Juan Pablo Izquierdo conductor

Juan Pablo Izquierdo was born in Santiago de Chile. After graduating in Composition at the University of Chile he became a pupil of Hermann Scherchen with whom he studied for three years in Gravesano, Switzerland.

In 1961 he became Director of the Music Department at the Catholic University of Santiago where he organized and conducted concert and opera series dedicated to the classical and contemporary music. For this work he was given in 1962 the National Critics Award. Since then he appears as conductor with the National Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras of Chile.

In 1966 he was awarded the First Prize in the Dimitri Mitropoulos International Competition for Conductors and became Leonard Berntein's Assistant Conductor at the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. During 1967-70 he was Resident Conductor for Opera and Concerts at Indiana University.

His first European appearance was in Holland with the Residence Orchestra in 1969, and since then he has been active as an international conductor. In 1976-77 he was Chief Conductor of the Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon. Since 1974 he has been the Conductor of the Testimonium Festival in Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem. In 1976 he received the performance award of the Israel Council for Culture and the Arts.

Presently Mr. Izquierdo divides his work as Principal Conductor of the Santiago Philharmonic Orchestra with extended guest conducting appearances with major European Orchestras.

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