

Lars-Erik ter Jung  
conductor (NO)

A semi long biography

Lars-Erik ter Jung has over the last decades achieved great recognition as a conductor. His comprehensive musical experience gives feedback to this task, and his work as a conductor with various ensembles includes a wide range of repertory, from ballet and opera to a vast number of symphonic works and works for chamber orchestra.

Already a well established musician, with a substantial career as one of Norway's most profiled violinists since the early 1980s, he took up conducting studies from 1998, first with Jorma Panula and George Hurst and later with Kenneth Kiesler. These studies were realized through master classes with professional orchestras around the world (Berlin, Brasov, Vaasa, Moscow, New Hampshire). ter Jung has worked with orchestras and ensembles such as the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, The Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, The BIT20ensemble, the Cairo Symphony Orchestra and The Swedish Chamber Orchestra.

Lars-Erik ter Jung has commissioned and given the first performance of works from a great number of composers, not the least through his work as artistic director of Telemark Chamber Orchestra (TKO) from 1992 until the fall of 2018. His many recordings of several new works for chamber orchestra and other ensembles, gives proof of this long lasting commitment for the new music. Since September last year he has given the world premieres of the piano concerto "Just for You" by Jan Erik Mikalsen, with Ellen Ugelvik and The Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra at the Ultima festival, the new opera «Kimen» by Magnar Åm, built on the novel «The Seed» by Tarjei Vesaas and the new Concerto for Oboe and Strings by the Turkish composer Mert Karabey, with soloist David Strunck and the TKO.

ter Jung was the concertmaster of the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra for 12 years. Since 1994 he has worked on a free basis, both as a violinist and as artistic leader of numerous ensemble projects, also through co-operations with several important music festivals and institutions, such as the Bergen International Festival and Ultima Oslo Contemporary Music Festival. He was the artistic director of the Sinfonietta of the Opera in Kristiansund, Norway (2013-2015), conducting operas like "Madama Butterfly" and "Lucia di Lammermoor".

His conducting has taken him abroad on several occasions: to Egypt, for concerts with the BIT20 ensemble at the widely broadcasted inauguration ceremony of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, and later with the Cairo Symphony Orchestra, first in 2008, visiting the orchestra again in 2010; to Darmstadt Contemporary Music Festival and the cathedral of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, also conducting the BIT20 ensemble; to the Swedish Chamber Orchestra, to Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra and to Poland with the TKO for co-productions and concerts with the PRIMUZ Chamber

Orchestra, resident with The Grazyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Łódź. During the last years he has conducted concerts in Russia, through co-operations within the Barents region, and in festivals in Berlin, Stuttgart, Huddersfield, Copenhagen, Luxembourg and Lyon with the Norwegian contemporary music ensemble Asamisimasa. His cooperation with this ensemble led to the Norwegian "Spellemann" Music Award in 2013, for a recording of "On And Off And To And Fro" by Simon Steen-Andersen.

ter Jung's discography is substantial, and contains documentation of many of the works he has initiated. His CD number 17 came out this year, on which he conducts music by Norwegian conductors Åm, Asheim and Mikalsen. Most of his recordings are on the label "Fabra", with Geir Inge Lotsberg as the producer.

ter Jung is also involved in projects with young musicians, as the conductor of Sunnhordland Chamber Orchestra, the Kirsten Sand course for string players in Tromsø and the project orchestra "Oppstryk" in Finnmark in North of Norway - important projects for recruiting young people to the world of classical music.