and in 2010 was made a Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Government of France. He is devoted to

supporting young musicians and has worked with students at festivals ranging from Aspen to Tanglewood to Lucerne.

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