

Meet the Maestro

Lonnie Klein, Conductor



In addition to an extensive regular concert season with the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra, Lonnie Klein has guest conducted regularly with orchestras in Mexico, Canada, Italy, Germany, Turkey, Colombia (South America) as well as with orchestras in the United States.

Last season (2010), Klein guest conducted the Northwest Deutsch Philharmonie in Bunde and Herford Germany. He returned to Europe in May for concerts in Bergamo and Rovereto Italy with the Orchestra Sinfonica Italiana. In the states, Klein guest conducted the Traverse Symphony (Michigan) and the Springfield Symphony (Massachusetts). In June 2009, Klein conducted the Baden-Baden Philharmonie (Germany) at the International Toledo Festival in Spain and in the fall of 2008, Klein made his debut with the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra (Albuquerque) on their second POPS concert series.

In the summer of 2008, Klein made his South American debut with the Orquesta Filarmonica del Valle del Cauca in Cali, Colombia. Also in 2007, Klein guest conducted on two occasions the Orquesta Filarmonica del Estado de Chihuahua in Mexico, the Europa Philharmonie in Germany and the Orchestra Sinfonica Della Provincia in Italy. Other European concerts include conducting the Milano Classico Orchestra on two separate occasions in Milan and Las Spezia and the Solisti di Perugia Orchestra in the Piazza Novembre in a concert entitled "A Night Under the Stars" in which over 12,000 people were in attendance. In May 2004 and March, 2005, Klein conducted

concerts in Adana, Turkey with the Cukurova Devlet Senfona Orkestra which were broadcast live on Turkish television.

As a Pops conductor, he has produced and conducted concerts with such celebrated artists as Doc Severinsen, Mariachi Cobre, The Temptations, The Contours, The Dukes of Dixieland, 5 By Design, The Beatles, Sandi Patti, Lee Greenwood, Daniel Rodriquez, "Simply Sinatra" with Steve Lippia, Tony Award winner Debbie Gravitte and Broadway stars Anne Runolfsson and Doug LaBrecque.

Lonnie Klein is committed to performing music of our time. Since his appointment, the LCSO has given world premieres of new music especially commissioned for the orchestra. Noted composers include Peter Inness (Scotland), Reinhard Seehafer (Germany), Oliver Payan (Mexico), Steve Chatman (Canada) and American composers Joan Tower, Bill McGlaughlin and Joseph Schwanter. In 2005 and 2007, the LCSO was featured on National Public Radio's Performance Today, which was heard in all 50 states and on Sirius Radio. In June 2006, Klein was invited by Joan Tower to discuss the LCSO performances of her new work Made in America at the American Symphony Orchestra Leagues annual conference in Los Angeles.

From his inaugural concert with the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra at New Mexico State University in October 1999, Music Director Lonnie Klein has led the orchestra to new levels of artistic excellence, with high audience acclaim, rave reviews and ten consecutive sold-out seasons. Joseph Schwantner, noted American composer, said, "Lonnie's industry and energy knows no bounds and he has propelled the orchestra into an ensemble that possesses great musical integrity and an ability to engage new and challenging music in a manner that is truly exceptional."

Klein's spirited vision includes a deep commitment to education and community. Under his leadership and guidance, the LCSO has expanded its outreach programs for young and old. He has featured educational outreach troupes such as Tales and Scales, Dan Kamen Comedy Tours and Lynn Dillies' "Magic at the Symphony." More than 15,000 area children will benefit from in-school programming and opportunities to experience the orchestra in concert. For those wanting to deepen their experience of music, Klein offers a series of pre-performance lectures to the public prior to every Classics Series concert.

Lonnie Klein holds a Doctorate in Performance from the University of Illinois, a Master of Music from Michigan State University, and a Bachelor's from Murray State University.

Lonnie Klein is represented exclusively by Alexander Djinov, President, Virtuoso Artists Management.