

IKER SÁNCHEZ SILVA, Conductor

Iker Sánchez Silva made his remarkable debut conducting the Basque National Orchestra in 2007. Since then, he has been invited to conduct some of the best orchestras in Spain, Portugal and France such as the Tenerife Symphony Orchestra, Bilbao Symphony Orchestra, Barcelona National Orchestra, Principado de Asturias Symphony Orchestra, Oviedo Philharmonía, Oporto "Casa da Musica" Symphony Orchestra (Portugal), Montenegro Symphony Orchestra, Bayonne Côte Basque Symphony Orchestra (France), Ciudad de Pamplona Symphony Orchestra, Donostiako Kamara Orkestra (he was granted the second National Prize for Young Ensembles in 2007), Humboldt-Universität Orchestra Berlin, Spanish National Youth Orchestra, Bogotá Youth Symphony Orchestra and Venezuela's Teresa Carreño Youth Symphony Orchestra. In 2020 he will make the debut with Montenegro Symphony Orchestra and will conduct again the Bilbao Symphony and Gasteizko Ganbara Orkestra.

He has worked with soloists like Mikhail Ovrutsky, Asier Polo, Jose Manuel Cañizares, Ara Malikian, Milos Karadaglic (DECCA), Ángeles Blancas, Anna Oglatova or Avi Avital (Deutsche Grammophon) among others.

Since 2017 Iker is the Artistic Director of Bilbao Sinfonietta, performing with soloists like Angeles Blancas or Stage Directors like Barbora Horáková. The repertoire of BS is versatile, reaching great success from "Pierrot Lunaire" by A. Schönberg, to scenic music such as "El amor brujo" by M. De Falla or "Mahagonny Songspiel" by K. Weill. Several current composers have written new projects for the group itself.

During the 2007-08 and 2008-09 seasons, he worked as assistant conductor for the Bilbao Symphony Orchestra (BOS), a position that he was given after winning the competition organized by the Orchestra. He spent several intense years assisting such renowned conductors who have left a profound impact on the formative years of his conducting career as Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Vasily Petrenko, Juanjo Mena, Pablo Gonzalez, Günther Herbig or Michael Jurowsky; in orchestras such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra.

Concerning Operatic projects, he has conducted "Don Giovanni" and "Die Zauberflöte" by Mozart (in two different productions), "L'Elisir D'Amore" by Donizetti, première of "La Cenicienta Roja" by Hilario Extremiana/David Barbero, "El amor Brujo" by Falla, "Lo Scoiattolo in Gamba" by N. Rota, "El Caserio" by J. Guridi, "La tabernera del puerto" by P. Sorozabal. His recent

and future highlights include "Cosí fan tutte" by Mozart, "Bluebeard's Castle" by Bartok and "The Little Sweep" by Britten. Future engagements include appearances in Kursaal San Sebastian with Mozart's "Requiem" and "Cosí fan tutte", and in Euskalduna Auditorium Bilbao will close Musika-Musica Festival. *"... Regarding the musical plane, the conductor Iker Sánchez not only achieved security and good results in terms of precision and volumes from an orchestra that performed well, but also gave all the meaning to Mozart's "Magic Flute" , giving very expressive moments, as in the opening overture, which was joined in general, a good rapport with the voices and expressive nuances. Many conductors with more experience do not work like him in the pit ... "* (M.J. Cano DV)

Apart from the great Romantic repertoire, Iker Sanchez has also built up an enviable reputation for his interpretations of Contemporary music, conducting many instrumental ensembles such as Smash Ensemble (Salamanca-Paris), T.I. 04 (Vitoria), Bilbao Sinfonietta, Conjunto Instrumental Musikene (San Sebastián), Kabos Ensemble (Bilbao), Cre-art-project (London) and Krater Ensemble (San Sebastián). He has conducted many premieres worldwide: countries as Finland, France, Colombia, Venezuela, Portugal or Italy have seen the talent of this young conductor.

In 2008 he became Artistic Director of the EIO Symphony Orchestra (8 years), a national music project which involves music students from the Basque Country and Navarre, performing in Venezuela, Colombia and the most important Theaters in Spain.

He has recorded several CDs, many of them linked to the music of the 20th and 21st centuries: with the Bilbao Symphony Orchestra for the label "Brian's records", the Basque National Orchestra, the Ensemble Residencias (trío Arbos + Neopercusion), with Iñaki Alberdi (accordion) as soloist for the label "Verso", the premiere of two piano concertos by Luis Fraca and Mikel Mate with the Anitz Symphony Orchestra , and music by Borja Ramos for a Victor Ullate's ballet with Sigma Project+Krater Ensemble. In 2020 he will record with Bilbao Symphony Orchestra the full opera "Maitena" by the french composer C. Colin for the label "IBS Classical" and with Bilbao Sinfonietta the first version (1915) of "Amor Brujo" and "Seven Spanish songs" by the great composer Manuel de Falla, also for the label "IBS Classical"

He also made recordings for the Spanish and Basque National TV and radio channels (RTVE, RNE and EITB).