

Lin Liao, Conductor

Biography

Lin Liao (...) presented a poised, focused presence at the podium, ramrod straight, without a baton, coaxing a wide range of colors, musical shapes, and feelings from the orchestra. Bachtrack, March 2021

The German-based Taiwanese conductor Lin Liao is characterised by a broad repertoire ranging from classical to modern, a great openness to new art forms, and diverse experience with cross-disciplinary programmes and projects.

In the current season, she has performed with the Ensemble Contrechamps, the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, the WDR Symphony Orchestra and the Ensemble Modern, among others. Towards the end of the season, she will present a concert on the occasion of Philippe Manoury's 70th birthday: in June, she will perform his monumental spatial sound composition *Ring* with the Orchestre de Paris at the Philharmonie de Paris, alongside a new work by Misato Mochizuki and Marco Stroppa's *Come Play With Me*. The past two seasons have also been rich in highlights, despite the pandemic. Lin Liao has conducted concerts and productions with the Ensemble intercontemporain, Ensemble Modern, Ensemble Ascolta, the Mozarteumorchester Salzburg, WDR Sinfonieorchester as well as with the Festivalorchester of the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival. In addition, she conceived and developed a multimedia realisation of Karlheinz Stockhausen's *Tierkreis* with members of the WDR Symphony Orchestra.

As a conductor of contemporary music, Lin Liao works regularly with the most important European ensembles. She has a special relationship with the Lucerne Festival Academy, conducting them in performances of Karlheinz Stockhausen's *Gruppen* (2007) and *Inori* (2018), among others. On the 70th anniversary of the premiere of Pierre Boulez's *Polyphonie X*, Lin Liao conducted the first revival of the work, which Boulez withdrew after its premiere, in Lucerne at the invitation of Wolfgang Rihm. She is also a regular guest at renowned festivals such as the Ultraschall Festival Berlin, ManiFeste and Présences in Paris, Musica in Strasbourg, and the Klangspuren in Schwaz.

In the field of symphonic music, Lin Liao has conducted the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, the ORF Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna, the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn, the Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa, the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra. She is also regularly involved in education projects at the Gewandhaus zu Leipzig, among others.

She developed her versatile musical theatre repertoire most recently as 1st Kapellmeister at the Schleswig-Holstein Landestheater and previously in engagements in Chemnitz and Wittenberg and as a guest at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, the Vienna Operntheater and the Krefeld/Mönchengladbach Theatre. Among others, she conducted *Tiefland*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Madame Butterfly*, *La Cenerentola*, *La Traviata*, *Don Carlos*, and *Die Fledermaus*. In 2008 Lin Liao conducted the world premiere of Chang-Fa Yiu's opera *The Peach Blossom Fan* in Taipei, featuring a vocal and instrumental ensemble from the Beijing Opera and a Western symphony orchestra. In 2013, she premiered the chamber opera *Out at S.E.A.*, a collaborative composition by six young composers, in Budapest, with further performances in Milan, Paris, Brussels and Krakow.

Lin Liao has been realising her passion for promoting young talent since 2021 through her teaching at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" Leipzig. Previously, she directed the Weiwuying Academy within the Contemporary Music Platform at the new National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts Taiwan, which aims to promote talented Taiwanese musicians in the field of contemporary music.

Lin Liao studied composition and piano at the Taipei National University of the Arts and subsequently completed her conducting studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna with distinction. She received further artistic inspiration from master classes with Bernhard Haitink and Leif Segerstam, among others. Pierre Boulez and Peter Eötvös recognised the young conductor's qualities early on and entrusted Lin Liao with conducting Stockhausen's groups at the Lucerne Festival in 2007. Since then, she has enjoyed an intensive collaboration with Peter Eötvös, who invited her to several engagements including the Holland Festival in 2009, where she assisted him in the performance of the complete works of Edgar Varèse and led rehearsals with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and the Ensemble Asko|Schönberg.

2021/22 Season

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