



CARMEN MATEU
YOUNG ARTIST EUROPEAN AWARD
Opera and Dance

JOSEP PONS

Conductor

Regarded as the leading Spanish conductor of his generation, Josep Pons has built strong relationships with the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Orchestre de Paris, NHK Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen and BBC Symphony Orchestra - the latter including several appearances at the BBC Proms.

The 2020/21 season will see Pons return to Orquesta Nacional de Espana, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orquesta de la Comunitat Valenciana, Orchestre National de Bordeaux, Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia and Orchestre des Pays de la Loire. He also has a new collaboration with Teatro Real in April.

As Music Director of Gran Teatre del Liceu he conducts a number of productions in Barcelona each season, most recently *Káta Kabanova*, *Rodelinda*, *Roméo et Juliette*, and *Elektra*, and the world premiere of Casablanca's new opera *L'Enigma de Lea*. This season he will give opera performances of *Don Giovanni* and *Lessons in Love and Violence*, as well as a number of symphony concerts. He also holds the position of Honorary Conductor of the Orquesta Nacional de España having previously served as their Artistic Director for nine years during which he substantially raised their international profile. He is also Honorary Conductor of the Orquesta Ciudad de Granada.

Josep Pons' discography of over 50 CDs and DVDs mostly released by Harmonia Mundi and Deutsche Grammophon, includes recordings of Falla, and French repertoire regarded as benchmark interpretations and earning numerous awards. His recording of *Noches en los jardines de España* with Javier Perianes won a Choc de la Musique, *Melancolía* with Patricia Petibon received a Gramophone Editor's Choice, and his collaboration with Tomatito earned him a Latin Grammy. His recording of Berio's *Sinfonia* and Mahler/Berio's *10 Frühe Lieder* with BBC Symphony Orchestra and Matthias Goerne, won the BBC Music Award, Choc de la musique, ECHO Klassik Awards and Téliorama Ffff awards. His latest release on Harmonia Mundi is the live recording of Granados' opera, *Goyescas* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Josep Pons began his musical training at the prestigious Escolania de Montserrat. The secular tradition and intense study of both Polyphony and contemporary music in this centre marked his later development both musically and intellectually. In 1999 he received the Spanish National Music Prize for his outstanding work on twentieth century music. In 2019, Pons was awarded *Honorary Doctorate* from Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.