



www.michelle-merrill.com



Michelle Merrill has been inspiring audiences throughout the country with her sharply detailed and vibrant performances. A passionate and dynamic artist, she served four years as the Associate Conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, where she also carried the title of Phillip and Lauren Fisher Community Ambassador. Currently, in addition to her growing guest conducting schedule, Ms. Merrill also serves as Music Director of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia where she has ignited the growth and expansion of the orchestra's offerings both on and off the stage.

Ms. Merrill's most recent and upcoming engagements include the Orchestre National d'Île-de-France, National Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Opera, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Toledo Symphony Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, West Virginia Symphony, Symphoria (Syracuse), Princeton Symphony Orchestra, and Round Top

Music Festival Institute. In past seasons, she has conducted concerts with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Jacksonville Symphony, Oklahoma City Philharmonic, Louisiana Philharmonic, Orlando Philharmonic, Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera, Boise Philharmonic, New Music Detroit, and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, where she formerly served as Assistant Conductor.

During her four year tenure as the Associate Conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, she helped plan a wide variety of concerts each season, including the renowned educational webcasts, which have reached over 100,000 students to date in classrooms throughout the nation. Merrill also gave pre-concert lectures, led adult music education seminars, engaged with students in and around Metro Detroit, spoke on behalf of the DSO throughout the community, and participated in hosting Live from Orchestra Hall, the DSO's free concert webcast that launched in 2011 and is now watched in more than 100 countries.

A strong advocate of new music, Ms. Merrill recently conducted three Joan Tower works at the Round Top Music Festival Institute in celebration of the composer's 80th birthday. In June 2015, she made her debut at the St. Augustine Music Festival conducting the world-premiere performance of Piotr Szewczyk's St. Augustine Suite which was written in honor of that city's 450th anniversary. The highly praised performance was later featured nationwide on NPR's Performance Today.

Michelle Merrill is a proud recipient of a 2016 Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award as well as the prestigious 2013 Ansbacher Conducting Fellowship as awarded by members of the Vienna Philharmonic and the American Austrian Foundation, which enabled her to be in residence at the world-renowned Salzburg Festival.

Born in Dallas, TX, Ms. Merrill studied conducting with Dr. Paul C. Phillips at Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts, where she holds a Master of Music Degree in conducting and a Bachelor of Music in performance. Apart from music, she loves cooking, running, hiking, and spending time with her husband, Steve Merrill, who serves as the principal percussionist of the Jacksonville Symphony, and their toddler son, Davis.

Michelle Merrill

November 16, 2019