

Ayyub Guliyev

As an internationally renowned symphonic and operatic conductor, AYYUB GULIYEV is motivated by a profound belief in music's power.

He currently serves as Principal conductor and Artistic director of the Azerbaijan State Opera and Ballet Theatre (from November 2018), Guest conductor of the Kunming International Philharmonic (China), Belarus Bolshoi State Opera and Ballet Theatre and Bohdan Warchal Slovak Chamber Orchestra.

A.Guliyev also appears as guest conductor with some of the world's most famous musical institutions: in 2010, 2014-2017 he leads the Toscanini Philharmonic in Rome, Madrid, Bologna and Parma; takes the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Novosibirsk Philharmonic and Slovak Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra on a tour of Azerbaijan.

Ayyub Guliyev is one of the most decorated Azerbaijan conductors of his generation. He received the Azerbaijan Foundation "Friends of the Culture" Award - "The Best Musician of the Year". In 2009, he was named "Best Musician of the Festival" at the "Musical Olympus" Festival in St.-Petersburg. In March of 2017 he was named the title "Honorary art worker of the Azerbaijan Republic", one of the highest honors in this country. In 1998 upon the decree of the President of the Azerbaijan the name of Ayyub Guliyev was voted into the "Golden Book" of the Young Talents". In 2008, he received the Azerbaijan Ministry of Culture Award "Peak" and "Human National Prize" in 2013. In May of 2014, Guliyev also awarded "Honorary Medal" of the Turksoy Organisation in consideration of his "eminent merits in the musical art." Previous year in Baku he received the prestigious Award "The Best Achievement of the Year". From 2014 up to our time Guliyev was awarded of the Presidential State Prize for the musicians.

His conducting studies began in 1999 at the Baku Music Academy named after Uzeyir Hadjibeyli and that same year he was given his first conducting position, Associate Conductor of the Bulbul Youth Symphony Orchestra. In March of 1997, great cellist and conductor Mstislav Rostropovitch invited Guliyev to join him at his 70th Anniversary concerts in Baku and Moscow. In 2007 he received his post-graduate degree from the N.A.Rimsky-Korsakov St.-Petersburg State Conservatory (prof.Alexandr Polischuk). Ayyub Guliyev was a conducting fellow at the Summer Academy of the Vienna State University of Music and Fine Arts (2008, with M.Stringer), European Music Academy in Teplice, Czech Republic (in 2009, with J.Schlaefli) and Conducting Academy of the Berlin Chamber Orchestra in Vilnius, Lithuania (in 2010, with prof. M. Jurowski).

A. Guliyev was brought to international attention by winning 1st prize and Orchestra Preference Award of the W. Lutoslawski International Conducting Competition in Bialystok, Poland in 2006. Also he was named the First Prize winner at the 2009 International Conducting Competition in Craiova, Romania.

In November of 2008 Guliyev also received the “Orchestra Preference Award” of the Athens Orchestra “Colours” at the Mitropoulos Conducting Competition. In October of 2010 he was awarded highest prize – 1st. Prize and Sinopoli Award at the Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy (the First prize is not awarded since 1990).

He also was named the 2nd Prize laureate at the 2017 Hamburg Conducting Competition “Debut in der Laeiszhalle”.

In 2011, he was appointed 1st Conductor of the Azerbaijan State Opera Theatre, In September of 2013 Principal Guest Conductor of the Safonov Academic Russian Philharmonic Orchestra. His rise to prominence on the international scene marked by the concerts at Carnegie Hall, Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, Wiener Konzerthaus, Laeiszhalle Hamburg, Tchaikovsky Moscow Conservatory, Theatre des Champs-Elysees, Mariinsky Concert Hall, St.-Petersburg Philharmonic. In addition to these titled positions, Ayyub Guliyev is in high demand working with leading orchestras and opera houses throughout Europe, the United States and Asia. In recent seasons he has also enjoyed guest engagements with Royal Philharmonic, Lamoureux Symphony Orchestra, Wiener Chamber Orchestra, Toscanini Philharmonic, St.-Petersburg, Baku, Astana, Bishkek, Kaliningrad, Zagreb and Moldova Philharmonics, Bohdan Warchal Slovak Chamber Orchestra, Turkey Presidential and Lithuania Symphony Orchestras, Moscow Philharmonic, Russian National Orchestra, “Duna” Orchestra (Hungary), Mariinsky Theatre, Belarus Bolshoi Theatre, Belgrade National Opera, Kiev State Opera, Tashkent Opera, “Wiener Consilium”, Athens Orchestra “Colours”, Podlasie, Lublin, Kielce, Koszalin, Sopot, Lodz, Baltic Philharmonics in Poland, State Capella and Hermitage orchestras in St.-Petersburg.

Ayyub Guliyev worked with the outstanding soloists of the old and also young generations –D. Geringas, N. Lugansky, S. Roldugin, D. Alekseev, Z. Bron, H. Schellenberger, R. Patkolo, A. Diev, J. Luc-Ponty, R. Kabara, N. Jivkovitch, K. Barati, I. Vardai, Y. Eyvazov, Y. Avdeeva, Feng Ning, D. Kojukhin and G. Murja.

In May of 2007 Guliyev led his first opera production – W.A.Mozart “La Nozze di Figaro” at the St.-Petersburg State Opera Theatre. His tenure as the conductor of the Azerbaijan State Opera and Ballet Theatre brought him extensive experience on the opera platform with productions including “Il Barbiere di Seville”, “La Nozze di Figaro”, “Cosi fan tutte”, “The Magic Flute”, “L’elisir d’amore”, “La Traviata”, “Il Trovatore”, “Rigoletto”, “Un Ballo in Maschera”, “Aida”, “Carmen”, “La Boheme”, “Manon Lescaut”, “Cavalleria Rusticana”, “Il Paiglacci”, “Tosca”, “Iolanta”, “Evgeny Onegin”, “Pique dame”, “Tsars bride”, “Demon” .

From 2009 he has the position of the Associate Professor at the Conducting Department of the Baku Music Academy.