

## **BIOGRAPHY**

**APRIL 2007 - PLEASE DESTROY ANY PREVIOUS MATERIAL**

### **JOJI HATTORI - CONDUCTOR**

[www.jojihattori.com](http://www.jojihattori.com)

**Joji Hattori** has enjoyed a very varied career as a musician, firstly as a concert violinist, an activity which has developed into directing chamber orchestras, conducting symphony orchestras and finally operas. He has been Associate Conductor of the Vienna Chamber Orchestra since 2004 and this year was appointed Principal Resident Conductor of the State Opera House in Erfurt, Germany, where he will conduct three premieres during the coming season.

In addition to his regular engagements in Erfurt and with the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Joji Hattori serves as Music Director of the Tokyo Ensemble, a project-based chamber orchestra he founded in 2001. As guest conductor he regularly works with distinguished orchestras such as the Philharmonia Orchestra London, Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Slovakian Philharmonic or the Yomiuri Symphony Orchestra Japan and collaborates with eminent soloists including Maria Joao Pires, Piotr Anderszewski, Elisabeth Leonskaja and Elena Bashkirova.

He was born in Japan and spent his childhood in Vienna. Influenced by both cultures, Hattori is today one of the very few conductors of Asian heritage who is respected internationally for his interpretation of the Viennese Classics.

He started playing the violin at the age of five and studied at the Vienna Academy of Music. In 1989 he won the International Yehudi Menuhin Violin Competition in England. After a decade of being a violin soloist, he turned to conducting and in 2002 participated at the inaugural Maazel-Vilar Conductor's Competition where he was given a major award. Lorin Maazel enabled him to give his conducting debut at New York's Carnegie Hall and continues to support his career.

His opera debut at the Vienna Kammeroper with Mozart's *La Finta Giardiniera* was praised unanimously by all major newspapers in Vienna and following a successful Japan premiere of Leoncavallo's *Zaza* at the New National Theatre in Tokyo, he was invited to open the Mozart anniversary year with a production of *The Magic Flute* in January 2006 there.

Apart from his performing activities, he has been teaching at the Royal Academy of Music in London and serves as Chairman and Artistic Director of the International Menuhin Competition for Young Violinists.