



GUSTAVO DUDAMEL

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Walt and Lilly Disney Chair

Internationally acclaimed conductor Gustavo Dudamel continues to share his magnetic enthusiasm for music with audiences of all ages around the world. The 2010-2011 season marks his twelfth year as Music Director of the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra (now known as the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela), his second season as Music Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and his fourth season with the Gothenburg Symphony. Armed with unparalleled passion, energy and artistic excellence, Dudamel is dedicated to leading these orchestras, as well as to increasing his commitment to opera.

Coming from a background where being involved in music from a young age was a life-changing experience, Gustavo Dudamel is devoted to investing in classical music as an engine of social change. The message of his ongoing work in Venezuela through El Sistema, which influences hundreds of thousands of children each year, is being carried now into the United States through Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA). This program for children targets underserved Los Angeles communities and continues to grow and expand under Dudamel's leadership and that of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He is also involved in advising on pilot programs in Gothenburg, Sweden and Raploch, Scotland.

Following an exciting fall 2010 which included conducting the opening gala of the LA Philharmonic season (telecast by PBS with international distribution), a production of *Carmen* at La Scala and two Vienna Philharmonic performances at Carnegie Hall, in winter 2011 Maestro Dudamel inaugurated live theater casts with the LA Philharmonic in over 450 movie theaters across the U.S. and Canada. The Los Angeles Philharmonic and Dudamel also embarked on their first international tour together with concerts in Lisbon, Madrid, Cologne, London, Paris, Budapest and Vienna, with repertoire including *Slonimsky's Earbox* by John Adams, Bernstein's Symphony No. 1 *Jeremiah*, Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 and Mahler's Symphony No. 9. Other Dudamel/LA Philharmonic season highlights include the "Brahms Unbound" Festival, a series of seven concerts pairing Brahms's complete symphonic pieces with premieres and newly commissioned works, in addition to concerts with repertoire ranging from Messiaen's *Turangalila* Symphony to works by composers such as Bruckner, Górecki, Gubaidulina, Lieberon, Mackey, Schumann, Shostakovich, Takemitsu and Weber. With the Gothenburg Symphony, numerous performances include repertoire focused on Mahler, Brahms and Dvořák. Important return engagements include appearances with the Vienna Philharmonic, as well as with the Berlin Philharmonic in televised New Year's concerts in Berlin and at the Salzburg Easter Festival. Gustavo Dudamel leads the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela (formerly the

Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra) this season for concerts and recordings in Caracas, Venezuela, as well as for an extensive summer 2011 South American tour to Santiago, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Mexico City and Buenos Aires. A European tour with this orchestra follows with performances at the Salzburg Festival, the London BBC Proms and in Istanbul.

Gustavo Dudamel has been an exclusive Deutsche Grammophon artist since 2005. His debut recording, *Beethoven Nos. 5&7* with the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra released in 2006, received the *2007 Echo Award* (Germany) for “*New Artist of the Year.*” Subsequent recordings with the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra include *Mahler No. 5*, *FIESTA* (primarily Latin American works), Tchaikovsky’s *Symphony No. 5* and *Francesca da Rimini* and *Rite* (Revueltas’s *La noche de los Mayas* and Stravinsky’s *Le Sacre du Printemps*). Dudamel and the newly named Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela’s latest recording is *Tchaikovsky & Shakespeare*, featuring Tchaikovsky’s *Hamlet – Overture-Fantasy after Shakespeare*, *The Tempest* and *Romeo and Juliet*, *Fantasy Overture* (release date March 1, 2011). DVDs include *New Year’s Eve Concert Gala 2010* with the Berlin Philharmonic; *Celebración*, Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s 2010 Opening Night Concert featuring tenor Juan Diego Flórez; Dudamel’s *Inaugural Concert* as Music Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, recorded October 8, 2009; *Birthday Concert for Pope Benedict XVI*; and *Live from Salzburg*, featuring performances of Mussorgsky/Ravel’s *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Beethoven’s Triple Concerto with Martha Argerich, Renaud and Gautier Capuçon, and the SBYO. On the iTunes front, Deutsche Grammophon has released Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s Inaugural Concert performances of both John Adams’ *City Noir* and Mahler’s *Symphony No. 1*; Berlioz’s *Symphonie Fantastique*; Bartók’s *Concerto for Orchestra*; the *Celebración* concert and, most recently, John Adams’ *Slonimsky’s Earbox* and Bernstein’s *Symphony No. 1 Jeremiah*.

Brought to international attention by triumphing in the inaugural Bamberg Symphoniker Gustav Mahler Conducting Competition in May 2004, Gustavo Dudamel was born in 1981 in Barquisimeto, Venezuela, where he studied violin at the Jacinto Lara Conservatory with José Luis Jiménez and later, with José Francisco del Castillo, at the Latin American Academy of Violin. In 1996, he began his conducting studies with Rodolfo Saglimbeni and that same year was named Music Director of the Amadeus Chamber Orchestra. In 1999, along with assuming the Music Director position of the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra, he began conducting studies with José Antonio Abreu, the Orchestra’s founder. In May 2007, Dudamel was awarded the *Premio de la Latindad*, an honor given for outstanding contributions to Latin cultural life. In 2008, the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra was granted Spain’s prestigious annual *Prince of Asturias Award for the Arts*, and in 2007, Dudamel received the *Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for Young Artists*. Along with his mentor Dr. Abreu, he was granted the 2008 “*Q Prize*” from Harvard University for extraordinary service to children. In June 2009, he received an honorary doctorate from the Universidad Centro-Occidental Lisandro Alvarado in his hometown of Barquisimeto, Venezuela. Dudamel was awarded the *Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* in Paris in 2009, and is the recipient of the 2010 *Eugene McDermott Award in the Arts at MIT*, which recognizes rising, innovative talents. Gustavo Dudamel was named one of the 100 most influential people of 2009 by *TIME* magazine and has been featured three times on CBS’s *60 Minutes*.