

SARAH IOANNIDES

Conductor

Described by the *New York Times* as a conductor with “unquestionable strength and authority”, Sarah Ioannides is Music Director of two American orchestras, the El Paso Symphony Orchestra and Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra. Recognized for captivating audiences with graceful and powerful conducting combined with compelling interpretations she assumed both positions in 2005. Ioannides’ has received outstanding press for her innovative programming and creative artistic leadership with world premieres, vibrant multimedia productions and stunning performances. The League of American Orchestras recognizes her as one of the nation’s top emerging conductors.

In 2008, Ioannides’ debut CD was released with The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and violinist, Lara St. John. It was reviewed by the Gramophone Magazine as “directed with panache”, and features John Corigliano’s Red Violin Suite and two world premiers: the Matthew Hindson Violin Concerto and the Martin Kennedy / St. John arrangement of Franz Liszt’s Totentanz.

Guest conducting engagements span five continents and include such orchestras as the Flemish Radio Orchestra at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Bachakademie in Stuttgart, Swedish Wind Ensemble in Stockholm, Orquesta Sinfonica Municipal de Caracas, Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra in Korea, the Naumburg Concert Series in New York City, Annapolis Symphony and Indiana University’s Philharmonic Orchestra. She has appeared in special engagements with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the New World Symphony and the London Symphony Orchestra. Guest engagements during the 2008 – 2009 season include the Orchestra Nationale de Lyon, the Nordic Chamber Orchestra, the Cyprus State Orchestra, and the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra,.

Prior to her current appointments, Sarah Ioannides served as Assistant Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra from 2002-2004. Characterized by the *Cincinnati Post* as “elegant to watch, active and keenly expressive,” Ioannides was awarded the Bruno Walter Assistant Conductor Chair during her tenure with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, one of only two awards presented by the Bruno Walter Foundation in the United States during the 2003-2004 season.

From 1999 to 2003, Ioannides served as Assistant Conductor to composer Tan Dun touring Japan, China, Hong Kong, Russia, France, Germany, Sweden, the USA and the UK. As such, she conducted the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Concert Orchestra, the Flemish Radio Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and the Oregon Bach Festival. In 2000 in Stuttgart, Sarah Ioannides was the choir director for the RIAS Kammerchor and production coordinator for the world premiere performance of Tan Dun’s *Water Passion after St. Matthew*. In February 2005 at the request of Tan Dun, she conducted his *Water Passion* in Perth, Australia as the first conductor to perform this work other than the composer.

Currently, Ioannides is the recipient of a professional development grant from the League of American Orchestras, a position in which she will interact with several esteemed conductors in the United States and Europe.

Born in Canberra, Australia, to a Scottish mother and Cypriot father, Sarah Ioannides grew up in England. She studied violin, viola, piano and French horn, earning a Master of Arts in Music at Oxford

University where she was an instrumental scholar. Formerly a member of the National Youth Orchestra and National Youth Chamber Orchestra, she played professionally as a violinist. Awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1996, Ms. Ioannides entered the Curtis Institute of Music as a conductor. At Curtis she was awarded the Presser Foundation Scholarship for one month's study in St. Petersburg, Russia. She subsequently received a Masters of Music in Conducting at the Juilliard School, was awarded the Bruno Walter Scholarship, and served as assistant conductor to Otto Werner-Mueller. In 2001, she received the JoAnne Falletta Award for the most promising female conductor.

More information about Sarah Ioannides is available on her website at www.sarahioannides.net

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Current positions:

2005 - present **Music Director, EL PASO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, TX**

2005 - present **Music Director, SPARTANBURG PHILHARMONIC, SC**

Previous positions:

2004 - 2005 **Guest Music Director, DESSOFF CHOIRS, New York, NY**

2002 - 2004 **Assistant Conductor, CINCINNATI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**
Music Director, CINCINNATI SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Responsibilities included covering all CSO Classical season concerts, assisting all conductors, full artistic direction of the CSO Youth Orchestra, conducting education concerts and other season concerts, assistant producer in CD recording and public speaking engagements.

1999 - 2003 **Assistant Conductor to COMPOSER/CONDUCTOR, TAN DUN**

Cover Conductor, Choir Director and Production Coordinator for multimedia premieres, festivals and performances in Japan, China, Hong Kong, Russia, France, Germany, Sweden, USA and UK

1997 – 2000 **Music Director, SWARTHMORE COLLEGE ORCHESTRA**
Associate in Performance, SWARTHMORE COLLEGE, PA

Teacher and lecturer for advanced counterpoint, ear training and *solfege* courses, individual tutor for score reading courses and conducting

1994 – 1995 **Music Director, OXFORD UNIVERSITY OPERA, UK**

Music Director performing European premiere of Stephen Paulus' *The Woodlanders*, recognized by the national press. Worked on the revisions with composer. Cast of London professionals. Formerly invited as guest conductor to lead performances of Mozart's *Il Seraglio* in 1993

1992 – 1993 **Music Director, OXFORD PHILHARMONIA, UK**

1990 - 1993 **Music Director, WORCESTER-SOMERVILLE ORCHESTRA & CHOIR, UK**

Past orchestral and choral engagements: Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Simon Bolivar Orchestra, Municipal Orchestra of Caracas, Gothenburg Symphony, New World Symphony, Daejoen Philharmonic (Korea), Nordic Chamber Orchestra (Sweden), Swedish Wind Ensemble, Flemish Radio Orchestra, Annapolis Symphony, Naumburg Orchestra, Millennium Chamber Ensemble, Perth International Festival, Indiana University Philharmonic Orchestra, SüdWest Rundfunk Vokalensemble, Cyprus State Orchestra, RIAS Kammerchor, Oxford University Orchestra, Beata Moon Ensemble (New York), REMIX Ensemble (Portugal).

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Past engagements as assistant conductor: BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Concerts Orchestra, Stuttgart Bachakademie, Orchestra de Lyon, National Symphony Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Dresden Sinfoniker, London Sinfonietta, White Nights Festival (Russia), Opera Company of Philadelphia, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Havant Orchestras (UK), Spoleto Festival (Italy), Manilva Opera Festival (Spain).

Special guest engagements: London Symphony Orchestra, La Philharmonic /Synergy, BBC Singers, Kyoto International Students Festival, Curtis Opera Theatre, British Youth Opera, Guildhall Symphony, Women's Philharmonic, CA.

Education

1998 - 2000 **JULLIARD SCHOOL OF MUSIC, NEW YORK, Teacher: Otto-Werner Mueller**
Masters of Music in Orchestral Conducting, Assistant to Otto-Werner Mueller, Bruno Walter Scholar

1996 - 1998 **CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC, PHILADELPHIA, Teacher: Otto-Werner Mueller**
Diploma in Conducting, Friends of Curtis Fellowship, Presser Award, Assistant to Opera Studio

1993 - 1994 **GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC, LONDON, Teacher: Christopher Seaman**
Advanced Certificate in Conducting, Awarded the Conducting Prize

1990 - 1993 **OXFORD UNIVERSITY, SOMERVILLE COLLEGE**
Master of Arts awarded following Bachelor of Arts degree in Music, Instrumental Scholarship

Awards

- 2008 **League of American Orchestras, Women Conductors Grant Program**
- 2004 **Bruno Walter Assistant Conductor Chair**, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- 2001 **JoAnn Falletta Award**, awarded to female conductor by Women's Philharmonic panel
- 1999 **The Kenneth Tyghe Memorial Prize**, Leeds Conducting Competition
- 1997 **Presser Award**, from Curtis Institute for conducting in St. Petersburg at the Musin academy
- 1996 **Fulbright Scholarship & Fulbright Association Travel Award**
- 1996 **Wingate Scholarship**, awarded to outstandingly talented musicians for advanced training
- 1995 **Alice Horsmann Traveling Fellowship** from Oxford University
- 1995 **Janet Watson Prize** Somerville College, Oxford University

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World Premiers

2008	El Paso Symphony Orchestra, El Paso	Oswaldo Mendoza	<i>A La Deriva</i>
2008	Nordic Chamber Orchestra, Sweden	Venla Hinnemo	<i>Reactions of the Mind</i>
2008	Cyprus State Orchestra	Vassos Nicolaou	<i>Fractus</i>
2007	El Paso Symphony Orchestra	Luis Tinoco	<i>Ascent</i>
2007	Royal Philharmonic Orchestra	Matthew Hindson	<i>Violin Concerto</i> (recording)
2006	El Paso Symphony Orchestra	Steve Reich	<i>Desert Music</i> Multimedia Film by Passero
2006	Spartanburg Philharmonic	Stuart Goodyear	<i>Caribbiana</i> (Revised version)
2002	Beata Moon Ensemble, NY	Beata Moon	<i>Fission</i>
2001	Women's Philharmonic, SF	Rebecca Oswald	<i>Sinfonia No.1</i>
2001	REMIX Ensemble, Portugal	Luis Tinoco	<i>Invention on Landscape</i>
2001	REMIX Ensemble, Portugal	Patricia Almeida	<i>Argumentum</i>
2001	REMIX Ensemble, Portugal	Sara Carvalho	<i>Escadas com Estorias</i>
2001	REMIX Ensemble, Portugal	Nuno Corte-Real	<i>Concerto Vedras Op. 23</i>
2001	REMIX Ensemble, Portugal	Jose Ferreira	<i>(un)Broken</i>
2001	REMIX Ensemble, Portugal	Joao Madureira	<i>Glosa</i>
2001	Guildhall Ensemble, Paris	Laurent Torres	<i>L'amere consolation</i> <i>ne travaille pas</i>
2001	Guildhall Ensemble, Paris	Julien Copeaux	<i>San Titre</i>
2000	RIAS Choir Director Bachakademie, Stuttgart	Tan Dun	<i>Water Passion After St. Matthew</i> (live recording)
2000	Swarthmore College Orchestra	Thomas Witman	<i>Afterimage</i>
1999	Juilliard Ensemble	Kati Agocs	<i>Principia for String Orchestra</i>
1999	Juilliard Ensemble	Paula Prestini	<i>Danza</i>

US Premiers & European Premiers

2008	El Paso Symphony Orchestra	Victoria Borisova-Ollas	<i>Open Ground</i>
2009	El Paso Symphony Orchestra	Dario Marianelli	<i>Atonement Suite</i>
1995	Oxford University Opera	Stephen Paulus	<i>The Woodlanders</i>

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PAST ENGAGEMENTS (details)

- 2004 / 2005 **National Symphony Orchestra**, Washington, Assistant and Cover Conductor
Perth International Festival, Tan Dun Water Passion
Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Guest Conductor
Dessoff Choirs, New York, Guest Music Director
Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, Guest Conductor
- 2002 / 2003 **Naumburg Orchestra**, New York, Guest Conductor
Flemish Radio Orchestra, Guest Conductor on CD / DVD of Tan Dun
Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra, Seven to eight concerts each season
Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Bach and Beyond Series and Education Concert guest
LA Philharmonic/Synergy, Participant
New World Symphony, Guest Conductor for reading
Oxford University Orchestra, Guest Conductor, Sheldonian Theatre
Brooklyn Academy of Music, Assistant Conductor to Tan Dun
Starling Showcase, Cincinnati
Cincinnati Conservatory of Music Concert Orchestra, Regular Guest Conductor
- 2001 / 2002 **Beata Moon Ensemble**, Columbia University, Miller Theatre, NY
Oregon Bach Festival, Guest Conductor for Tan Dun, Orchestra Theatre II
Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, 3-day orchestral preparation for two concerts
Oxford University Chamber Orchestra, Guest Conductor
International Bachakademie, Performances in Liederhalle with Choir, Orchestra and Soloists of Festivalensemble (Missa per Rossini & Verdi Requiem)
REMIX Ensemble, Casa da Musica, Porto Celebrations 2001
Six World Premieres by Portuguese Composers
- 2000 / 2001 **London Symphony Orchestra**, Public master class with Pierre Boulez, Barbican Hall, (Schoenberg Piano Concerto)
Flemish Radio Orchestra, orchestral preparation for Tan Dun's Orchestral Theaters
London Sinfonietta/BBC Symphony Orchestra/London Voices/Yo-Yo Ma, Assistant Conductor, Fire Crossing Water Multimedia Festival, Production Coordinator
SWR Vokalensemble, Preparation for Kagel's Entführung im Konzertsaal
Studio recording for SüdWest Radio, Ligeti Night and Day, Stravinsky Ave Maria
BBC Concerts Orchestra/London Voices, Assistant to the conductor and producer on Sony recording, conducted brass over-dubs for BBC Millennium 2000 Today
RIAS Kammerchor, Choir Director and assistant conductor, Tan Dun Water Passion
World Premier Performance and Live Recording
Orchestre de Lyon, Assistant Conductor, Cite de la Musique, Paris
Dresden Sinfoniker, Assistant Conductor, Dresden
Hong Kong Philharmonic, Assistant Conductor, Production Manager, to celebrate 4th Anniversary Hong Kong reunification with China
White Nights Festival, Choir Director and Production Manager in Mariinsky Theatre with St. Petersburg Chamber Chorus

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“... unquestionable strength and authority.”

New York Times

“The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.....directed with panache by Sarah Ioannides”

October 2008, Gramophone Magazine

“Ioannides has a clear technique and is an appealing presence on the podium. The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra played well for her, twice bringing the good-sized crowd to its feet ... Ioannides inspired lushness in the strings in Kodaly’s *Summer Evening* ... Ioannides’ personal stamp was one of clarity.”

Cincinnati Enquirer

“Ioannides opened with an energized performance of Brahms’ *Hungarian Dance No. 1*. She is elegant to watch, active and keenly expressive.”

Cincinnati Post

“IOANNIDES BATON DRIVES INTOXICATING PERFORMANCE..” (headline)

November 2007, El Paso Times

“The creative vision of Artistic Director Sarah Ioannides was evident in this intriguing concert... Under the direction of Sarah Ioannides, the SPO is enjoying immense growth.”

Spartanburg Herald Journal, January 2007

“The talented young conductor coped splendidly.” *Sunday Telegraph*

From European Premiere of Stephen Paulus’ Opera, The Woodlanders

“... Sarah Ioannides’ accomplished sympathetic conducting ...”

Financial Times, London

From European Premiere of Stephen Paulus’ Opera, The Woodlanders

“Sarah Ioannides kept the coolest of heads in a tautly controlled performance.”

Times (London)

From European Premiere of Stephen Paulus’ Opera, The Woodlanders

“...a very capable conductor in Sarah Ioannides...” *Independent on Sunday (London)*

From European Premiere of Stephen Paulus’ Opera, The Woodlanders

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“Sarah Ioannides produced a delicacy and tenderness in parts of Elgar’s cello concerto that would have made even the most jaded listener hear it with fresh ears.”

Portsmouth News (UK)

“PASSION FLOODS SENSES (headline).....As a multimedia experience, Water Passion, conducted in Perth by Sarah Ioannides, comes across with stunning power”

The West Australian

“... this was a fine performance under the sure hand of conductor Sarah Ioannides.”

The Australian

“The Perth International Arts Festival’s music centerpiece *The Water Passion* received a standing ovation from the audience in a packed Concert Hall. Post performance, guests met principal singers and congratulated the conductor on an outstanding performance of this unusual modern work.”

Western Suburbs Weekly, Perth

“SYMPHONY FINALE A THRILLING EXPERIENCE (headline).....

Respighi’s *The Pines of Rome* concluded the evening, and once again, Ioannides was dazzling as she led the orchestra in an exhilarating performance”.

April 2007, *El Paso Times*

“the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra reminded us of the innovative programming that has come to characterize the orchestra under the direction of Sarah Ioannides ”

February 2007, Spartanburg Herald Journal

published by ASOL In The News

“From the conductor Sarah Ioannides we had beauty and competence. What more can we ask?”

Publico (Portugal)

“The concert, given by Remix-Ensemble Casa de Música, under the direction of a committed and very convincing conductor Sarah Ioannides, illustrates my previous words...The prestigious Remix-Ensemble under the excellent direction of Sarah Ioannides, offered truly contemporary music...”

Il Público (Portugal)

“Sarah Ioannides conducted J.C. Bach’s D Major Symphony with enviable control.”

News (Portsmouth UK)

SARAH IOANNIDES, Conductor

“ ORCHESTRA, IOANNIDES MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER”

(headline)

El Paso Times

Debut concert as Music Director

“MAESTRA IOANNIDES OPENS SEASON WITH HEAVENLY PERFORMANCE”

(headline)

Middle Tyger Times, South Carolina

Debut concert as Music Director

"Ioannides is a dynamic and expressive conductor....The performance was full of vitality, loaded with rhythmical ideas, unexpected surprises and variations in mood."

October 2008, Sundsvall Tidning, Sweden

“Throughout the performance, the orchestra displayed a rare and natural sense of flexibility, and the conductor's pacing was flawless. The result was a truly moving experience for the audience.”

El Paso Times, October 2007

“Sarah Ioannides conducted serenely. With the most persuasive of gentle textures, she coaxed from the performers an extraordinary array of sounds. She was grace personified.”

Opera-Opera (Australia)

“SUSPENSEFUL SHOW SIMPLY MAGICAL (headline).....Under the direction of Sarah Ioannides the symphony played with great energy and created a mood that was suspenseful and magical, yet whimsical (Tan Dun Water Percussion Concerto, Stravinsky Firebird and Dukas Sorcerer’s Apprentice).....Maestra Ioannides did a superb job in presenting this masterpiece and what a rare and wonderful treat for El Paso to experience this innovative work of genius”

*February 2007, El Paso Times
published by ASOL In The News*

“The entire work was a breathtaking event and ended in a flamboyant climax”

April 2008, El Paso Inc