

STEPHEN STUBBS Biography

Stephen Stubbs, who won the **GRAMMY Award** as conductor for Best Opera Recording 2015, spent a 30-year career in Europe. He returned to his native Seattle in 2006 as one of the world's most respected lutenists, conductors, and baroque opera specialists and in 2014 was awarded the Mayor's Arts Award for '**Raising the Bar**' in Seattle.

Before his return, he was based in Bremen, Germany, where he was Professor at the *Hochschule für Künste*.

In 2007 Stephen established his new production company, **Pacific MusicWorks**, based in Seattle, reflecting his lifelong interest in both early music and contemporary performance. The company's inaugural presentation was a production of South African artist William Kentridge's acclaimed multimedia staging of Claudio Monteverdi's opera *The Return of Ulysses* in a co-production with the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. PMW's performances of the Monteverdi *Vespers* were described in the press as "*utterly thrilling*" and "*of a quality you are unlikely to encounter anywhere else in the world*".

Stephen is also the **Boston Early Music Festival's** permanent artistic co-director along with his long time colleague Paul O'Dette. Stephen and Paul are also the musical directors of all BEMF operas, recordings of which were nominated for three GRAMMY awards, and won the **GRAMMY for Best Opera Recording 2015**.

In addition to his ongoing commitments to PMW and BEMF, other recent appearances have included Handels' *Giulio Cesare* and Gluck's *Orfeo* in Bilbao, Mozart's *Magic Flute* and *Così fan Tutte* for the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival and Handel's *Agrippina* for Opera Omaha. In recent years he has conducted Handel's *Messiah* with the Seattle, Edmonton and Birmingham Symphony orchestras.

His extensive discography as conductor and solo lutenist include well over 100 CDs, which can be viewed at stephenstubbs.com, many of which have received international acclaim and awards.

In 2013, Stephen was appointed **Senior Artist in Residence** at the **University of Washington School of Music**. His first major production there was Handel's *Semele* in May 2014 followed by Mozart's *Magic Flute* in 2015.

Stephen is represented by Schwalbe and Partners (schwalbeandpartners.com).