



JENSEN ARTISTS

WWW.JENSENARTISTS.COM • 646.536.7864

Michael Christie

Michael Christie is a thoughtfully innovative conductor, equally at home in the symphonic and opera worlds, who is focused on making the audience experience at his performances entertaining, enlightening, and enriching. *The New York Times* reports, "Michael Christie is a director open to adventure and challenge," and the *Cincinnati Enquirer* declares, "If Michael Christie represents the future of music in this country, the future looks promising indeed."

Christie, who was featured in *Opera News* in August 2012 as one of 25 people believed to "to break out and become major forces in the field in the coming decade," began his tenure as the first-ever Music Director of the Minnesota Opera with the 2012-13 season. During the 2015-2016 season with Minnesota Opera, he leads the world premiere performances of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Paul Moravec's opera *The Shining*, based on the novel by Stephen King, plus productions of *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Rusalka*. In 2017, he leads the world premiere performances of *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* by Mason Bates with Santa Fe Opera. His appointments beyond the current season include major performances with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Washington National Opera, and Opera Theatre of St. Louis.

Deeply committed to bringing new works to life, Michael Christie has championed commissions by leading and emerging composers alike, including Mark Adamo, Mason Bates, Michael Daugherty, Osvaldo Golijov, Mark Grey, Daron Hagen, Matthew Hindson, Marjan Mozetich, Stephen Paulus, Kevin Puts, and more.

In 2011, Christie led the Minnesota Opera in the world premiere performances of Kevin Puts' *Silent Night*, which was awarded the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Music. Anthony Tommasini praised his "supple pacing and vitality" in *The New York Times* when Christie led the work in 2013 with Opera Company of Philadelphia. He conducted the European premiere of the opera in October 2014 at the Wexford Festival Opera in Ireland, and led the opera again in May 2015 with the Opéra de Montréal.

Other recent highlights include Christie's San Francisco Opera debut in the world premiere performances of Mark Adamo's *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene*; the world premiere of *Twenty-Seven*, a new opera by Ricky Ian Gordon commissioned by Opera Theatre of St. Louis; and the world premiere of Kevin Puts and Mark Campbell's new opera, *The Manchurian Candidate*, at the Minnesota Opera. Notable past engagements include highly praised productions of Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles* and John Adams's *The Death of Klinghoffer*, and the North American premiere of Unsuk Chin's *Alice in Wonderland*, all with Opera Theatre of St. Louis; the European premieres of *The Ghosts of Versailles* at the Wexford Festival Opera; as well as various performances at Opernhaus Zürich, Finnish National Opera, Scottish Opera, and Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Christie's nearly 20-year symphonic conducting career has included serving as Music Director of the Phoenix Symphony (2005-2013) and Brooklyn Philharmonic (2005-2010), and as Chief Conductor of the Queensland Orchestra (2001-2004) in Australia, as well as guest appearances leading the Los Angeles Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, and the Symphonies of Dallas, St.



JENSEN ARTISTS

WWW.JENSENARTISTS.COM • 646.536.7864

Louis, Atlanta, Houston, Minnesota, Oregon, Indianapolis, and Cincinnati. Christie's many European engagements have included leading the Rotterdam Philharmonic, DSO Berlin, Orchestre National de Lille, Swedish and Netherlands Radio Symphony, City of Birmingham Symphony, NDR Hannover Orchestra and the Czech Philharmonic. In addition, Christie enjoys a strong profile in Australia, where he has conducted the Sydney Symphony, Tasmanian Symphony, Opera Queensland, and the Western Australian Symphony in Perth.

Christie's New York Philharmonic debut came in 2007 when he stepped in on short notice for an ailing Riccardo Muti, and his Carnegie Hall debut came in 2014 when he led the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra as part of the Spring for Music festival. Christie also served as the Music Director of the Colorado Music Festival from 2000-2013, where he was highly praised for his innovative programming and where audiences are now at an all time high, resulting in him being named "Musician of the Year" by *The Denver Post* in 2010.

Michael Christie first came to international attention in 1995 when he was awarded a special prize for "Outstanding Potential" at the First International Sibelius Conductors' Competition in Helsinki. Following the competition, he was invited to become an apprentice conductor with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra where he subsequently worked with Daniel Barenboim as well as at the Berlin State Opera during the 1996-1997 season. Christie graduated from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music with a bachelor's degree in trumpet performance.

Christie lives in the Twin Cities with his wife, Alexis, a physician, and their two children. A licensed pilot for over 15 years, Christie often flies his Mooney Airplane Company single engine aircraft to his conducting engagements across the U.S. He volunteers for Angel Flight Central, flying people in need with serious medical issues to receive care.

For more information, visit www.michaelchristieonline.com.

Acclaim

"A champion of fresh work" – *The Denver Post*

"Michael Christie conducted with remarkable precision and flair." – *Chicago Tribune*

"A top notch conductor of new works" – *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

"Conductor Michael Christie melds fire and ice." – *Star Tribune*

"His conducting...revealed total emotional conviction, natural long-line phrasing, and mastery of orchestral color." – *Musical America*

"Michael Christie conducted with splendid brio and welcome crispness." – *Opera News*



JENSEN ARTISTS

WWW.JENSENARTISTS.COM • 646.536.7864

“Michael Christie is a director open to adventure and challenge” – *The New York Times*

“If Michael Christie represents the future of music in this country, the future looks promising indeed.” – *Cincinnati Enquirer*

Medium Biography (487 Words)

Michael Christie is a thoughtfully innovative conductor, equally at home in the symphonic and opera worlds, who is focused on making the audience experience at his performances entertaining, enlightening, and enriching. *The New York Times* reports, “Michael Christie is a director open to adventure and challenge,” and the *Cincinnati Enquirer* declares, “If Michael Christie represents the future of music in this country, the future looks promising indeed.”

Christie, who was featured in *Opera News* in August 2012 as one of 25 people believed to “to break out and become major forces in the field in the coming decade,” began his tenure as the first-ever Music Director of the Minnesota Opera with the 2012-13 season. During the 2015-2016 season with Minnesota Opera, he leads the world premiere performances of Paul Moravec’s opera *The Shining*, plus productions of *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Rusalka*. In 2017, he leads the world premiere performances of *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* by Mason Bates with Santa Fe Opera.

Deeply committed to bringing new works to life, Michael Christie has championed commissions by leading and emerging composers alike, including Mark Adamo, Mason Bates, Michael Daugherty, Osvaldo Golijov, Mark Grey, Daron Hagen, Matthew Hindson, Marjan Mozetich, Stephen Paulus, Kevin Puts, and more. In 2011, Christie led the Minnesota Opera in the world premiere performances of Puts’ *Silent Night*, which was awarded the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Music.

Christie’s nearly 20-year symphonic conducting career has included serving as Music Director of the Phoenix Symphony (2005-2013) and Brooklyn Philharmonic (2005-2010), and as Chief Conductor of the Queensland Orchestra (2001-2004) in Australia, as well as guest appearances leading top orchestras such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, the Symphonies of Dallas, Atlanta, Houston, and more. Christie also enjoys many international engagements as well as a strong profile in Australia. Christie’s New York Philharmonic debut came in 2007 when he stepped in on short notice for an ailing Riccardo Muti, and he made his Carnegie Hall debut in the 2014 Spring for Music festival. Christie also served as the Music Director of the Colorado Music Festival from 2000-2013.

Michael Christie first came to international attention in 1995 when he was awarded a special prize for “Outstanding Potential” at the First International Sibelius Conductors’ Competition in Helsinki. Following the competition, he was invited to become an apprentice conductor with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra where he subsequently worked with Daniel Barenboim as well as at the Berlin State Opera during the 1996-1997 season. Christie graduated from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music with a bachelor’s degree in trumpet performance.



JENSEN ARTISTS

WWW.JENSENARTISTS.COM • 646.536.7864

Christie lives in the Twin Cities with his wife, Alexis, a physician, and their two children. A licensed pilot for over 15 years, Christie often flies his Mooney Airplane Company single engine aircraft to his conducting engagements across the U.S. He volunteers for Angel Flight Central, flying people in need with serious medical issues to receive care.

For more information, visit www.michaelchristieonline.com.

Short Biography (261 Words)

Michael Christie is a thoughtfully innovative conductor, equally at home in the symphonic and opera worlds, who is focused on making the audience experience at his performances entertaining, enlightening, and enriching.

Christie began his tenure as the first-ever Music Director of the Minnesota Opera with the 2012-13 season. Highlights of his 2015-2016 season include the world premiere performances of Paul Moravec's opera *The Shining*, plus productions of *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Rusalka*. In 2017, he leads the world premiere performances of *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* by Mason Bates with Santa Fe Opera. In 2011, Christie led the Minnesota Opera in the world premiere of Kevin Puts' *Silent Night*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Music.

Christie's nearly 20-year conducting career has included serving as Music Director of the Phoenix Symphony and Brooklyn Philharmonic and as Chief Conductor of the Queensland Orchestra in Australia, as well as guest appearances leading top orchestras around the world. Christie also served as Music Director of the Colorado Music Festival from 2000-2013.

Michael Christie first came to international attention in 1995 when he was awarded a special prize for "Outstanding Potential" at the First International Sibelius Conductors' Competition in Helsinki. Following the competition, he was invited to become an apprentice conductor with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra where he subsequently worked with Daniel Barenboim as well as at the Berlin State Opera. Christie holds a bachelors degree in trumpet from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. He lives in the Twin Cities with his wife, Alexis, a physician, and their two children.

For more information, visit www.michaelchristieonline.com.