

SALZBURG MOZARTEUM ORCHESTRA
PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR RICCARDO MINASI

"Radically good" was the title of a review in the Munich newspaper *Merkur* of an acclaimed concert given by the Mozarteum Orchestra in the renowned Gasteig concert hall in December 2017. The Orchestra, which has celebrated outstanding successes worldwide with independent contemporary interpretations of the Viennese Classical repertoire, especially the works of Mozart, was awarded the Gold Mozart Medal in 2016 – the first ensemble to receive it after the Vienna Philharmonic.

Over the almost 180 years of its history – which dates back to the *Cathedral Music Society and Mozarteum*, founded in 1841 with the support of Mozart's widow Constanze and their two sons – the Orchestra, with its distinctive sound, has matured into one of Austria's musical ambassadors. Principal conductors who have had a formative influence include Leopold Hager, Hans Graf, Hubert Soudant, and particularly Ivor Bolton, who shaped the ensemble decisively between 2004 and 2016. This positive progress has continued since 2017, with dynamic Italian principal conductor Riccardo Minasi.

Besides focusing on the repertoire of the Viennese Classical school, the 90-strong ensemble of musicians from 15 countries performs music from all other epochs, from baroque to contemporary, working with top-class guest conductors and soloists. The wide repertoire is documented in an impressive discography, which includes an Echo Classic award from 2017.

In Salzburg's kaleidoscopic concert scene, the symphony orchestra of the Town and the Province is a popular and well-established feature, running two concert series of its own, the Sunday Matinees and the Thursday Concerts, as well as giving frequent performances for the other local organisers. The ensemble also plays a major role in the world-famous Salzburg Festival, with the Mozart Matinees (once called "the secret heart of the Festival"), and frequently performs together with celebrated stars in major opera productions. The Orchestra works in close co-operation with the Mozart Week, the Salzburg Kulturvereinigung, and throughout the season with the Salzburg Landestheater, in a repertoire ranging from grand opera through operetta and ballet to musical. Regular invitations take the Orchestra on tours in Europe, Asia, North and South America.

2019/20 season. Please contact pr@mozorch.at if you wish to edit this biography.

