

# **DAVID LOCKINGTON**

## **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Over the past thirty-five years, David Lockington has developed an impressive conducting career in the United States. A native of Great Britain, he has served as the Music Director of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra since January 1999 and has held the same position with the Modesto Symphony since May 2007. In March 2013, Mr. Lockington was appointed Music Director of the Pasadena Symphony. He also has a close relationship with the Orquesta Sinfonica del Principado de Asturias in Spain and is currently the orchestra's Principal Guest Conductor.

The Los Angeles Times described Lockington's inaugural concert as "Signal[ing] a new direction...teeming with vitality...dripping with opulent, sexy emotion. This probably will in fact become a new Pasadena Symphony." 2005 marked Lockington's conducting debut at New York's Carnegie Hall. The *New York Times* commended the Grand Rapids Symphony, under his artistic leadership for being a model in the Classical music world. Lockington also earned a 2007 Grammy Award nomination and has led five recordings with Grand Rapids. The recordings have received high praise including the CD of Adolphus Hailstork's Second and Third symphonies, released internationally on the Naxos label in 2007. Additionally, 2008 saw the successful start of the Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Choruses. At his initiative, the Symphony has also reached out to new and diverse audiences through its annual community concert "Symphony with Soul," now in its 12th season.

In addition to his current posts, since his arrival to the United States in 1978 Mr. Lockington has also held additional positions with American orchestras, including serving as Assistant Conductor of the Denver Symphony Orchestra and Opera Colorado and Assistant and Associate Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In May 1993 he accepted the position of Music Director of the Ohio Chamber Orchestra, assumed the title of Music Director of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra in September 1995 and was Music Director of the Long Island Philharmonic for the 96/97 through 99/2000 seasons.

Mr. Lockington's guest conducting engagements include appearances with the Saint Louis, Houston, Detroit, Seattle, Toronto, Vancouver, Colorado, Oregon and Phoenix symphonies; the Buffalo, Rochester and Louisiana Philharmonics; and the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall. Internationally, he has conducted the Northern Sinfonia in Great Britain, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, the China Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra in Beijing and Taiwan and led the English Chamber Orchestra on a tour in Asia.

Recent and upcoming guest conducting engagements include appearances with the New Jersey, Indianapolis, Vancouver, Utah, Pacific, Nashville, San Diego, Syracuse, Edmonton, Alabama, Columbus and Kansas City symphonies, the Louisville Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa and the Calgary Philharmonic. Mr. Lockington's summer festival activities include appearances at the Grand Teton, Colorado Music, Interlochen, Chautauqua and Eastern Music festivals.

David Lockington began his career as a cellist and was the Principal with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain for two years. After completing his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Cambridge, Mr. Lockington came to the United States on a scholarship to Yale University where he received his Master's degree in cello performance and studied conducting with Otto Werner Mueller. He was a member of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and served as assistant principal cellist for three years with the Denver Symphony Orchestra before turning to conducting.

# **DYLANA JENSON**

## **Violin**

“ A Mature Master” New York Times

“Fire, passion and rhythmic elan” Strad Magazine

Dylana Jenson has performed with most major orchestras in the United States and traveled to Europe, Australia, Japan and Latin America for concerts, recitals and recordings. After her triumphant success at the Tchaikovsky Competition, where she became the youngest and first American woman to win the Silver Medal, she made her Carnegie Hall debut playing the Sibelius Concerto with Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Following her 2005 Carnegie Hall performance Jenson again electrified in her performance of Karl Goldmark’s violin concerto. According to Strad Magazine, "In Jenson's hands, lyrical passages had an intense, tremulous quality...a sizzling performance." Harris Goldsmith of the New York Concert Review said, "I can give no higher praise than to say that her excellent performance brought to mind, and was a loving tribute to, the great Nathan Milstein... one of Jenson’s mentors."

Ms. Jenson was made an Honorary Citizen of Costa Rica for her artistic contribution to her mother’s homeland. Dylana Jenson comes from a family with a strong tradition in the arts. Her sister, Vicky Jenson , directed the films ‘Shrek’ and ‘Shark Tale’. Her brother Ivan is a painter and poet. Her daughter, Mariama Lockington, is a Hopwood award winning poet.

In tandem with her solo career Jenson has been busy giving Master Classes and teaching at summer music festivals including as a faculty member at the Interlochen Arts Camp and the Heifetz International Institute. In her teaching she uses the Russian technique taught by Leopold Auer and championed by great artists such as Nathan Milstein, David Oistrakh, Isaac Stern and Jasha Heifetz. This method develops a natural physical relationship to the instrument.

Dylana Jenson started the violin at the age of two and a half with her mother. She then studied with Manual Compinsky, Nathan Milstein and Josef Gingold.