

# Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse

The Orchestre national du Capitole offers a rich symphonic season in its historic venue at the Halle aux Grains and also assures the opera and ballet season at the Théâtre du Capitole.

Created in the 1960s out of a merger of the Orchestre du Capitole (which was then responsible for the operas and ballets at the Théâtre du Capitole) and the Orchestre symphonique de Toulouse-Pyrénées, the Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse quickly earned international status thanks to the work of Michel Plasson.

## 1968 to 2003

Musical director: Michel Plasson (today honorary conductor). The recording of some sixty discs with EMI Classics.

## 1981

The Orchestre du Capitole becomes a "national" orchestra.

## Since 2005

Tugan Sokhiev has breathed extraordinary vitality into the Toulouse-based orchestra.

## International tours

Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Ireland, the United Kingdom, the Baltic States, Poland, China, Russia, Japan, South America, South Korea, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, etc.

## Prestigious halls

The Vienna Musikverein, the Berlin Philharmonie, the Moscow Bolshoi, the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, the Opéra Comique (Prokofiev's *Betrothal in a Monastery*, coproduced by the Théâtre du Capitole in 2011), the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, the Salle Pleyel and the Philharmonie de Paris.

## Festivals

The Colmar International Festival, the Saint-Sebastián Musical Fortnight, the Chorégies d'Orange (Verdi's *Aida* and two concerts in 2011, Verdi's *Requiem* in 2016), the Festival Radio France Occitanie Montpellier (2013, 2016, 2017, 2018), the Aix Easter Festival (2015), the Beethovenfest, Bonn (2016).

## Broadcasting activities

The Orchestre du Capitole has taken part in numerous broadcasts, including "Prodiges" on France 2 (2015), the Victoires de la Musique Classique" (2016) and "Musiques en fête", live from the Roman Theatre in Orange (2016) on France Musique and France 3. This ambitious broadcasting strategy translates into regular partnerships with France Télévisions, France Musique, Radio Classique, Arte Concert, Mezzo and Medici.tv.

## Recordings

Tugan Sokhiev and the ONCT have made 5 CDs on the Naïve label. A CD with all of Beethoven's piano concertos with pianist Elisabeth Leonskaja is set for release in 2018 on the Easonus label. An initial DVD was released in 2017 by EuroArts: Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*, Bartók's *The Wooden Prince* and Brahms's *Symphony N°1* (with the violinist Vadim Gluzman). A second DVD is scheduled for release in 2018: Berlioz's *Requiem* recorded at the Bolshoi Theatre (with the tenor Saimir Pirgu and the Bolshoi Chorus).

## Music premieres

The Orchestre du Capitole performs both repertoire works and world or French premieres of contemporary works with equal enthusiasm.

Bruno Mantovani: *Concerto for two pianos* (2012) and *Quasi lento* (2018)

Benjamin Attahir: *Concerto for oboe* (2014), *Nach(t)spiel* (2016) and *Je / suis / Ju / dith* (April 2019)

James MacMillan: *Concerto pour percussions n°2* (2014)

David Azagra: *Prélude* (2016)

Hugues Dufourt: *Ur-Geräusch* (2016)

Qigang Chen: *The Joy of Suffering, concerto for violin* (2018) and *Itinéraire of an illusion* (November 2018)

## Raising awareness in young audiences

Since 2012, Christophe Mangou has conducted educational concerts and numerous Sunday concerts, offering numerous world premiere performances: Sylvain Griotto's *Éva pas à pas* (2015) and Julien Le Hérissier's *L'Île Indigo* de (2017).

## Training for professional musicians

The International Conducting Academy directed by Tugan Sokhiev (held in both April and October 2016). Partnership with the Institut Supérieur des Arts de Toulouse: "preparatory training for the orchestral professions" accompanied by the soloists of the ONCT, and "Orchestral Conducting" sponsored by Tugan Sokhiev.

## Recruitment

Kristi Gjezi: Super soliste violinist since September 1, 2018.