

## **Ruben Gazarian**

With the start of the 2002/2003 concert season, Ruben Gazarian took up the position of artistic director of the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn. Through a unanimous vote by the orchestra as well as by the selection commission, he was chosen for this position. He broadened the orchestra's standard repertoire through the expansion of the instrumentation, thus transforming it into a symphonic orchestra, and through the selection of many works from the Romantic Period, the Early Modern and Avant-garde. Since the beginning of 2015, Ruben Gazarian assumes the additional position of Artistic Director of the Georgisches Kammerorchester Ingolstadt. In the same manner, this appointment arose from the unanimous wish of the orchestra, its management and the cultural representatives of the city.

As guest conductor, Ruben Gazarian has conducted on the podiums of the Stuttgart, Frankfurt and WDR Radio Symphony Orchestras, the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Frankfurt Opera Orchestra, Hessian State Orchestra, Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie, Orchestre National de Lyon, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Israel Symphony Orchestra Rishon LeZion (Tel Aviv Opera), Tonkünstler Orchestra, Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestra of state theatre Cottbus, Zurich Chamber Orchestra, and many others.

The soloists with Ruben Gazarian has collaborated include Gautier and Renaud Capucon, Julia Fischer, Hilary Hahn, Katia & Marielle Labèque, Elisabeth Leonskaja, Sabine Meyer, Sharon Kam, Viktoria Mullova, Sergei Nakariakov, Gerhard Oppitz, Frank Peter Zimmermann, Beaux Arts Trio, Gewandhaus-Quartett as well as many others.

Originally from Armenia, Ruben Gazarian received his first violin lesson from his father at the age of four. That was followed by a formal education at the music school "P. I. Tschaikowsky". Afterwards, he studied at the state conservatory in Yerevan with Prof. R. Aharonian, the leader of the Borodin Quartet. Ruben Gazarian began his solo career in 1983 with recitals and performances in various chamber and symphonic orchestras. During his studies, he received a special contract as second violinist and soloist for the Armenian national chamber music orchestra while playing the violin in the national piano trio of the Armenian Public Television and Radio.

In 1992, Ruben Gazarian continued his violin education at the University of Music and Theatre in Leipzig and finished with a final concert exam in 1995. In the same year, he embarked on a conductor study – also at the Leipzig performing arts university – where he graduated in 1998 with the highest honors. After years (1993-1998) in the function of first violin and leader of the Leipziger Symphonie Orchester, Gazarian was chosen in 1999 to be its principal conductor. Shortly before commencing his work at the Württemberg Chamber Orchestra Heilbronn in September 2002, he won the 1st International Conductors' Competition "Sir Georg Solti" in Frankfurt am Main.

An extensive and ever-growing discography documents the wide range of artists and his confident familiarity with works from diverse musical periods and styles. In addition, several

CD productions are planned for the concert season 2015/16, of which the repertoire will comprise music spanning from the First Viennese School to the 21st century.

*2016 season only. Please contact the GKO office if you wish to edit this biography.*