

SILVANA SINTOW

CLASSICALIA INTERNATIONAL

EVAN-ALEXIS CHRIST

conductor

Born in Los Angeles into a family of musicians with Greek roots, Evan-Alexis Christ spent his childhood in Las Vegas. He played oboe and piano at an early age and studied mathematics and composition at Harvard University and conducting at the Leipzig Conservatory of Music.

Since 2020 he has worked regularly with the Sofia National Opera in Bulgaria. There he led the Bulgarian premieres of Richard Strauss' *Elektra* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*, as well as premieres of Richard Wagner's complete *Ring* cycle and *Lohengrin*, in addition to numerous repertory performances. In October 2023 he made his Asian Debut conducting *Elektra* at the Daegu Opera House (South Korea) and was invited back for a new production of *Der Rosenkavalier* in 2024. In 2023/2024 he was the Chief Conductor of the Sarajevo Philharmonic for its 100th anniversary season. Joining prominent guest artists such as Riccardo Muti and Zubin Mehta, he conducted several programs throughout the year. Since 2022 he has been a regular guest conductor in Germany with the Nürnberger Symphoniker, Neue Philharmonie-Westfalen, Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie, as well as with the Orquestra Clássica da Madeira in Portugal. Passionate about education, he has served as Resident Conductor of the annual Fiestravaganza International Music Academy in Berlin since 2023. Its orchestra, composed of some of the finest students from Berlin, collaborates with young soloists from around the world. Additionally, he led a master class on the opera *Le Nozze di Figaro* for the conducting students of the Berlin University of the Arts (UdK) in December 2025.

He has worked extensively with German orchestras and opera houses, including the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, NDR Radiophilharmonie, SWR Symphonieorchester, MDR Sinfonie-Orchester, WDR-Funkhausorchester, Bremer Philharmoniker, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Komische Oper Berlin, Staatstheater Hannover, Theater Bonn, Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Aalto-Theater Essen and the Nationaltheater Mannheim. Internationally, he has collaborated on return engagements with the Zagreb Philharmonic, Israel Symphony Orchestra Rishon LeZion, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonieorchester St. Gallen and the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg. He made his debut at the Salzburg Festival in the summer of 2011, conducting Salvatore Sciarrino's opera *Macbeth* with Klangforum Wien.

Evan-Alexis Christ has gained recognition for his innovative concert programs. His cycles of the complete Mahler and Beethoven symphonies and Wagner's complete *Ring* cycle have been met with critical acclaim. He has conducted 70 world premiere performances, as well as numerous film-music, midnight, educational, flash-mob and crossover programs. In addition, he has conducted more than 60 opera productions, including all of the standard Mozart operas and numerous German, Italian and French repertoire.

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Evan-Alexis Christ was Music Director of the Brandenburg State Opera in Cottbus from 2008 to 2018, making him at the time one of the youngest music directors in Germany. The orchestra made several recordings and undertook international tours for the first time in their 100-year history. In 2011 the orchestra won the publishers prize (Boosey and Hawkes, Peters, Breitkopf, etc.) for the best concert program of all German orchestras. In 2010 the citizens of the city of Cottbus voted Christ "Cottbuser of the Year." In the regular subscription series, audience attendance rose from 70 to 95 percent capacity. From 2009 to 2018, the orchestra premiered a new work in every subscription concert and collaborated regularly with the contemporary music ensembles Court-circuit (Paris) and ensemble mosaik (Berlin). The high quality of the orchestra's artistic work was recognized and supported by numerous generous grants (Ernst-von-Siemens Foundation, Berlin Academy of the Arts, German "Excellent Orchestra Landscape" National Foundation and Impuls Neue Musik).

After a brief stint in 2003 as vocal coach at the Portland Opera (USA), he was First Kapellmeister and Associate Music Director at the Würzburg Opera between 2003 and 2005. From 2005 to 2008, he served as First Kapellmeister at the Wuppertal Opera.

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