



## DR. THOMAS HEUSER, CONDUCTOR

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Widely recognized for his stirring leadership and energetic presence both onstage and in the community, conductor Thomas Heuser has established himself as a sought-after and highly effective Music Director of the highest caliber. He has served 10 seasons as Music Director of

the San Juan Symphony in the distinct Four Corners Region, and was named Conductor Laureate of the Idaho Falls Symphony after a transformative 15-season tenure. Renowned as an educator and frequent collaborator, Heuser continually inspires musicians and audiences with his captivating stage presence and thrilling interpretations.

Recent collaborations include *The Chevalier* with the Winston-Salem Symphony, plus the World Premiere of the groundbreaking new multimedia concert, *What Music Is*, with Concert Theatre Works and composer Bill Barclay. Heuser has appeared as a Guest Conductor with the Grand Teton Music Festival, and Durango's Music in the Mountains Festival Orchestra. Subscription concert credits include the Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, the Lexington Philharmonic, the Boise Baroque Orchestra, and the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, as well as the Illinois, Wyoming, Bozeman, Missoula, Vallejo, and Grand Junction Symphony Orchestras, among many others.

Dr. Heuser was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for Orchestral Conducting in Germany while serving as a Conducting Fellow with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. His Fulbright residency at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater München included orchestral performances in Munich and Berlin, and his European operatic debut with Jeunesses Musicales Deutschland. Moving from Munich to San Francisco, Thomas enjoyed three seasons as the Principal Guest Conductor of the San Francisco Academy Orchestra, working alongside members of the San Francisco Symphony.

The son of two molecular biologists at Washington University in St. Louis, Thomas began violin at an early age and studied piano at the St. Louis Symphony Music School. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College, studying piano performance with Blanca Uribe, and earned his Masters in Instrumental Conducting (MM) from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he sang professionally with the Pro Arte Singers under John Poole. Heuser completed his Doctorate in Orchestral Conducting (DMA) from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). His primary conducting mentors include Paavo Järvi, Bruno Weil, David Effron, Mark Gibson, Marin Alsop, David Robertson, Gustav Meier, and Larry Rachleff.