

Magnus Loddgard – Conductor



Magnus Loddgard, conductor, is an uncommonly versatile musician who is at home in diverse musical genres. His broad experience and depth of interpretation in a wide variety of repertoire have made him a familiar and welcome face to orchestras in his native Norway and abroad. He is also an accomplished and sought-after chamber musician and accompanist.

Magnus Loddgard has played both piano and violin from an early age and studied piano with Sigurd Slåttembrekk and conducting with Professor Ole Kristian Ruud at the Norwegian Academy of Music. Further studies in conducting brought him to Universität der Künste in Berlin where he studied with Professor Lutz Köhler. At home leading chamber music ensembles and large orchestras, the major part of Magnus Loddgard's career has been in the opera house.

He made his opera debut conducting *La Bohème* with Norway's Opera Sør in 2009, and has since become a regular guest there. With the Norwegian National Opera and Ballet he began first as a vocal coach and then took conducting assignments, among which are *Macbeth* (Verdi), and *The Rape of Lucretia* (Britten), and the ballet production *Stamping Ground* (Jyri Kylian).

He has been a regular guest at Ho Chi Minh City Opera the last few years, having conducted three productions. At Østfold Opera in Halden he conducted a large open air production of *Tosca* with great success the summer of 2015, and he was immediately invited back for the *Magic Flute* in 2017. He will also make his first appearances at the Kristiansand Opera during the 2016/2017 season, with productions of *Nutcracker* and *La Bohème*.

Magnus Loddgard's career as a concert pianist is no less interesting, where he has placed particular emphasis on contemporary music. He has performed as soloist with the Trondheim and Kristians and Symphony Orchestras and has premiered a considerable series of works. The Norwegian Broadcasting Orchestra (KORK) has recently released a CD of the piano concerto "Sunburst" by Jon Øyvind Ness with Loddgard as soloist, nominated for a Norwegian Grammy Award (Spellemansprisen).

He is the principal conductor for the Ensemble neoN (which won a Norwegian Grammy Award for the CD *Susanna* and *Ensemble neoN – The Forester*) and principle pianist with Ensemble Ernst. In 2002 Magnus Loddgard founded the Fjøsfestival, a successful music and literature festival which allowed him to use an impressive array of his talents and took place on the estate of the Loddgard family in Melhus, Norway. Loddgard is now based in Berlin.

