

JOOST SMEETS

Dutch conductor Joost Smeets, 1st Prize winner of the Cordoba Conducting Competition 2013, Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the Chamber Philharmonic der Aa Groningen Holland, conducted with great acclaim in his short career renowned orchestras including:

Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen Germany
North-Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Groningen Holland
St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra Russia
Symphony Orchestra Cordoba Spain
Tomsk Philharmonic Orchestra Russia
Limburgs Symphony Orchestra Maastricht Holland
Chamber Orchestra Fiorentina Florence Italy
Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Enschede Holland
Holland Symfonia Amsterdam Holland
National Youth Orchestra Spain (JONDE)
Bacau Philharmonic Orchestra Romania
State Symphony Orchestra Kiev Ukraine
New Professionals Orchestra London U.K.
North Czech Philharmonic Orchestra Teplice Czech Republic
Chelyabinsk Symphony Orchestra Russia
Pitesti Philharmonic Orchestra Romania
Symphony Orchestra Music Academy Ljubljana Slovenia
St. Petersburg Chamber Orchestra Carpe Diem Russia
National Symphony Orchestra Holland
Youth Orchestra of the Netherlands
Arkhangelsk State Chamber Orchestra Russia
National Chamber Philharmonic Holland
Ensemble Berkel Barock Holland

The Reutlinger General Anzeiger wrote the following about a concert with the Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen, Germany.

THEATRICAL MAGIC!

The Dutch conductor, Joost Smeets, opened the concert with Guisepppe Verdi's overture from the opera "La forza del destino" creating pure theatrical magic. The calm opening cadenza blended seamlessly into the ill-fated drama. The conductor, luring the sound from the strings with his baton, was inspiring, penetrating to the depths of the music. He allowed the audience to feel that unrelenting power from which cannot be escaped: fate

After his first program as Principal conductor of Chamber Philharmonic der Aa with Totenfeier and Rückert Lieder by Gustav Mahler and Matheus der Maler by Paul Hindemith, reviewer Heinz Wallisch wrote:

DYNAMIC DEBUT CHAMBER PHILHARMONIC DER AA.

Joost Smeets helped his musicians through the demanding program with vibrant energy, but without falling into extremes. The intentions of this conductor, in regards to the desires and demands made of his musicians, are not left to chance. Smeets' enthusiasm works contagiously.

Ludmilla Modina wrote after a concert with the St. Petersburg Chamber Orchestra Carpe Diem:

WINDOWS ON THE NETHERLANDS

The orchestra felt the subtle hand of the Dutch conductor Joost Smeets. Possessing a conducting-style which has a magical effect on the orchestra, Smeets awakened the public's interest in the deeply philosophical and beautiful composition of Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony.

Ludmilla Federova wrote in Uralpress after a performance of Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's Sheherazade the following:

DUTCH CONDUCTOR JOOST SMEETS, WON THE CHELYABINSK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

Under his baton the orchestra sounded smooth and soulful, and thus gave a very favorable impression.

Minke Muilwijk wrote in newspaper, Dagblad van het Noorden:

CHAMBER PHILHARMONIC DER AA BROUGHT FIVE BEAUTIFUL UNKNOWN AND ALSO RARELY PERFORMED PIECES BY DUTCH COMPOSERS.

Chamber Philharmonic der Aa brought with fresh courage Dutch pieces. On stage conductor Joost Smeets is a charismatic leader. Looking forward with this potential.

Mediagroep Limburg wrote after a LSO concert included works by P. van Anrooij, A. Dvorak, F. Léhar, J. Strauss, J. Gimenez, M. de Falla, etc.

CONCERT LIMBURGS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

LSO conductor Joost Smeets created comfortability to the orchestra and led them to a brilliant musical evening.

Heinz Wallisch wrote after the American program with works by S. Barber, L. Bernstein and the world- premiere of Stephen Melillo's Violin concerto with violinist Carla Leurs:

CHAMBER PHILHARMONIC DER AA EXPLORES TWO CONCERTS, THE MORE RECENT NEW WORLD.

Carla Leurs and the orchestra under the direction of chief conductor Joost Smeets not only received after the world premiere of Stephen Melillo's Violin Concerto a standing ovation, but also many Bravo's from the numerous audience. This violin Concerto, full of tempo and time signature changes and changes in atmosphere which was perfectly forged into one whole, received a thunderous success. A performance of Leonard Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from West Side Story requires not only a good reactive ensemble but also much enthusiasm. Joost Smeets, ever the shining conductor, and his Chamber Philharmonic der Aa met these requirements showing great flexibility.

Joost Smeets has conducted a number of important world premieres, including works by American composer Stephen Melillo, Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Russian composer Vassily Shishkin Suite for Chamber Orchestra, Dutch composer Marijn Simons Mariachi, Ti Te Toca opus 23d.

In the immediate future Smeets will conduct programs as Principal Conductor of his Chamber Philharmonic der Aa Groningen and is (re)invited to conduct the following orchestras:

Limburgs Symphony Orchestra Maastricht Holland
Boise Philharmonic Orchestra USA
Chamber Orchestra Fiorentina Florence Italy
Tamaulipas State Orchestra Mexico
Murmansk Philharmonic Orchestra Russia
Tomsk Philharmonic Orchestra Russia
St. Petersburg Chamber Orchestra “Carpe Diem” Russia
National Chamber Philharmonic Holland
Samara State Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Russia
Pitesti Philharmonic Orchestra Romania
Ensemble Berkel Barock Holland

Collaborative soloists included:

Ernst Daniel Smid, baritone
Carel Kraayenhof, bandoneon
Elske te Lindert, soprano
Anastasia Goldberg, piano
Maartje Rammeloo, soprano
Alexandre Malaimare, violin
Uros Petrac, tenor
Carla Leurs, violin
Noelle Weidmann, cello
Stefan and Martijn Blaak, pianoduo
Tanja Sonc, violin
Eline Harbers, alto
Viorela Ciucur, piano
Anjolet Rotteveel, alto
Charles Wiffen, piano
Hayo Boerema, organ
Thorwald Jørgensen, theremin

Joost Smeets has followed several masterclasses with renowned conductors including Edo de Waart and Michail Jurowsky.

Joost Smeets started his musical career as Tubaist, having studied at the Cologne Conservatory of Music, Department Aachen, Germany. He has been principal tuba in the Netherlands Symphony Orchestra, Enschede since 1996 combining this post since 1999 with his position as principal tuba in the Limburgs Symphony Orchestra, Maastricht. He was appointed a teaching post in 2000 at the Artez Conservatory in Enschede.

Through the years he has played with many orchestras including

the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam
the Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Enschede
Limburgs Symphony Orchestra Maastricht
Radio Philharmonic Orchestra Hilversum
Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra
the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra Amsterdam
Radio Chamber Philharmonic Hilversum
The Hague Philharmonic Orchestra
Schleswig Holstein Music Festival Orchestra

and had the privilege of working with many great conductors, such as:
Bernard Haitink, Valery Gergiev, Evgeni Svetlanov, Gennadi Rostdestwensky, Charles Dutoit, Neeme Järvi, Marin Alsop, Hans Vonk, Edo de Waart, Jaap van Zweden, Gerd Albrecht, Jean Fournet, Carlo Rizzi, Dmitri Kitajenko and Leonard Slatkin to name a few.

Concert performances have brought him all over the world performing extensively in Europe but also further afield including Japan, Russia, U.S.A. and Indonesia.

www.joostsmeets.com