

FLORIDA GRAND Opera

Stewart Robertson Music Director

Stewart Robertson has served, for the past ten seasons, as Music Director of Florida Grand Opera conducting twenty-eight productions, encompassing more than one hundred performances. He has brought to his position an active involvement with new music combined with his great love of the works by Mozart, Britten, Puccini, and Strauss. In June 2005, Mo. Robertson made his debut with Opera Omaha and now serves as its Artistic Director and Principal Conductor. He also serves as Music Director of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra.

A native of Glasgow, Scotland, Maestro Robertson's notable engagements have included numerous world premieres: *Orpheus Descending* for the Lyric Opera of Chicago, *The Midnight Angel* for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis and Glimmerglass Opera, *Dreamkeepers* for Utah Opera, *Peace* for the Scottish Opera, *Operatic Trilogy*, *Central Park* for Glimmerglass Opera (televised on the PBS series *Great Performances*), and *Anna Karenina* for Florida Grand Opera.

Internationally, Mo. Robertson has conducted with numerous orchestras including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Danish Radio Orchestra, Philharmonia Hungarica, Vienna Tonkünstler Orchestra, Swiss-Italian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestras, and the Orchestra of Maastricht.

Mo. Robertson is a graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Bristol University. He studied piano in London with Dennis Mathews, and conducted with Otmar Suitner at the Salzburg Mozarteum and Professor Hans Swarowsky at the Vienna Academy, where he graduated with highest distinction. Mo. Robertson first attracted international attention as a second prize winner in the 1977 Austrian Radio Conductors Competition at the Salzburg Music Festival. He became the youngest conductor to lead a performance at the Cologne Opera since the debut of Herbert von Karajan. At age twenty-six, he moved to Switzerland as Music Director of the Zurich Ballet. Two years later, he was appointed Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Scottish Opera Touring Company.

Maestro Robertson's 2005 recording of Sir Richard Rodney Bennett's *The Mines of Sulphur* was released to great critical acclaim, culminating in a prestigious Grammy Award nomination for best opera recording. Mo. Robertson's recording with the Utah Symphony of the symphonic works of David Carlson was also released on New World Records, and he has conducted New York City Opera productions that were nationally televised on *Live from Lincoln Center*. In addition to being an active pianist, Mo. Robertson is a broadcast writer and lecturer on music who has been seen and heard on National Public Radio, Public Broadcasting System, BBC, and Swiss-Italian radio and television.

67th Season 2007-08

Doral Center

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