

Philipp Harnoncourt

is a versatile stage director with experience in many areas of theatre: He directs plays and opera productions, he creates light- and stage-designs; as technical director he organized the ImpulsTanz Festival in Vienna, he worked as theatre director for the "Schauspielhaus Wien" and he also writes his own plays.

Philipp Harnoncourt created light designs for many plays, as well as musical and dance theatre productions at major theatre, for example with Robert Wilson and the Vienna State Opera Ballet, he also works for independent and experimental companies.

For the season 2000/2001 Philipp was appointed theatre director by Hans Gratzler for the "Schauspielhaus Wien". Together they produced Baroque operas alternating with contemporary music-theatre productions for the course of a season. It was here that Philipp directed his first opera, "Piramo e Tisbe", a late opera seria by J. A. Hasse. This production also proved a huge success at the "styriarte" festival in Graz and was sent on tour to the Netherlands.

From then on, opera productions became Philipp's main focus. The Monteverdi Project "ballo mortale" at the Viennese "Kammeroper", "Pagliacci" at the State Opera in Kiev, the operetta "Der Bettelstudent" at the "Tiroler Landestheater" in Innsbruck, Mozart's "Die Schuldigkeit des Ersten Gebots" at the "Theater an der Wien" in 2006, Austria's "Year of Mozart", "The Magic Flute" at Heidenheim open air Opera Festival, "The Tales of Hoffmann" at Opera on the Sea at Stralsund are just some examples of his work. In 2008 Philipp staged Marin Marais' "Alcione", a Tragédie Lyrique as a collaboration with the "Serapionstheater" at the Odeon in Vienna, a highly successful production. In the same year he directed - together with his father Nikolaus Harnoncourt - "Idomeneo" at the "styriarte" in Graz.

He shows also a decided focus on contemporary opera: "The Last Supper" by Harrison Birtwistle for the "Neue Oper Wien", followed by Maxwell Davies' "Eight Songs for a Mad King" and Salvatore Sciarrino's "L'Infinito Nero". A huge success with a lot of attention from the press and media was Prokofjew's "Fiery Angel" at the Odeon. Together with the artist-collective Gaigg/Harnoncourt/Lang/Ritsch he produced "maschinenhalle#1", the opening of the avantgarde-festival "steirischer herbst", a performance-installation with 12 robot-pianos and 12 dancers.

In 2011 Philipp Harnoncourt staged "Rodelinda" by G. F. Händel at the "Theater an der Wien" and Bedrich Smetanas "The Bartered Bride" at the "styriarte" in Graz; 2013 "Rosenkavalier" at the MIR in Gelsenkirchen, Offenbach's "Barbe Bleue" at the "styriarte" in Graz and "Wiener Blut" open air at the Schlossfestspiele Langenlois. As a co-founder of EntArte Opera, an artist-collective devoted to composers ostracized by the Nazi regime, he staged "Der Schatzgräber" by Franz Schreker in a huge factory building at the "Brucknerfest Linz".

2015 he interpreted J. S. Bachs' Johannes Passion together with a group of refugees and migrants at the opera house Wuppertal; followed by a "Gypsy Baron" by Strauss. 2016 Philipp directed G. F. Handel's "Sosarme, Re di Media" at Händelfestspiele Halle, also contributing his own stage set. In autumn he debuted highly successfully at the Teatro alla Scala di Milano with "Porgy and Bess" (in forma semiscenica) in a production dedicated to his recently passed away father. 2017 another Johannes Passion will follow, this time by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, at Weimar's Deutsches Nationaltheater.