**CHRISTIAN BALDINI**

**Conductor, Season 2017/18**

Currently Music Director of the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra and the Camellia Symphony Orchestra in Sacramento, Christian Baldini was cover conductor from 2014-16 at the San Francisco Symphony, where he made his debut in December 2014. A native of Argentina, he is a regular guest conductor at the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, the Teatro Argentino de la Plata and Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Argentina.

A finalist in the 2012 Nestlé/Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award Baldini has been an assistant conductor with the Britten-Pears Orchestra and a cover conductor with the National Symphony Orchestra Washington. Guest conducting engagements have included the Munich Radio Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Florida Orchestra, Buenos Aires Philharmonic, Orquestra Sinfonica do Porto, Orquesta de Cámara de Chile and San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. He has also conducted operas for the Aldeburgh Festival *(The Rape of Lucretia)* as well as the Teatro Colón. The 2017-18 sees his debuts with English National Opera and the Noord Nederlands Orkest.

At home in the most imaginative and daring corners of contemporary music, he has presented world premières of over 80 works; he has assisted Martyn Brabbyns with the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Brian Ferneyhough’s *La terre est un homme* and Harrison Birtwistle’s *Gawain,* and has conducted and recorded contemporary Italian music for the RAI Trade and Tactus labels. in 2014 he conducted the world première of Victor Strasnoy’s *Requiem* at the Teatro Colón, which was voted Best Production of the 2014 opera season by the Argentine Music Critics Association (ACMA). In 2016, he was re-invited to Teatro Colón for a Dallapicciola double-bill. Baldini is equally comfortable in the core symphonic and operatic repertoire. His debut CD, of Mozart Arias and Overtures with Elizabeth Watts and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra was released in 2015 on Linn Records to great critical acclaim, and was named Recording of the Month by BBC Music Magazine, as well as Album of the Week on Classic FM. A fully versatile musician, Baldini also enjoys pushing boundaries in his programming. He conducted a noteworthy sold out production of *2001: A Space Odyssey* at Teatro Colón and has collaborated with composer DJ Mason Bates.

Baldini is also active as a composer. His compositions are published by Babel Scores in Paris, and his works have been performed by ensembles and orchestras including Ensemble Modern, Munich Radio Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lorraine and the New York New Music Ensemble, while he has been featured composer at the Acanthes Festival in France and the Ginastera Festival in London. Baldini’s music has been recorded on the Pretal label, and has been broadcast on the Southwest German, Bavarian and Austrian Radios, as well as on the National Classical Music Radio of Argentina.

Christian Baldini holds degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo (Ph.D. in Composition), the Pennsylvania State University (Master’s in Conducting), and the Catholic University of Argentina (Bachelor’s Degree in Conducting and Composition). Teachers and mentors include Kurt Masur, Michael Tilson Thomas, Leonard Slatkin, Peter Eötvös and Martyn Brabbins.

**September 2017**

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