



**JAMES JUDD**, *principal conductor*

Principal Conductor of the Asian Youth Orchestra, the British born conductor James Judd's music directorships have included Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestre National de Lille in France and a groundbreaking 14 years as Music Director of the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra. His recordings with the Florida Philharmonic include an all-Walton program and Mahler's Symphony No. 1 released by Harmonia Mundi to international acclaim. The Mahler CD was named "Recording of the Month" in Stereophile, received the Gold Medal from France's Diapason, and was awarded the "Toblacher Komponierhauschen" at the Salzburg Festival by the Gustav Mahler Society for the best new Mahler recording of the year world-wide.

During his eight years as Music Director in New Zealand, James Judd garnered acclaim for his recordings with the orchestra, including works by Copland, Bernstein, Vaughan Williams, Gershwin and many others. He brought the orchestra to international renown through appearances at many festivals, and led the orchestra on its first tour of the major concert halls of Europe, culminating with the BBC Proms and the Concertgebouw.

James Judd's live recordings of Mahler's Symphonies No. 9 with the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra and No. 10 with the European Community Youth Orchestra were enthusiastically received, and his performance of Elgar's Symphony No. 1 with the Hallé Orchestra is still a reference standard among conductors today.

His recent performances of Holst's 'The Planets' with the Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam brought standing ovations. Other highlights include concerts with the Orchestra dell'Accademia di Santa Cecilia with Evgeny Kissin as soloist, the Hungarian National Orchestra, the Beijing Symphony, and the Vienna Symphony with performances of Elgar's oratorio "The Dream of Gerontius".

James Judd has conducted the Berlin Philharmonic and the Israel Philharmonic, conducted in the great halls of Europe including the Salzburg Mozarteum and Vienna's Musikverein, and made guest appearances with such prestigious ensembles as the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig, Prague Symphony, Orchestre National de France, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra, the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, the Flemish Radio Orchestra, and the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg. In the Far East he works regularly with Tokyo's NHK Orchestra and the Seoul Philharmonic.

His highly successful Miami Music Project, which he founded in 2008, uses music on El Sistema lines as an instrument for social transformation, enabling children to achieve their full potential while positively influencing their society through the study and performance of music.

