

# FESTIVAL OF THE GULF

P R E S E N T S

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## SVILEN SIMEONOV, CONDUCTOR

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**Maestro Svilen Simeonov** has established himself as one of Bulgaria's foremost conductors. He has been awarded Musician of the Year Prize with Sofia Amadeus orchestra (1999) by the Bulgarian National Radio, the Crystal Lyre Award (2001) with Colegium Musicum orchestra-Bankja, and the Golden Lyre Award with Sofia Sinfonietta orchestra (2007) for high artistic achievements in the performing arts. Maestro Simeonov is the Chief Conductor of Sofia Sinfonietta Orchestra, Sofia Amadeus Orchestra and Vidin State Symphony Orchestra in Bulgaria and is serves as Guest Conductor at the Viennese Operetta Stage (Operetten Buhne Wien, Heinz Helberg, 2004-2006), Teatro Lirico d'Europa (since 2001) and Strauss Festival orchestra and ballet (since 2007 with Euroconcert and Promoconcert).

Maestro Svilen Simeonov is a graduate of "Pancho Vladigerov" State Academy in Sofia, and Academy for Music and Dance in Plovdiv with degrees in clarinet and conducting. He has also completed conducting studies with Prof. Salvatore Mass Conde at the Vienna Academy of Music. Previous appointments include music manager and conducting the Opera and Symphony Society in Burgas, Bulgaria. A dedicated educator, Maestro Simeonov has taught conducting master classes in Sofia – Bulgaria, Dana School of Music, Yangstown University - USA, Seoul – Korea, Kozani and Vlasti festivals in Greece, Hanoi – Vietnam and many others. He is often invited to run courses and master classes in festivals worldwide.

Maestro Simeonov has been hailed by the press for his performances and staging. The Bulgarian premier musical magazine *Musical Horizons* states: "We could feel the conductor's suggestiveness, who managed to instill such emotional efficiency into the strings that made people hold their breath sharing the moment... ..Tchaikovsky's confession (Serenade for Strings), a work of a genius, tugged at the audience's heartstrings, who expressed its gratitude by a round of applause".

Maestro Simeonov has guest conducted in a host of countries in Europe, Asia and America. He has performed in virtually every prestigious concert hall in the world among which are: Berlin Philharmonic Hall, Musikverein the Gold Hall – Vienna, Concertgebouw – Amsterdam, Bulgaria Hall – Sofia, Seoul Art Center – Korea, Bunka Kaikan Center – Tokyo, Victoria Hall - Geneva, Ton Halle-Zurich, RAI Arturo Toscanini Hall-Torino, Palau de la Musica – Barcelona, Auditorium National de la Music – Madrid, Theater Monumental de Madrid, Teatro de Zarsuela Madrid, Teatro Alfredo Craus Las Palmas, Theater Coliseum – Lisbon, Casa de la music-Porto, Bilkent Hall – Ankara, Levent Centre – Istanbul, Sava Centre – Belgrade, Megaron Music Hall – Athens, Megaron Music Hall – Thessaloniki, Festival Hall – Osaka, Aichi - ken Arts Centre – Nagoya, Stat Hall – Munich, New State Theater – Vienna, Theater am Stadtgarten – Winterthur, Philharmonics Hall – Wroclaw, the Novi Sad Opera House, Theater Auditorium-Cuenca, Theater Society di Manotva ,Fort de France Theater – Martinique, Baalbek historical site – Lebanon, Apollon Amphitheatre – Patra, Irodio Amphitheater Athens – Greece, Amphitheater Ohrid - FIROM, etc.

Last season Maestro Simeonov Sofia Sinfonietta completed a concert tour in Western Europe performing in Austria, Germany, and Spain, among other countries. They also completed another large-scale project – performing all symphonies by Ludwig van Beethoven. Since 1994 Maestro Simeonov is a Music Director and Chief Conductor of Sofia Amadeus Orchestra. Since 2001 he is a Principal Conductor of Vidin State Symphony. Since (2003) Maestro Simeonov's appointment as Chief Conductor, Sofia Sinfonietta has been one of the most sought after Bulgarian orchestras.

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