

Karsten Januschke

Conductor

“In the pit there is fervour, passion and death threats (...) as the Münchner Rundfunkorchester under Karsten Januschke once again touchingly proves with the utmost sensitivity what a fantastic opera orchestra it can be.”
Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19/02/2016 on Carmen at the Prinzregententheater

Within the space of a few years Karsten Januschke has made a name for himself in the field of concerts and opera as a great talent of the younger generation of conductors. Characterised by a natural, friendly authority and an expressive conducting technique his communication with orchestras, soloists and singers is commanding and collegial. The prerequisite for his rehearsals is an in-depth study of the work in hand, and he takes an approach that combines a clear sound concept with great efficiency producing concerts and performances of extraordinary emotion and artistic flexibility.

Karsten Januschke's 2016/17 season kicks off with *L'elisir d'amore* (director: Philipp Himmelmann) at the Opernfestspiele St. Margarethen. He then makes his debut at the Theater St. Gallen with *Le nozze di Figaro*. During the course of the season further debuts will see him guest conduct the MDR Symphony Orchestra Leipzig and Bremer Philharmoniker among others, while he has also been invited back to lead the Münchner Rundfunkorchester and Bochumer Symphoniker.

A defining period in Karsten Januschke's career was spent at the Frankfurt Opera where he was solo repetiteur from 2008 and later kapellmeister. Having had the opportunity to acquire an extensive and broad-ranging repertoire in Frankfurt, he is now increasingly concentrating on his guest engagements; he recently made his debuts with the Münchner Rundfunkorchester, Beethoven Orchester Bonn, Radio-Symphonie Orchester Wien and Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken Kaiserslautern.

Opera continues to play a central role in his musical activities and he still enjoys a close connection with the Frankfurt Opera where he is regularly invited to guest conduct. Since 2010 he has conducted works from every era here, from Verdi's *Don Carlos* and *La Traviata*, to *La Bohème*, *Die Fledermaus* and *Hansel and Gretel*, as well as contemporary compositions such as Aribert Reimann's *Die Gespenstersonate* and Aulis Sallinen's *Kullervo*. Mozart's works soon emerged as a particular focus and Karsten Januschke's spirited and energetic renditions of the operas *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte*, *Idomeneo* and *The Magic Flute* have confirmed his position as an expert in this field. He conducted the revival of *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Frankfurt Opera and a new production of Valentino Fioravanti's *Le Cantatrici villane* in the 2015/16 season. In addition he provided the musical direction for a new production of *Carmen* (director: Christof Nel) at the Bayerische Theaterakademie August Everding.

Originally from Schleswig-Holstein, Karsten Januschke initially studied piano and musicology in Vienna. He completed his conducting studies with Prof. Georg Mark at the Vienna Conservatoire with honours. During this time he worked at the Vienna State Opera as a solo repetiteur and conductor of children's operas, as well as at the Theater an der Wien and later at the Bayreuth Festival, assisting conductors such as Christian Thielemann and Kirill Petrenko.

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