

LENA—LISA WÜSTENDÖRFER

BIOGRAPHY

«Her enthusiasm is contagious», her «crystal-clear gestures» shape the sound «dynamically and with expressive differentiation» – wherever Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer conducts, she enthuses audiences and reporters alike with her captivating, finely nuanced style.

Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer is Music Director of the Swiss Orchestra and Artistic Director of the Bern Bach Choir.

In the 2020/21 season Wüstendörfer is on tour with the Swiss Orchestra and the soloists Heinz Holliger and Marie-Claude Chappuis, records a CD with Swiss music from the romantic period in cooperation with Radio SRF and starts a Beethoven cycle with the Bern Bach Choir and the Orchestra of Europe.

As a guest conductor, Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer is international active. Under her baton have been renowned ensembles such as the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra, Zurich Chamber Orchestra, Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, Frankfurt Opera and Museum Orchestra, Musikkollegium Winterthur, Pomeranian Philharmonic Bydgoszcz, Camerata Schweiz, Basel Sinfonietta, Sinfonietta Berne, Orchestre Symphonique du Jura, Orchestra of Europe, Capriccio Baroque Orchestra or Zakhar Bron Festival Orchestra.

In addition to her concert performances, Wüstendörfer researches musical interpretation and reception history, focusing in particular on Gustav Mahler and Felix Weingartner. Her publication *Mahler-Interpretation heute* (edition text + kritik 2015) is according to the Neue Zürcher Zeitung (NZZ) one

of the most fascinating so far on recent Mahler performance practice. In June 2019 the book *Klingender Zeitgeist* on Mahler's Fourth Symphony was brought out by the same publisher and was reviewed as «highly stimulating pioneering work» (Stifter Jahrbuch). She has often been invited as guest lecturer at Basel University.

Born in Zurich in 1983, Lena-Lisa Wüstendörfer studied violin and conducting at Basel Conservatory, as well as musicology and economics at Basel University. Her PhD thesis was on Mahler's Fourth Symphony on sound recordings. She deepened her studies with Sylvia Caduff and Sir Roger Norrington and was assistant conductor to Claudio Abbado.

She held scholarships from the Swiss Study Foundation, the Deutsche Bank Foundation *Academy Opera Today* and the Ernst Göhner Foundation.