

JOOST SMEETS
CONDUCTOR



Joost Smeets

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Biography

1st Prize winner of the Cordoba Conducting Competition Spain 2013,
1st Prize winner of the Black Sea International Conducting Competition Constanta Romania 2014,
1st Prize winner of the London Classical Soloists Conducting Competition United Kingdom 2016
2nd Prize winner of the Antal Dorati Int. Conducting Competition Budapest Hungary 2015,
3rd Prize winner (1st and 2nd Prize are not awarded) of the Ferruccio Busoni Int. Conducting Competition Empoli, Italy 2016

Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the Chamber Philharmonic der Aa Groningen Holland (2010-2016) conducted with great acclaim in his career renowned orchestras in Opera and Symphonic programs including:

- *Boise Philharmonic Orchestra USA*
- *Letvian National Symphony Orchestra Riga Letvia*
- *North-Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Groningen Holland*
- *Koszalin Philharmonic "Stanislaw Moniuszko" Poland*
- *Wuhan Philharmonic Orchestra China*
- *State Opera Rousse, Bulgaria*
- *MAV Symphony Orchestra Budapest, Hungary*
- *St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra Russia*
- *Cordoba Symphony Orchestra Spain*
- *Artez Conservatory Symphony Orchestra Zwolle Holland*
- *Tomsk Philharmonic Orchestra Russia*
- *Limburgs Symphony Orchestra Maastricht Holland*
- *National Bulgarian Opera Bourgas Bulgaria*
- *Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen Germany*
- *Chamber Orchestra Fiorentina Florence Italy*
- *Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Enschede Holland*
- *Kislovodsk Symphony Orchestra Russia*
- *Brasov Philharmonic Orchestra Romania*
- *Holland Symfonia Amsterdam Holland*
- *Orchestra Nazionale Artes, Italy*
- *London Classical Soloists United Kingdom*
- *National Theatre of Opera and Ballet "Oleg Danovski" Constanta Rom.*
- *National Youth Orchestra Spain (JONDE)*
- *Volga Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Samara Russia*
- *Bacau Philharmonic Orchestra Romania*
- *State Symphony Orchestra Kiev Ukraine*
- *Audimus Symphony Orchestra Udine, Italy*
- *New Professionals Orchestra London U.K.*
- *Black Sea Symphony Orchestra Constanta Romania*
- *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*
- *Orchestra Conservatory Statale "Jacopo Tomadini" Udine Italy*
- *National Chamber Philharmonic Holland*

Performed Opera's:

G. Verdi:	La Traviata, Rigoletto
G. Puccini:	Madame Butterfly, Tosca, La Bohème
V. Bellini:	Norma
W.A. Mozart:	Le Nozze di Figaro
G. Rossini:	Il Barbieri di Siviglia

and a lot of experience as Assistant Conductor with opera's by Bartok, Bellini, Berlioz, Bizet, Britten, Dvorak, Humperdinck, Janacek, Mozart, Leoncavallo, Poulenc, Puccini, Ravel, Rimsky-Korsakov, Schönberg, R. Strauss, Verdi, Wagner with the Nederlandse Opera Amsterdam, Nationale Reis Opera Enschede, Opera Zuid Maastricht and Jeunesse Musicales Weikersheim Oper-Festival.

In the immediate future *Smeets* is (re-)invited to conduct the following orchestras:

- Music Festival Concert Orchestra Stellenbosch South Africa
- *Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Enschede Holland*
- *Tamaulipas State Orchestra Tampico Mexico*
- *Minsk Academic Theater Orchestra Belarus*
- *Antwerp Symphony Orchestra Belgium*

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 composers Marijn Simons "Mariachi, Ti Te Toca" opus 23d, Anke Brouwer, "Kleurengeluidssignaal" and Toek Numan "Couscous and Kaas".

Joost Smeets has studied with renowned conductors including Jorma Panula, Donato Renzetti, Maurizio Arena, Edo de Waart, Michail Jurowsky, Massimiliano Caldi, Neil Thomson and Dejan Savic.

Joost Smeets started his musical career as tubaplayer, 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 South Netherlands Philharmonic Maastricht / Eindhoven.

He was appointed a teaching post in 2000 at the ArtEZ Conservatory in Zwolle.

Through the years he has played with many orchestras including

- *Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam*
- *Netherlands Symphony Orchestra Enschede*
- *Limburgs Symphony Orchestra Maastricht*
- *Radio Philharmonic Orchestra Hilversum*
- *Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra*
- *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.

Reviews:

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 Giuseppe 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**

Dana Oland wrote in the Idaho Statesman:

CHARTISMATIC GUEST CONDUCTOR ADD UP TO SUCCESS FOR THE BOISE PHILHARMONIC.

An energetic and affable Joost Smeets from the Netherlands, stepped in and made his American debut in Boise. A wonderful presence on the podium, Smeets charmed the audience with a thoughtful speech and dynamic performance. Symphony No. 40, one of Mozart's most recognizable and influential works, made up the second half. Smeets kept the pace brisk and lively, not wasting a moment. The musicians were spot on throughout, proving their collective prowess with a layered, deeply colored performance that brought out both the joy and melancholy in the piece.

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.

Rafael Nieto López wrote in La Opinión about the concert with Orquesta Sinfonica de Córdoba Spain.

Beethoven's Corilano, The orchestra sounded great and very compact and the Dutch conductor gave a masterful overture for his first appearance of the evening. In Mendelssohn's Violinconcerto, he brought soloist and orchestra with care and cleanliness together. Mozart, the orchestra gave a very delicate orchestral sound, even sounded like a "Camerata", a symphony median. The conductor had chosen for a good careful direction for this famous and popular work. Which resulted in many thunderous applause.

Antonio Tarralba wrote in El día de Córdoba:

From my point of view, the highest musical quality achieved in the interpretation of the 40th Mozart symphony. Smeets made a wonderful reading, clarity and expressiveness, with numerous successes in a novel (stepping into the phrasing of the opening motif repeats) who created magic on stage. A delight to hear filled with moments of real emotion throughout the symphony.

Rafael Nieto López wrote in La Opinión de Cabra about the concert of Orquesta Sinfonica de Córdoba in Jaén:

the Dutch conductor Joost Smeets brought this evening with soloist and Orchestra, the program in a beautiful reading of a category in terms of shape and performance comparable to recordings of renowned orchestras and conductors. The concert was an anthology.

Rafael Nieto López wrote in La Opinion de Cabra about the concert of Orquesta Sinfonica de Córdoba in Cabra:

Good work and leadership of Joost Smeets gave an impressive reading of the score of Mozart's 'Symphony No. 40 in G minor "K550, in Cabra also achieved great success (in Córdoba interpretation was praised by critics), because he did it with a subtlety that Mozart sounded like heaven.

Tribute to this conductor. Brava and applause rewarded this performance.

**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.

Highlights

TOEKOMSTIGE HIGHLIGHTS:

Orkest van het Oosten, Enschede

2 Concerten 8 juni 2017 Stadsgehoorzaal Kampen, 9.45 / 11.15

2 Concerten 13 juni 2017 Stadschouwburg Deventer, 9.30 / 11.00

3 Concerten 15 juni 2017 Muziekcentrum Enschede, 9.30 / 11.00 / 12.45

3 Concerten 16 juni 2017 Muziekcentrum Enschede, 9.30 / 11.00 / 12.45

Educatief programma "Broer" met muziek van Giuseppe Verdi (La Forza del Destino, Rigoletto, La Traviata)

Music Festival Concert Orchestra, Stellenbosch South Africa

Concert 8 juli 2017 Stellenbosch Concert Hall

<http://www.sicmf.co.za/artists/>

Peter van Anrooij, Piet Hein Rhapsody

Edvard Grieg, Bergliot op. 42

George Bizet, Carmen Suites 1 and 2

Antwerp Symphony Orchestra

Concerten:

16 maart 2018 Muziekgebouw Eindhoven 20.00

17 maart 2018 Koningin Elisabeth Zaal Antwerpen 20.00

Solisten: Ensemble Mnozil Brass

Popsconcert

<http://www.defilharmonie.be/node/6584>

Orkest van het Oosten, Enschede

Concert 12 juni 2018 De Siepegel Zwolle, 9.30

Concert 12 juni 2018 Stadsgehoorzaal Kampen, 13.30

2 Concerten 13 juni 2018 Stadsschouwburg Deventer, 9.30 / 11.00

3 Concerten 14 juni 2018 Muziekcentrum Enschede, 9.30 / 11.00 / 12.45

3 Concerten 15 juni 2018 Muziekcentrum Enschede, 9.30 / 11.00 / 12.45

Educatief programma "Couscous en Kaas" op muziek van Toek Numan.

RECENTE HIGHLIGHTS:

ArtEZ Symphony Orchestra, Zwolle

Concerten:

19 maart 2017 Muziekcentrum Enschede

20 maart 2017 De Spiegel Zwolle

Solisten: Maxime Snaterse, piano

Marije Wieringa, mezzo soprano

Nicolai Rimski Korsakow, Capriccio Espagnol

Manuel de Falla, Noches en los Jardines de Espagna

Manuel de Falla, El Sombrero de tres Picos (compleet ballet)

Janacek Philharmonic Orchestra, Ostrava Tsjechië

Concert:

11 maart 2017 Janacek Music Hall Ostrava
Ludwig van Beethoven, Leonore III overture
Richard Wagner, Siegfrieds Rheinfahrt uit Götterdämmerung
Modest Moussorgsky, Introductie tot Kovantchina
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Symphony nr. 41 "Jupiter"

Koszalin Philharmonic Orchestra "Stanislaw Moniuszko", Polen

Concert:

3 maart 2017 Philharmonie Koszalin, Polen
Solisten: Kupinski Gitaar duo
Maurice Ravel, Alborada del Gracioso
Jeronimo Rodrigo, Concerto Madrigal for guitar duo and orchestra
Paul Dukas, Symphony in C
http://filharmoniakoszalinska.pl/koncert/806/koncert_symfoniczny.html

Orkest van het Oosten, Enschede

Concert ism Noordik, Pius X, Canisius en de Passie.
10 februari 2017 Muziekcentrum Enschede
Orff, Mozart, Anderson, Saint Saëns etc.

MAV Orchestra, Budapest Hongarije

Concert 28 september 2016 Urania theatre Budapest
Solist: David Whitwell, trombone
W. A. Mozart: Overture Le Nozze di Figaro
W. A. Mozart: Fagot concerto
M. Incontrera: God's trombones
W. A. Mozart: Symphony nr. 40