

Pierre Pichler – Conductor

"In my opinion, next to an energetic Eighth, this is one of the most significant interpretations of the Pastorale that has ever been committed to record," Wilhelm Sinkovicz wrote in the newspaper Die Presse about the interpretation of Philippe Jordan, who recorded Beethoven's complete symphonies.

As a musical assistant of the famous conductor, Pierre Pichler shared no small part in this success, as Jordan attested in his letter of recommendation. Pichler also worked together with Jordan on the last three Bruckner symphonies, Ein Heldenleben by Richard Strauss and several other important projects.

Pierre Pichler descends from a traditional Austrian family of musicians. At age eight he received his first clarinet lessons from his grandfather. Already as a fifteen-year-old he was admitted to the class of the famous clarinetist Peter Schmidl at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, where he completed his studies with unanimous distinction. In addition to his performances as a soloist and chamber musician (The Art of Clarinet CD recording on Naxos), he has regularly been invited as a solo clarinetist by important orchestras (Staatskapelle Dresden, HR-Sinfonieorchester Frankfurt). Pichler was employed as clarinetist in the Mozarteum Orchester Salzburg and as solo clarinetist at the Graz Opera. Already during his studies, Pichler gave numerous performances in the Vienna State Opera orchestra and innumerable concerts and concert tours with the Vienna Philharmonic, where he played under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle, Seiji Ozawa, Zubin Mehta, Mariss Jansons, Riccardo Muti, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Pierre Boulez, Christian Thielemann, Giuseppe Sinopoli and Lorin Maazel. Inspired by working with these great conductors, he learned the craft of conducting from Yuji Yuasa and Uros Lajovic, a student of the legendary Hans Swarowsky, at the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts. In addition, he participated in several masterclasses by the renowned conducting pedagogue Jorma Panula. Currently, Pichler works as the musical assistant to Philippe Jordan (upcoming Music Director of the Vienna State Opera).

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(Pierre Pichler)

In recent years, his duties as a conductor have seen increased activity. For example, in October of 2016 Pierre Pichler conducted a new production of Mozart's opera The Magic Flute at the National Theatre of Opera and Ballet of Albania in Tirana. In January 2017, he conducted the gala concert to celebrate Mozart's birthday at the Estates Theatre in Prague with the orchestra of the Prague National Theatre. In the 2018-2019 season, Pichler was invited to conduct numerous concerts in Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany and Japan.

Pierre Pichler is a highly versatile concert and opera conductor. His repertoire comprises Viennese Classical-era music, Romantic works, works by Johann Strauss, as well as contemporary music and opera.

I can only say the best about Pierre Pichler's personal, musical and conducting abilities and recommend him warmly for the most demanding of tasks. (Philippe Jordan)