

Biography

Michael Christie became the Virginia G. Piper Music Director of the [Phoenix Symphony](#) in August 2005 and was Music Director of the Brooklyn Philharmonic from September 2005 to 2010. With his orchestras, he has embarked on a series of ambitious projects focusing on interdisciplinary collaborations with visual artists, dance companies, and theater groups, as well as contemporary composers such as Gorecki, Ligeti, Adams, Golijov, and Tan Dun. He was recently appointed Music Director of the [Minnesota Opera](#), a new strategic role for the company. In his role, he is charged with enhancing the company's artistic product through his work with the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, as well as providing leadership by conducting a majority of each season's operas, beginning in September 2012.

Michael Christie is also Music Director of the [Colorado Music Festival](#) in Boulder, where he has been highly praised for his innovative programming and audiences have grown each summer for 12 years, resulting in him being named "Musician of the Year" by the *Denver Post* in 2010.

Christie has conducted orchestras around the world over his 16-year career and has developed an excellent reputation as an opera conductor. Extraordinary critical response has surrounded his [Opera Theatre of St. Louis](#) productions of John Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles* and John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer* and his Minnesota Opera productions of Verdi's *La traviata*, Bernard Herrmann's *Wuthering Heights*, Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, and the world premiere of Kevin Puts' *Silent Night*, which was awarded the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Music.

Coming operatic work includes the North American premiere of Unsuk Chin's *Alice in Wonderland* at the Opera Theatre of St. Louis. He will also conduct the world premiere of Mark Adamo's *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene* at [San Francisco Opera](#).

"Michael Christie is a director open to adventure and challenge...his programming is fresh and adventurous, and he has made himself as accessible as can be."

~*The New York Times*