

Biography

ANDREW SEWELL, conductor

Currently serving his twelfth season as Music Director of the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, Andrew Sewell continues to inspire his audiences with energy, vitality and spirit. Of a recent Schubert 9th performance, the *Wisconsin State Journal 77 Square* critic wrote: "Music Director Andrew Sewell and the orchestra were expressively sure throughout, and the performance was intriguing and rich, giving great life to the curious, exploratory and yet masterful writing that Schubert put into the composition." Andrew Sewell also served for ten seasons as Music Director of the Wichita Symphony concluding in 2010.

Maestro Sewell is in demand as a guest conductor, having led orchestras in North America including the Toronto, Detroit, Milwaukee, Columbus, Syracuse and Monterey Symphony Orchestras, as well as abroad with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony of Mexico, Kyushu Symphony (Japan), Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Christchurch Symphony, and City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong.

A native of New Zealand, Maestro Sewell received his music training on the violin, piano and cornet, and began conducting at age 16. Six years later, he made his professional opera debut with the Mercury Opera and the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra. He was then awarded the Australian Guarantee Corporation's Young Achiever's Award allowing him to further his studies abroad. Sewell holds a Master of Music degree in Conducting from the University of Michigan. His previous appointments include Music Director and Conductor of the Wichita Symphony (Kansas), Mansfield Symphony (Ohio), Resident Conductor of the Toledo Symphony and Assistant Conductor of the Memphis Symphony.

Guest engagements of the 2009-10 season included a two week residency with the Monterey Symphony (CA), his debut at the Peninsula Music Festival (WI), four concerts with the Syracuse Symphony (NY) and his debut at the OK Mozart Festival (Bartlesville, OK). His guest-conducting engagements in 2010-11 included the Salem Chamber

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Orchestra (OR) and his debut with the Green Bay Symphony (WI). In 2011-12, he makes his debut with the Eugene Symphony, returns to the Green Bay Symphony, and will debut with the Illinois Symphony and Chamber Orchestra as a music director finalist.

New Zealand honored Sewell in 1997 as the first recipient of the Aotea Performing Arts Trust's "Star" Award, for which he spent time conducting in Finland and England. Maestro Sewell resides in Madison with his wife, Mary and their son Alistair, the last of three children, still in high school.

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