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## **ELCCNY NEWS**

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### **DAVID ROBERTSON FALL 2021 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

**DAVID ROBERTSON RETURNS TO CATFISH ROW TO CONDUCT  
ENCORE PERFORMANCES OF THE GERSHWINS' *PORGY AND BESS*  
AT THE METROPOLITAN OPERA**

**With Original Principals**

**ERIC OWENS and ANGEL BLUE**

**October 31 – December 12, 2021**

**2019-20 SEASON *PORGY AND BESS* PRODUCTION PREMIERE RECORDING  
HONORED AT 2021 GRAMMY AWARDS – BEST OPERA RECORDING**

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**ROBERTSON TO MAKE ROME OPERA DEBUT**

**Janáček's *Kát'a Kabanová***

**January 18-27, 2022**

**DAVID ROBERTSON Returns to the SEATTLE SYMPHONY**

**Natalie Dietterich's aeolian dust**

**Ives' Three Places in New England, R. Schumann's "Rhenish" Symphony**

**September 23 - 26**

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**UTAH SYMPHONY**

**December 3 – 4**

**Stravinsky, Mendelssohn, Brahms**

### **THE JUILLIARD SCHOOL**

**Robertson Welcomes Fourth Class of Aspiring Conductors as Director of Conducting  
Studies, Distinguished Visiting Faculty, and Continues Role on Advisory Board of  
Tianjin Juilliard**

David Robertson will return to Catfish Row to conduct The Metropolitan Opera's encore presentation of James Robinson's celebrated 2019 production of The Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, starring Eric Owens and Angel Blue reprising their original principal roles. Robertson was honored at the 2021 Grammy Awards, with his artistic collaborators, for the 2019-2020 season production

premiere recording of *Porgy and Bess* – Best Opera Recording. He will conduct 11 performances at the Met, October 31 – December 12, 2021. *Porgy and Bess* is a co-production with the Dutch National Opera and the English National Opera. In early 2022, Robertson will make his Rome Opera debut conducting Janáček's *Kát'a Kabanová*, with performances January 18 – 27.

This Fall, David Robertson will revisit two American orchestras with which he has forged fruitful musical relationships – the Seattle Symphony and Utah Symphony. The Seattle program, September 23 – 26, as Robertson states, “has three ways of evoking place: Schumann (Symphony No. 3, ‘Rhenish’) with enthusiasm for his new musical environment in Dusseldorf on the Rhein river, Ives (Three Places in New England) with specific New England geography conjuring up soundpoems, and finally Natalie Dietterich with her imagining of a landscape both beautiful and perhaps cautionary in aeolian dust.” In Salt Lake City, December 3 – 4, the program will feature Stravinsky, Brahms, and the young violinist Inmo Yang performing the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto.

As music conservatories across the country fully reopen in the emerging, transformed post-COVID19 context, David Robertson will welcome his fourth class of aspiring conductors in his role as Director of Conducting Studies, Distinguished Visiting Faculty of The Juilliard School, which began with the 2018-19 academic year. Further utilizing his rich international musical experience, with a deep commitment to the evolution of art form, Robertson will continue to offer knowledge and guidance as a member of the Tianjin Juilliard Advisory Council. The international body, consisting of noted artists, administrators, and academics, is chaired by conductor Long Yu, and advises Juilliard's Chinese campus.

For more on David Robertson, visit:

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

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

Instagram: [Instagram.com/ConductorDavidRobertson](https://www.instagram.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. A consummate and deeply collaborative musician, Robertson is hailed for his intensely committed music making.

In Fall 2021, building upon his dynamic association with The Metropolitan Opera, Robertson conducts the encore performances of James Robinson's lauded 2019 production of The Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, featuring the returns of Eric Owens and Angel Blue in the lead roles. Robertson's musical leadership of the 2019-20 season production premiere was honored at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Grammy Awards, in March 2021, as Best Opera Recording. In January 2022, David Robertson will make his debut with the Rome Opera conducting Janáček's *Kát'a Kabanová*.

David Robertson completed his transformative 13-year tenure as Music Director of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra in 2018, where he solidified the orchestra's status as one of the nation's most enduring and innovative, and reinvigorated its American and European presence through regular

touring programs. For the SLSO, he created fruitful relationships with a wide spectrum of artists, and garnered a 2014 Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance for the Nonesuch release of John Adams' *City Noir*. Completing the historic Robertson-SLSO association, two final recordings were released in 2019: Wynton Marsalis' Swing Symphony, with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, on Blue Engine Records; and Mozart Piano Concertos, No. 17 in G Major K.453 and No. 24 in C Minor K.491, with Orli Shaham, on Canary Classics. As Robertson's 2019 valedictory season as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra culminated, he joined the newly formed Tianjin Juilliard Advisory Council, an international body created to guide Juilliard's young Chinese campus, complementing his role as Director of Conducting Studies, Distinguished Visiting Faculty of The Juilliard School in New York. Robertson will continue to conduct the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in future seasons as the city completes a major renovation of its beloved Sydney Opera House.

In addition to Sydney and St. Louis, Robertson has served in artistic leadership positions at musical institutions including the Orchestre National de Lyon, and, as a protégé of Pierre Boulez, the Ensemble InterContemporain, which he led on an extensive North American tour. At the BBC Symphony Orchestra, he served as Principal Guest Conductor. Robertson has served as a Perspectives Artist at Carnegie Hall, where he has conducted, among others, The Met Orchestra, the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and The Juilliard Orchestra. He appears regularly in Europe with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Czech Philharmonic, the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunk, the Staatskapelle Dresden, and at the Berlin Festival, the Edinburgh Festival, the BBC Proms, and the Musica Viva Festival in Munich, among others. Beyond his longstanding relationship with the New York Philharmonic, Robertson conducts numerous North American Orchestras, including those of Boston, Philadelphia, Montréal, Dallas, Houston, Seattle, Los Angeles, and Utah. Robertson continues his relationship with the New Japan Philharmonic and the China NCPA Orchestra.

Preceding the rich success of *Porgy and Bess*, Robertson's prolific relationship with the Met Opera includes the premiere of Phelim McDermott's celebrated 2018 production of *Così fan tutte*, set in 1950s Coney Island. Since his Met debut in 1996, with *The Makropulos Case*, he has conducted a breathtaking range of Met projects, including the Met premiere of John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer* (2014); the 2016 revival of Janáček's *Jenůfa*, then its first Met performances in nearly a decade; the premiere production of Nico Muhly's *Two Boys* (2013); and many favorites, from Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* to Britten's *Billy Budd*. Robertson conducts projects at the world's most prestigious opera houses, including La Scala, Théâtre du Châtelet, Bayerische Staatsoper (orchestra), the San Francisco Opera, and the Santa Fe Opera.

During the COVID-19 pandemic year, David Robertson collaborated with an international group of distinguished guitarists to create the electric guitar ensemble Another Night on Earth, which has embarked on a program of digital releases of original compositions and guitar orchestrations of early and classical music. ANOE features Joe Gore, Daniele Gottardo, Jiji, Steven Mackey, Gretchen Menn, James Moore and Heiko Ossig.

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. In addition to his pedagogical Juilliard roles, he is devoted to supporting young musicians and has worked with students at the festivals of Aspen, Tanglewood, Lucerne, at the Paris Conservatoire, Music Academy

of the West, and the National Orchestra Institute. In 2014, he led the Coast to Coast US tour of Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra of the USA.

Born in Santa Monica, California, David Robertson was educated at London's Royal Academy of Music, where he studied horn and composition before turning to orchestral conducting. He is married to pianist Orli Shaham, and lives in New York.

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