

FRANÇOIS LÓPEZ-FERRER

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Nationality USA/Spain

<http://www.musiespana.com/francois-lopez-ferrer>

http://www.msstuhl.com/page_p897_en.html

<http://www.pacific-concert.co.jp/foreigner/view/828/>



BIOGRAPHY

François López-Ferrer is the assistant conductor designate of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons. He recently came to international attention after a critically acclaimed debut with the Verbier Festival Orchestra, jumping in for Iván Fischer and conducting alongside Sir Simon Rattle and Gabor Takacs-Nagy at the 2018 edition of the festival. The Spanish-American conductor is currently in his second season as associate conductor of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile, after serving two years as assistant conductor, and serves as principal conductor of the Ballet Nacional Chileno. He was recently awarded the third prize at the OFUNAM International Conducting Competition.

López-Ferrer began 2018 as principal conductor of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile's *Festival de verano* conducting Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Schostakovich's 5th Symphony and the Chilean premier of Bernstein's 1st Symphony '*Jeremiah*', celebrating the composer's centenary of his birth. This was followed by a production of *Giselle* with the Ballet Nacional Chileno, and subscription concerts with the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile, jumping in at the last minute for David del Pino. The rest of the 2018/19 season includes debuts with the Orquesta de la Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in Argentina, the Orquesta Clásica de la Universidad de Santiago de Chile, the Orquesta Joven de la Sinfónica de Galicia, the Orquesta de la Radio Televisión Española, the Orquesta de Cámara de Chile, the Orquesta Sinfónica Provincial de Rosario, the Orquesta Sinfónica Verum, and the Orquesta Sinfónica do Paraná, as well numerous re-engagements with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León. With the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile López-Ferrer will conduct numerous subscription and educational concerts, as well as Coopeuch's '*Sembrando Cultura*' tour, to which he has been re-invited for the third consecutive year, reaching approximately 30,000 Chilean children and adults through educational and gala concerts.

As part of the prestigious Verbier Festival López-Ferrer was recently an apprentice conductor in its inaugural 2018 Conductor Mentorship Program where he assisted and was mentored by conductors Valery Gergiev, Sir Simon Rattle, Gianandrea Noseda, Christoph Eschenbach, Mikhail Pletnev, Alain Altinoglu, and Pablo Heras-Casado. Furthermore, he debuted with the Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra at its annual open-air concert at La Chaux.

As a winner of the inaugural 2015 Neeme Järvi Prize awarded through the Menuhin-Gstaad Festival, he conducted the Musikkollegium Winterthur in February 2017. This was followed by debut engagements with the Berner Symphonieorchester and the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León in June and November, respectively. López-Ferrer was Conductor-in-Residence of the 2016 Summer Concert Series of the Orquesta

Sinfónica Nacional de Chile, featuring his critically acclaimed debut at one of the most important festivals in South America, the "Semanas Musicales de Frutillar" in its 48th edition at the Teatro del Lago. He debuted in Brazil with the Orquestra Sinfônica de Porto Alegre in July 2016, followed by subscription concerts with the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile and renowned soloist Pepe Romero in August.

López-Ferrer was a semi-finalist at the 2016 Donatella Flick Conducting Competition and was awarded the public favorite prize at the 2015 Operettenworkshop of the Musikalische Komödie Leipzig, led by Roland Seifert. In 2014/15 he participated in the 1st/2nd editions of the Gstaad Conducting Academy, led by renowned Maestri Neeme Järvi, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, and Leonid Grin. In July 2013 López-Ferrer was invited to the prestigious 4th International Conducting Masterclass with David Zinman and the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich. From 2010-2012 and 2014 López-Ferrer was the youngest participant in the Järvi International Summer Academy with Maestri Neeme Järvi and Paavo Järvi. Furthermore, he has participated in masterclasses with Bernard Haitink and Mario Venzago. From 2014-2016 he was a member of the prestigious Deutsche Dirigentenforum of the German Music Council.

As Founder and Music Director of Ensemble Vita, comprised of fellow students from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory, López-Ferrer lead concerts throughout the Cincinnati area, reaching out to the community with innovative programming in a variety of repertoire spanning from the Baroque through the 21st-century. In 2012 he co-founded the Queen City Chamber Opera in Cincinnati, specializing in rarely performed works by well-known composers presented in non-traditional spaces.

López-Ferrer holds a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Haute École de Musique de Lausanne, under the tutelage of professor Aurelien Azan Zielinski, and a Bachelor of Music in Composition from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where his teachers included Joel Hoffman, Miguel Roig-Francoli, and Michael Fiday. Furthermore, Since 2009 he has been a student and protégé of Maestro Leonid Grin. As a composer López-Ferrer participated in master classes with Leonardo Balada, Steve Reich, Frederic Rzewski and Jack Body.

TENURES

- 2019- **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra** Assistant Conductor
- 2017-Present **Ballet Nacional Chileno** Principal Conductor
- 2017-2019 **Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile** Associate Conductor
Responsibilities include conducting subscription and family concerts, national tours, covering and assisting in all programs conducted by the music director.
- 2018-2020 **Universidad de Chile** Adjunct Professor
- 2014-2016 **Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile** Assistant Conductor
- 2012 **Queen City Chamber Opera** Music Director/Co-Founder
Chamber opera company specializing in rarely performed works by well-known composers presented in non-traditional spaces.
- 2009-2012 **Ensemble Vita** Music Director/Founder
Chamber orchestra of fellow students at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory.

FESTIVALS

- 2018 **Verbier Festival Conductor Mentorship Program** **Apprentice Conductor**
Assistant to/mentored by conductors Valery Gergiev, Sir Simon Rattle, Gianandrea Noseda, Christoph Eschenbach, Mikhail Pletnev, Alain Altinoglu, and Pablo Heras-Casado.
- 2018 **Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile/Summer Concert Series** **Conductor-in-Residence**
- 2016 **Semanas Musicales de Frutillar/Summer Concert Series** **Conductor-in-Residence**
Conductor-in-Residence of the Summer Concert Series of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile in Santiago, followed by a tour to the Quinta Vergara in Viña del Mar and the 48th “Semanas Musicales de Frutillar” festival at the Teatro del Lago.

AWARDS

- 2015 **Menuhin Festival Gstaad** **1st Neeme Järvi Prize**
- 2015 **2015 Operettenworkshop der Musikalischen Komödie Leipzig** **Public Favorite**
- 2014 **Leonid Grin Conductor’s Masterclass** **Pärnu City Orchestra’s Favorite Conductor**
- 2014-2016 **Dirigentenforum des Deutschen Musikrates** **Stipendiat**

UPCOMING / RECENT PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

- 2020 Orquesta de la Radio Televisión Española
- Teatro Colón (Ballet)
- Ballet Nacional Chileno / Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile
- Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- 2019 Orquesta Sinfónica do Paraná
- Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León
- Orquesta Sinfónica Verum
- Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- Orquesta Sinfónica Provincial de Rosario
- Orquesta Sinfónica de la Universidad Mayor
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Orquesta de Cámara de Chile
- Orquesta de la Radio Televisión Española
- Orquesta Joven Sinfónica de Galicia
- 2018 Orquesta Clásica de la Universidad de Santiago de Chile
- Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (family concerts)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (subscriptions)
- Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra
- Verbier Festival Orchestra (replacing Iván Fischer)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (subscriptions)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (subscriptions, replacing David del Pino)

- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Seattle Symphony / Andrea Bocelli Tour (rehearsal, replacing Eugene Kohn)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (family concerts)
- May Festival / Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (Assistant Conductor)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Ballet Nacional Chileno / Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile / Coro Sinfónico (subscriptions/tour)
- 2017 Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Ballet Nacional Chileno / Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile / Coro Sinfónico (subscriptions)
- Berner Symphonieorchester
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (subscriptions)
- Musikkollegium Winterthur
- 2016 Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (family concerts)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (subscriptions)
- Orquesta Sinfónica de Porto Alegre
- Philips Symfonie Orkest
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile / Coro Sinfónico (subscriptions/tour)
- 2015 Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile / Coro Sinfónico (family concerts)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (tour)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (subscription)
- Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (family concert)

MASTERCLASSES / WORKSHOPS

- 2016 Nürnberger Symphoniker / John Carewe (Dirigentenforum)
- 2015 Menuhin Gstaad Festival Conducting Academy / Neeme Järvi, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Leonid Grin
- 2015 Orchester der Musikalische Komödie Leipzig / Roland Seiffarth (Dirigentenforum)
- 2014 Philharmonisches Orchester Plauen-Zwickau / Lutz de Veer (Dirigentenforum)
- 2014 Hamburger Symphoniker / Ulrich Windfuhr (Mendelssohn Summer School Festival)
- 2014 Menuhin Gstaad Festival Conducting Academy / Neeme Järvi, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Leonid Grin
- 2014 Järvi International Summer Academy / Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Leonid Grin
- 2014 Orchester der ZHdK / David Zinman
- 2014 Karlsbader Sinfonieorchester / James Lowe
- 2014 Südwestdeutscher Philharmonie / Johannes Schlaefli
- 2014 Meininger Hofkapelle / Johannes Schläfli
- 2013 Berliner Camerata / Johannes Schläfli
- 2013 Berner Symphonieorchester / Mario Venzago
- 2013 Musikkollegium Winterthur / Bernard Haitink
- 2013 Plovdiv Philharmonic Orchestra / Johannes Schläfli

- 2013 Orchester der ZHdK / Patrick Lange
 2013 Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich / 4th David Zinman International Conducting Masterclass
 2012 Järvi International Summer Academy / Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Leonid Grin
 2011 Järvi International Summer Academy / Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Leonid Grin
 2010 Järvi International Summer Academy / Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Leonid Grin

EDUCATION

- 2014-2016 **Haute école de musique de Lausanne** **Master of Arts in Conducting**
 Orchestral conducting with Aurélien Azan Zielinski.
 2013-2014 **Zürcher Hochschule der Künste**
 Orchestral conducting with Johannes Schlaefli and choral conducting with Beat Schäfer.
 2009-Present **Private Studies with Leonid Grin**
 2008-2012 **University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music** **B.M. in Composition**
Magna Cum Laude. Composition teachers include Joel Hoffman, Miguel Roig-Francolí and Michael Fiday.

COMPETITIONS

- 2018 **OFUNAM International Conducting Competition** 3rd Prize
 2017 **Cadaqués Orchestra International Conducting Competition** Top 20
 2017 **Sir Georg Solti International Conductors' Competition** First Round
 2016 **Donatella Flick Conducting Competition** Semi-Finalist

OTHER

Languages: English, German, Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese

REVIEWS

Verbier Festival Orchestra | welt.de | **Manuel Brug**

“Statt Ivan Fischer dirigiert heute eine spektakuläre Trias. Erst der schneidige Assistent François López-Ferrer, der Bernsteins „Candide“-Ouvertüre frech-elegant durchpeitscht.”

“Instead of Ivan Fischer conducts today a spectacular trio. First, the dashing assistant François López-Ferrer, whips through Bernstein's “Candide” Overture cheeky and elegantly.”

Verbier Festival Orchestra | **24 Heures** | **Mathieu Chenal**

“L'orchestre répond avec jubilation à son geste précis et généreux ...”

"The orchestra responds with jubilation to his precise and generous gesture ...”

Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León | Scherzo | Justo Romero

“...con maneras de gran maestro y un gesto cargado de expresión y fuerza, natural, preciso y eficaz.”

"... with manners of a great maestro and a gesture full of expression and strength, natural, precise and effective.”

Orquesta Sinfónica de la Radio Televisión Española | Beckmesser | Gonzalo Alonso

“Para el citado concierto confeccionó un programa muy atractivo, que llevó con dominio, energía, vida y matiz.”

"For the aforementioned concert he presented a very attractive program, which he brought with mastery, energy, life and nuance."

Orquesta Joven de la Sinfónica de Galicia | El País | Julián Carrillo

“La precisión rítmica lograda por López-Ferrer fue realmente notable; y más teniendo en cuenta los fuertes contrastes de tempi que impuso el director hispanoestadounidense.”

"The rhythmic precision achieved by López-Ferrer was really remarkable; especially taking into account the strong contrasts of tempi imposed by the Spanish-American conductor."

Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile | El Mercurio | Jaime Donoso

“El concierto terminó brillantemente con una muy buena versión de "La Valse" de Ravel, partitura prodigiosa, y donde destacó el trabajo de López-Ferrer, con absoluto dominio de los complicados rubati que forman parte de este sarcástico y genial antitributo a los encantos de salón de un vals vienés.”

"The concert ended brilliantly with a very good version of "La Valse" by Ravel, prodigious score, and where the work of López-Ferrer was highlighted, with absolute mastery of the complicated rubati that are part of this sarcastic and brilliant anti-tribute to the charms of a Viennese waltz.”

Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile | ADN Radio | Álvaro Gallegos

“El muy talentoso músico español François López-Ferrer, director asociado de la OSNCH, echó mano a su energía juvenil para una interpretación vivaz, cuya fortaleza se notó en el cuidado de la rítmica, ingrediente primordial de esta pieza.”

"The very talented Spanish musician François López-Ferrer, associate conductor of the OSNCH, took advantage of his youthful energy for a lively performance, whose strength was evident in the care of rhythm, the main ingredient of this piece."

MEDIA / INTERVIEWS

Verbier Festival 2018 | Behind the Scenes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVdMHeu09o>

Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile | Concert Promotion #1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTGLdbSaBZQ&t=28s>

Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile | Concert Promotion #2

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHt_1i4EsXA

Qué Pasa | Magazine | Constanza Orrejola

<http://www.quepasa.cl/articulo/guia-del-ocio/2016/01/batuta-de-la-juventud.shtml/>

REPRESENTATION

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LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION Available Upon Request

Paavo Järvi / NHK Symphony Orchestra, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich Music Director

David Zinman / Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich Former Music Director

Leonid Grin / Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile Music Director

Mischa Santora / Boston Ballet Music Director