



SAN FRANCISCO OPERA

EUN SUN KIM
Conductor

Biography

Following “a company debut of astonishing vibrancy and assurance” (*San Francisco Chronicle*) in *Rusalka*, Korean conductor Eun Sun Kim has been appointed the Caroline H. Hume Music Director of San Francisco Opera, effective August 1, 2021. Her presence in North America was first established with performances of Verdi’s *Requiem* with the Cincinnati Symphony and *La Traviata* with Houston Grand Opera, with the latter earning her an appointment as the company’s first Principal Guest Conductor in twenty-five years.

In the 2019–20 Season, Ms. Kim leads concerts with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, L’orchestre Philharmonique de Marseille and the symphony orchestras of San Diego, Cincinnati, Oregon and Seattle. She continues a series of important operatic debuts with the company premiere of *Roberto Devereux* at LA Opera and *The Magic Flute* with Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center, and leads *Salome* in her triumphant return to Houston Grand Opera, where *The New York Times* pronounced her “a major star ... with great sensitivity and flexibility.” Major upcoming debuts include subscription concerts with the New York Philharmonic and productions with the Wiener Staatsoper, Lyric Opera of Chicago and Metropolitan Opera.

In addition to her growing North American presence, Ms. Kim is a regular guest conductor at many important European opera houses. She maintains a particularly close connection with the Berlin Staatsoper, where she has recently conducted successful productions of *La Traviata*, *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, and *Il Trovatore*. She has appeared consistently at opera houses across Germany, leading productions of *Hänsel und Gretel* at Bayerische Staatsoper, *Madama Butterfly* at Staatsoper Stuttgart, *Rigoletto* at Semperoper Dresden, and a new production of *Lucia di Lammermoor* at Oper Köln. She has been frequently engaged by Oper Frankfurt, where she celebrated successes with *La Sonnambula*, *The Count of Luxembourg*, *La Bohème*, *Die Csárdásfürstin*, and *Der Fliegende Holländer*.

Ms. Kim established herself in Scandinavia with a successful debut at the Royal Swedish Opera in *Madama Butterfly*, returning there to conduct *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Her performances of *Il Trovatore* at Royal Danish Opera in Copenhagen, *Carmen* in Oslo, and *Madama Butterfly* and *Der Fliegende Holländer* in Bergen have been complemented by concert appearances with Gothenburg Symphony and Norwegian Radio Orchestra, as well as orchestras in Malmö, Umeå and Aarhus.

Ms. Kim's recent engagements have also included a new production of *Die Fledermaus* with English National Opera, *Carmen* at Opernhaus Zürich, *Hänsel und Gretel*, *Carmen*, and *Die Fledermaus* at Volksoper Wien, *Il Viaggio a Reims* at Teatro Real Madrid, *La Traviata* at Opéra de Marseille, and *La Bohème* with Oper Graz. Concert performances comprise appearances with Orchestre de Paris, Beethoven Orchestra Bonn and Stuttgart Philharmonic, as well as orchestras in Madrid, Marseille, Lille, Nancy, Palermo, Turin, Milwaukee, Calgary and Santiago de Compostela.

Ms. Kim studied composition and conducting in her hometown of Seoul, South Korea, before continuing her studies in Stuttgart, where she graduated with distinction. Directly after graduation, she was awarded the First Prize in the International Jesús López-Cobos Opera Conducting Competition at the Teatro Real.