

Leonard Weiss is a Canberra-based conductor and director of the Canberra Youth Orchestra, the National Capital Orchestra, the ANU Choral Society and the Canberra Qwire; he has conducted over 40 major orchestral and choral concerts since late 2014. He was the 2016 Young Canberra Citizen of the Year for Youth Arts and Multimedia, an ACT Finalist for 2016 Young Australian of the Year and recently received a Canberra Critics' Circle Award for Music.

Recent career highlights include conducting jazz favourites with The Idea of North, a video game soundtrack concert (2017 Canberra International Music Festival) and the 67<sup>th</sup> Australian Interschool Choral Festival (2016). He has conducted soloists from Opera Australia, The Song Company, former ACO principals, and internationally renowned Juilliard alumni. Leonard is a student of Richard Gill AO and has participated in SSO masterclasses.

Works conducted over the past year include Haydn's *Creation*, Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*, Scriabin's *Poem of Ecstasy*, Hindemith's *Symphonic Metamorphosis*, Suk's *Asrael Symphony*, Mahler's *Symphony No. 1*, Dvořák's *Symphony No. 5*, Sibelius's *Symphony No. 2* and Australian works by Vine, Hindson, Koehne, Gordon and Sabin. Upcoming 2017 commitments include conducting James Morrison, *Sweeney Todd*, Brahms' *Double Concerto* with Dimity Hall and Julian Smiles, and Handel's *Messiah*.