

Antonia Joy Wilson



Biography

First Prize Winner of the International Conducting Competition in Mexico, Antonia Joy Wilson is a professional conductor of international acclaim. She was invited to perform for Maestro Claudio Abbado after making her professional conducting debut with The Colorado Symphony Orchestra at age twenty-one. Then, Maestro Leonard Slatkin appointed Maestra Wilson as Exxon Affiliate Artists Conducting Assistant with Saint Louis Symphony. She conducted sixty concerts including classical, pops, educational, and outreach annually. Dr. Wilson also helped edit their weekly concert recordings for National Public Radio, and she went on tour with St. Louis Symphony to Carnegie Hall.

As Music Director of over eight American Orchestras and a guest conductor worldwide, Maestra Wilson has extensive experience with classical, pops, choral, opera, gospel, dance, ballet, mime, jazz, country, storytelling, multimedia and multiple arts concert repertoire. As Artistic Director of a new Global Arts Center, Antonia specializes in artistic collaborations. Maestra Wilson conducted Shen Yun Symphony Orchestra during its recent Carnegie Hall debut. With Shen Yun Performing Arts, an artistic global touring company in New York, Dr. Wilson conducted their International Tour of South America with 122 performances.

As Artistic Director & Conductor with Midland Symphony Orchestra at Midland Center for the Arts in Michigan, Maestra Wilson created exciting artistic partnerships that were magical. For example, Antonia created a highly successful multimedia event for Gustav Holst's *The Planets* with Shakespearean poetry narrated to colorful Hubble Telescope video images. As a result of Dr. Wilson's dynamic programming with more sold-out performances, they were able to increase their subscriptions by 30%, donations by 50%, and corporate sponsorships by 100% at Midland Center for the Arts.

Gifted as both a symphonic and choral conductor, Maestra Wilson was Founder, Artistic Director & Conductor of Mostly Mahler Orchestra & Chorus in California and *Le Festivale* Orchestra & Chorus in Colorado which involved a team of musicians from over 15 orchestras and 35 choruses around the region. Antonia enjoys sharing her passion for music by promoting the orchestra through media events, public speaking, fund raising, customized programming, pre-concert lectures, and teaching audiences with young people about music.

Maestra Wilson conducted Buenos Aires Philharmonic Orchestra at the world famous Teatro Colón to positive acclaim. She was also invited to guest conduct Belgrade Radio & Television Orchestra in Serbia. Their video concert excerpt has received over 2.5 million views on YouTube.

Dr. Wilson is a frequent guest conductor with Romanian National Radio Symphony/Chamber Orchestras, and Academic Choir.

Maestra Wilson was Resident Principal Guest Conductor with Bulgarian National Radio Symphony. Her tenure involved recordings, concerts, and tours throughout Europe, including Austria, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Serbia, Turkey, and Macedonia among others.

Dr. Wilson was awarded two European prizes which garnered her many guest appearances in the Czech Republic. Antonia also guest conducted Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra in Columbia as well as orchestras in Russia, Hungary, Poland, India, and China.

As a guest conductor of many orchestras throughout the USA, Maestra Wilson has been reinvited to guest conduct The Colorado Symphony numerous times since her debut. A Fellowship Conductor at Aspen Music Festival, Dr. Wilson was Assistant Conductor of Concert Orchestra and taught "Conducting for Composers." Antonia was Principal Guest Conductor with San Francisco Sinfonietta. She was also honored as a top finalist in three Conductors' Workshops with the League of American Orchestras.

Maestra Wilson was the Music Director & Conductor with Jefferson Symphony Orchestra in Colorado for five years. They produced a surround-sound compact disc featuring Respighi's *Pines of Rome* together. Under her baton, they performed Gustav Mahler's *Symphony No. 2 "The Resurrection"*, and many other large choral with orchestral collaborations which included over 450 musicians on stage. Maestra Wilson was also Music Director & Conductor of orchestras in New Jersey, Maryland, Florida, Tennessee, and California.

Born in Oxford, England of American parents, Antonia began studying the violin at an early age. She received her Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance from

"As for the interpretation of Rimsky-Korsakov's 'Sheherazade' offered by Antonia Joy Wilson, it was in fine style, it was a substantial and expressive version with Buenos Aires Philharmonic. Her success obliges us to consider her for new visits at Teatro Colón." La Nación, Argentina

Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver. Antonia worked with Maestro Daniel Lewis during her Master of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Southern California.

Following her graduate conducting studies at Yale School of Music, Antonia completed her Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Dr. Wilson was also Director of Orchestral Studies and Music Director of Central Michigan University Symphony.

Since her debut as the youngest woman to conduct a major American orchestra, Maestra Wilson has gone on to an extensive national and international musical career in North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.