Barbara Day Turner

Maestra

Maestra Barbara Day Turner is the founder and music director of the San José Chamber Orchestra, and its family of youth orchestras. An ardent advocate for new music, she has premiered more than 130 new works just with SJCO. Named the 2012 Silicon Valley Arts Council “On Stage” Artist Laureate, Maestra Day Turner is also Music Administrator and Conductor of the Utah Festival Opera where she has been resident conductor for the past 13 seasons. Most recently she led the Festival’s productions of Barber's Vanessa, Verdi’s Otello and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Abroad, Maestra Day Turner has conducted opera in Berlin and the Thuringian Symphony Orchestra in Germany as well as the Orquesta Sinfónica de Aguascalientes, Mexico. Maestra Turner’s discography includes five recordings with SJCO, the PBS award-winning DVD of George Roumanis’ opera Phaedra, the Naxos release of Alva Henderson’s opera Nosferatu, and a recent critically acclaimed Naxos release of varied works by Howard Hersh entitled Angels and Watermarks. In her many years with Opera San José she premiered Henry Mollicone’s Hotel Eden, Alva Henderson’s West of Washington Square, Craig Bohmler and Daniel Helfgot’s The Tale of the Nutcracker and George Roumanis’ Phaedra besides conducting a vast repertoire of works by Handel, Cavalli, Mozart, Rossini, Puccini, Bizet, Verdi, Britten, Stravinsky, Barber and many others. She has conducted Portland Opera’s Nixon In China, Rimrock Opera’s Aida and concerts with the Silicon Valley, Redwood, South Valley and Billings symphonies and the North Fayetteville orchestra. Other recent appearances include productions of The Crucible, Faust, Kiss Me Kate and Girl Crazy. The Maestra’s upcoming projects include productions of La Bohemeand Bon Appetit with Utah Festival Opera, and a new season of premieres and masterworks with SJCO. She is a frequent adjudicator for the Metropolitan Opera national auditions, annually serves as a judge for the Irving M. Klein International String Competition, and serves on the board of directors of the Women's Philharmonic Advocacy and the advisory boards of the Delphi Trio and Opera Neo in San Diego.