

Ha fallecido el director Alexander Vedernikov

REDACCIÓN

El pasado 29 de octubre falleció el director de orquesta ruso Alexander Vedernikov (Moscú, 1964-2020) debido a complicaciones derivadas del COVID-19. Hijo de un famoso cantante del Bolshoi, el bajo Alexander Vedernikov, y de una profesora de órgano en el Conservatorio de Moscú, inició su formación musical en su temprana infancia. Se graduó como director de orquesta en el Conservatorio de Moscú en 1988 y en ese mismo año se convirtió en asistente de Vladimir Fedoseyev en la Orquesta Sinfónica Chaicovsqui de la Radio de Moscú (1988-1995) y director en el Teatro Musical Académico Stanislavski y Nemirovich-Danchenko de Moscú (1988-90).

Desde 1996, cuando debutó en el Covent Garden londinense, su fama en Europa Occidental y América aumentó, tanto cuando dirigía repertorio ruso como internacional, y se convirtió en un reputado director de ópera. En 1995 fundó la Orquesta Sinfónica

Filarmonía de Rusia, que dirigió hasta 2004. Fue director musical y director principal del Teatro Bolshoi entre 2001 y 2009. En Dinamarca dirigió la Orquesta Sinfónica de Odense (2009-2014), de la cual fue luego Director Honorario, y la Orquesta de la Ópera de Copenhague (2018-2020). Desde 2019 era además director musical del Teatro Mijailovski de San Petersburgo (antes llamado Teatro Mali o Mussorgski).

Vladimir Kekhman, director artístico del Teatro Mijailovski, sin mencionar explícitamente que murió de COVID, ha declarado que: "Un músico destacado ha fallecido. Esto es una pérdida irremplazable para mí, para el Teatro Mijailovski y para toda la comunidad musical en conjunto. En este momento particular me gustaría recordar a mis colegas que no deben subestimar el virus y los riesgos que conlleva. La última representación dirigida por el Maestro Vedernikov fue *Cavalleria rusticana* en la inauguración de la temporada de ópera. Dedicaremos la próxima representación de esta ópera a su memoria el próximo



Alexander Vedernikov
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10 de noviembre. Descanse en paz."

La Deutsche Oper Berlin ha publicado una nota de prensa recordando sus éxitos en este teatro, desde su *Eugene Onegin* de Chaicovsqui (2015 y 2019) hasta *Turandot* y *Los Hugonotes* de Meyerbeer, que fue precisamente la última ópera presentada en la Deutsche Oper en marzo de 2020 antes del primer confinamiento por COVID, y ha declarado que: "La Deutsche Oper Berlin lamenta la pérdida de un gran músico y conservará su memoria honrosamente".

Nota de prensa de su agencia: IMG Artists

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Maestro Alexander Vedernikov. He died of complications due to COVID-19 on 29 October 2020. As a conductor, he will be remembered for his leonine power, interpretations rich in colour and texture, and for his charismatic presence at the podium.

Maestro Vedernikov was represented at IMG Artists by Bridget Canniere and David Zavalkovski.

Bridget Canniere said, "I am devastated. Alexander Vedernikov was an incredible human being and I will always have the ultimate respect for him, not only as a musician and a conductor, but also as a friend. A strong and dynamic conductor, he was also a gentle and unassuming man. He was funny and kind, and generous to his fellow musicians and to all he knew. Musicians all over the world will be deeply saddened by this profound loss."

David Zavalkovski said, "I am full of sorrow. Alexander Vedernikov was both an extraordinary musician, person, and my best friend. That this wonderful man, so full of life, talent, passion, and humour is taken from the world when he had so much more to give is tragic, and feels deeply unfair. I will forever miss his music and his friendship."

Born on 11 January, 1964, in Moscow, Maestro Vedernikov was raised in a home full of music. His father, Alexander Filipovich Vedernikov was a bass who sang at the Bolshoi Theatre. His mother, Natalia Nikolaevna Gureeva, was a professor of organ at the Moscow Conservatory, from where he graduated in 1988. Following his studies with Leonid Nikolaev and Mark Ermler, he first worked as a conductor in the Stanislavski and Nemirovich-Danchenko Moscow Academy of Music. From 1988 through 1995, he was Assistant Conductor to Vladimir Fedoseyev at The Tchaikovsky symphony orchestra of Moscow Radio.

He first became Chief Conductor and Artistic Director when he founded the Russian Philharmonia Symphony Orchestra in 1995, a position he held until 2004. At the time of his death, he was Chief Conductor of the Royal Danish Opera and Musical Director and Principal Conductor of the Mikhailovsky Theatre. He was Chief Conductor of the Odense Symphony Orchestra from 2009 to 2018 and prior to that he was Music Director and Chief Conductor of the Bolshoi Theatre from 2001 until 2009, during which time he was credited with rebuilding the Bolshoi Theatre's historical reputation for artistic excellence. He also enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship with the National Philharmonic Orchestra of Russia

for more than 17 years.

Recent highlights include multiple projects with the BBC Symphony, an appearance at the Prague Spring Festival and guest engagements with the City of Birmingham, Danish National Symphony, NHK Symphony, BBC Scottish Symphony, Netherland Radio Philharmonic, Helsinki Philharmonic, Iceland Symphony, RTE Symphony and Russian National Symphony Orchestras.

Vedernikov has also worked with the Orchestre de Paris, NHK Symphony, Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, City of Birmingham Symphony, Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana, Orchestra Verdi Milan, London Philharmonic, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Czech Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony, Bayerischer Rundfunk, China Philharmonic, Staatskapelle Dresden, Montreal Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic and St. Petersburg Philharmonic orchestras. He works regularly with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and has performed a broad range of repertoire with them, including Prokofiev's *3rd Symphony*, a newly created version of Mahler's *Das Knaben Wunderhorn* by Detlev Glanert with Dietrich Henschel and works from Haydn and Brahms to Schinttke, Tippett and John Adams.

In spring 2018 Alexander Vedernikov conducted a highly acclaimed production of the *Ring Cycle* at Odense's new Odeon Theatre with an exciting cast, including Torsten Kerl as Siegfried, Catherine Foster and Jennifer Wilson as Brünnhilde and Gerhard Siegel as Mime, a major project which concluded his tenure there as Chief Conductor. Elsewhere in the field of opera, Alexander Vedernikov has frequently conducted at Berlin's Komische Oper, and has worked throughout Italy at La Scala in Milan, La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Comunale in Bologna, Teatro Regio in Turin and Opera di Roma. He has conducted productions at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, the Bastille Opera in Paris, the Finnish National Opera, Zurich Opera, Frankfurt Opera and Royal Stockholm Opera and Savonlinna Festival as well as the Deutsche Oper in Berlin.

It was and will remain an honour to represent this extraordinary, beloved titan in his professional career. IMG Artists sends our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and colleagues.