

Asher Fisch

Principal Conductor & Artistic Advisor

A renowned conductor in both the operatic and symphonic worlds, Asher Fisch is especially celebrated for his interpretative command of core German and Italian repertoire of the Romantic and post-Romantic era. He conducts a wide variety of repertoire from Gluck to contemporary works by living composers.

Since 2014, Asher Fisch has been the Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO). His former posts include Principal Guest Conductor of the Seattle Opera (2007-2013), Music Director of the New Israeli Opera (1998-2008), and Music Director of the Wiener Volksoper (1995-2000).

Born in Israel, Fisch began his conducting career as Daniel Barenboim's assistant and kappellmeister at the Berlin Staatsoper. He has built his versatile repertoire at the major opera houses such as the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, and Semperoper Dresden.

Fisch has conducted at leading American symphony orchestras including those of Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, New York and Philadelphia. In Europe he has appeared with the Berlin Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, and the Orchestre National de France, among others.

Highlights of Asher Fisch's 2021-22 season include *Otello* and *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, *Adriana Lecouvreur* at the Vienna State Opera, a gala concert at the Hungarian National Opera with Kristine Opolais, as well as concerts with the Colorado Symphony, Naples Philharmonic and New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. Fisch's 2020-21 season featured guest engagements with the Detroit Symphony, Utah Symphony, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Dusseldorfer Symphoniker and a farewell concert at the Bayerische Staatsoper for long-time director Nikolaus Bachler.

Other recent seasons included concert and opera engagements with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, Cleveland Orchestra at the Blossom Festival, Sydney Symphony, Teatro Massimo Orchestra in Palermo, *Carmen*, *Die Zauberflöte* and *Parsifal* at the Bayerische Staatsoper, *Ariadne auf Naxos* with the Bayerische Staatsoper at the Hong Kong Arts Festival, *Tannhäuser* at the Tokyo National Theater, and *Pagliacci* and *Schitz* at the Israeli Opera.

Asher Fisch's recent recordings with WASO include Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* in 2018, which won Limelight Magazine's Opera Recording of the Year in 2019, Bruckner's Symphony No.8 and tenor Stuart Skelton's first solo album *Shining Knight*, all of which were released on ABC Classics. Fisch's recording of Ravel's *L'heure espagnole* with the Munich Radio Orchestra won Limelight Magazine's Opera Recording of the Year in 2017. In 2015, he recorded the complete Brahms symphonies with WASO, released on ABC Classics to great acclaim. His recording of Wagner's Ring Cycle with the Seattle Opera was released on the Avie label in 2014. His first Ring Cycle recording, of the Helpmann award-winning State Opera of South Australia production, garnered praise and awards including the Prix Lauritz Melchior and Académie du disque lyrique Paris. Fisch is also an accomplished pianist and has recorded a solo disc of Wagner piano transcriptions for the Melba label.

Asher Fisch appears courtesy of Wesfarmers Arts.