

## Laurent Gendre (CH)

After studying piano in Fribourg and conducting in Basel with H. Stein and R. Weikert, he was awarded the conductor's prize of the Swiss Musicians Association and went on to pursue his studies in Germany and Austria.

A passionate devotee of 16th and 17th Century music, he founded Ensemble Orlando Fribourg in 1994 and is its artistic director. He has conducted the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Bern Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre de Bienne, the Orchestre de Bretagne, the Orchestre de Besançon et Franche-Comté, the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestras of Lausanne, Geneva and Neuchâtel, and the baroque orchestras La Cetra and Capriccio Basel. Since 1999, he is musical director of the Symphony Orchestra of Thun, and in 2009 was appointed musical director of the Chamber Orchestra of Fribourg.

Laurent has conducted numerous operas in Switzerland and France. Among the productions he has directed Don Giovanni, Le nozze di Figaro, Carmen, Die Fledermaus, La Périhole, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Don Pasquale, La bohème and many more. As director of the Bern Symphony Orchestra and of the Bern Oratorio Choir, he has conducted The Martyrdom of Saint Sebastian, Elias, The Dream of Gerontius, The Glagolitic Mass, the Mass in F minor by Bruckner, and A German Requiem among others. In 2008, he was one of two directors of the Swiss Youth Choir for a series of concerts throughout the country. In early 2010 he conducted Bluebeard by Jacques Offenbach at the Fribourg and Besançon operas.

- **Gounod: Messe de Sainte Cécile**



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