



Biography

Frank Strobel

Conductor

With his exceptional musicianship, versatility, technical expertise, knowledge and dedication, Frank Strobel has established himself as an important figure in the world of film music. He combines a thorough grounding in the Classical, Romantic and 20th century concert repertoire with a wealth of experience as a conductor, arranger, editor, producer and recording artist. These qualities and skills give him unique insight into a rich and relatively unexplored area of the musical repertoire.

As well as editing and conducting the original music for silent film classics, Frank Strobel has made a speciality of arranging and performing new scores. Vintage films he has worked on include *Battleship Potemkin*, *The New Babylon*, *Alexander Nevski*, *Dr Mabuse*, *Metropolis*, *The Nibelungen*, *Rosenkavalier*, *Nosferatu*, *Faust*, *Pandora`s Box*, *Tabu*, *Berlin: Symphony of a Big City*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Lodger*, *Mr West*, *Intolerance*, *Foolish Wives*, *City Lights*, *The Gold Rush*, *Modern Times*, *The Circus* and *The Kid*. For the Berlinale 2001, Berlin's Film Festival he conducted the premiere of a new score by Bernd Schultheis for the restoration of *Metropolis*. In 2003 he edited the reconstructed original music by Prokofiev for *Alexander Nevsky*, which he then conducted and recorded for CD, winning the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik 2004. This production was subsequently performed at the Bolshoi Theatre. He has also worked on many new German, British and American films and TV movies, including *The Young Poisoner's Handbook*, *Victory*, *Meschugge*, *Gloomy Sunday*, *Blueprint*, *Die Buddenbrooks* and *Pope Joan*.

Frank Strobel enjoys particularly close professional relationships with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lyon, NDR Radio Orchestra Hannover, Sydney Symphony and Konzerthaus Vienna. From 1997 to 1998 he was Principal Conductor of the German Filmorchestra Babelsberg. Since 2000 he has been Artistic Director of the European FilmPhilharmonic Institute Berlin, which distributes film music materials and manages film music productions and performances worldwide. His concert tours have taken him to Europe, to the USA, Canada, South America, Australia, the Far East and Asia. He has participated in numerous music festivals, including the Berlin and Vienna Festivals.

Highlights of the present season include debuts with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and "Metropolis" at the Chatelet, as well as London Symphony Orchestra, NDR Sinfonieorchester Hamburg, Bamberger Symphoniker, Orquesta Sinfonica de Barcelona and the Filarmonica della Scala in Milan.

Frank Strobel is strongly committed to the works of Alfred Schnittke. In 1992 he conducted the first performance of *The End of St Petersburg* at the Alte Oper Frankfurt. He has also recorded Schnittke's music for *The Master and Margarita* with the Moscow Philharmonic, and he led the first Russian performance of Concerto Grosso No 5 with Gidon Kremer and the Russian National Orchestra. At the request of the composer himself, Frank Strobel was arranging the Schnittke's film music into concert suites. In association with DeutschlandRadio Kultur, the CD label Capriccio is releasing a series of these suites; the first and second issues were awarded the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik in 2005 and 2006.

An important part of Frank Strobel's film projects have been recorded on DVD. Some recent releases include *The General Line*, *The New Babylon*, *Der Schatz* and *Der Rosenkavalier*.

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