

Christian Elsner

Tenor

With his celebrated debuts at the Philharmonie Berlin in the titlerole of Wagner's *Parsifal* in a concertant version in April 2011 and at the Semperoper Dresden as *Siegmond* in Wagner's *Walküre* in February 2010 Christian Elsner established himself in the first league of Wagner tenors and proves once again his wide range of repertoire. Born in Freiburg in southern Germany, Christian Elsner studied singing with Martin Gründler, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau and Neil Semer and had prize-winning successes at various international competitions. As concert singer, Christian Elsner is a regular guest performer at international festivals and in all the major concert halls around the world, from Berlin, Vienna, Milan and London to New York and Tokyo. He has worked with conductors such as Herbert Blomstedt, Riccardo Chailly, Adam Fischer, Carlo Maria Giulini, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Thomas Hengelbrock, Marek Janowski, Mariss Jansons, Fabio Luisi, Sir Neville Marriner, Sir Roger Norrington and David Zinman, and has been involved in numerous radio productions and CD recordings. Accompanied by pianists including Hartmut Höll, Graham Johnson, Charles Spencer, Gerold Huber and duo partner Burkhard Kehring, the tenor has performed lieder recitals in Brussels, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Cologne, Dresden, Lucerne, London, Ravinia and at the Schubertiade Feldkirch. Apart from being a professional singer, Christian Elsner is also an enthusiastic writer of children's books (*Lennie und der Ring des Nibelungen*) and professor for classical singing at the University of Music in Würzburg.

Last season Christian Elsner performed Beethoven's *9th Symphony* with Danish National Symphony Orchestra under Herbert Blomstedt, Beethoven's *9. Sinfonie* with the WDR-Sinfonieorchester under Jukka-Pekka Saraste, the titlerole in a concert performance of Wagner's *Parsifal* with the RSB Symphony Orchestra under Marek Janowski, the role of *Siegmond* in a new production of Wagner's *Walkyrie* at the Staatstheater Darmstadt and song recitals in Bad Urach and Baden-Baden with his accompanist Burkhard Kehring.

Upcoming engagements include Mahler's *Lied von der Erde* with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra under Yannik Nezet-Seguin and the WDR-Sinfonieorchester under David Zinman, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the MDR-Sinfonieorchester under Jun Maerkl, the titlerole of Wagner's *Parsifal* in new production at the Staatstheater Kassel under Patrick Ringborg, the role of *Loge* in a concertant version of Wagner's *Rheingold* with the RSB-Sinfonieorchester under Marek Janowski, and again the role of *Siegmond*, first at the Staatstheater Darmstadt and then in concert performances of Wagner's *Walkyrie* with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle.

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