PETER EÖTVÖS
BIOGRAPHY

Peter Eötvös’s music is featured regularly in programs of orchestras, contemporary music ensembles, and festivals worldwide. As a composer/conductor he has led projects focusing on his work in cities such as Paris, London, Amsterdam, Berlin, and Vienna. His most recent operas, Die Tragödie des Teufels, Love and Other Demons, Lady Sarashina, and Angels in America follow the lead of his Three Sisters, which was awarded France’s Prix Claude-Rostand, Grand Prix de la Critique (1998), and Victoires de la Musique Classique and du Jazz (1999). Several major music theater commissions are due in the next few years. His violin concerto, SEVEN, was awarded the Prix de Composition Musicale from the Fondation Prince Pierre de Monaco in 2008. Among his numerous other honors are the Pro Europa Prize for Composition (2004); Hungary’s Bartók-Pásztory Prize (1997) and Hungarian Arts Prize (2006); France’s Commandeur de l’Ordre des l’Arts et des Lettres (2003) and Cannes Classical Award for Living Composer (2004); Germany’s Frankfurter Musikpreis (2007) and Christoph and Stephan Kaske Preis (2000); the U.K.’s Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award (2002); and Italy’s Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement (2011).

Born in Transylvania, Mr. Eötvös received diplomas from Budapest Academy of Music (composition) and Hochschule für Musik in Cologne (conducting). Between 1968 and 1976 he performed regularly with the Stockhausen Ensemble, and from 1971 to 1979 he collaborated with the electronic music studio of the Westdeutscher Rundfunk in Cologne. In 1978, at the invitation of Pierre Boulez, he conducted the inaugural concert of IRCAM in Paris, and was subsequently named music director of the Ensemble InterContemporain, a post he held until 1991. That same year he founded the International Eötvös Institute and Foundation, and in 2004, the Eötvös Contemporary Music Foundation in Budapest for young conductors and composers.