



ERIK NIELSEN Chief Conductor

Erik Nielsen has been Chief Conductor of the Bilbao Symphony Orchestra since September 2015.

He studied conducting at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and graduated with a double major in oboe and harp from the Juilliard School in New York.

After he joined the Berlin Philharmonic's Academy as a harpist, he worked as piano repertorist and subsequently as Kapellmeister with the Frankfurt Opera, and more recently as musical director with the Basel Theatre.

In September 2009 he was awarded the US Solti Foundation's prize and fellowship.

He has had an extensive operatic repertoire with organisations such as the Frankfurt Opera, the English National Opera, the Boston Lyric Opera, the Metropolitan Opera of New York, the Rome Opera, Dresden's Semper Oper, the National Theatre of São Carlos, the Malmo Opera Theatre, the Zurich Opera Theatre, the Bregenz Festival, the Champs-Élysées Theatre in Paris, the ABAO, Hungary's National Opera and the National Opera of Wales.

Turning to orchestras, he has conducted the radio symphony orchestras of Frankfurt and Stuttgart, the Castilla y León Symphony Orchestra, Seville's Royal Symphony Orchestra, the Spanish Television and Radio Orchestra, the Strasbourg Philharmonic, the Luxembourg Philharmonic, the South Westphalia Philharmonic and the Ensemble Intercontemporain, among others.

Future projects include his debut at the Aspen Music Festival, the Oslo Opera, the Royal Stockholm Orchestra and the Munich Opera.