

SIMONE MENEZES - BIOGRAPHY - 2024

Italian-Brazilian conductor Simone Menezes is a visionary musician renowned for her creativity and innovative spirit, whether as founder and artistic director of Ensemble K, or as guest conductor with the world's leading orchestras. Simone Menezes has conducted orchestras such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Zurich Philharmonia, London Philharmonia, Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Orchestra Santa Cecilia, the Britten Sinfonia, São Paulo Orchestra, Spanish National Orchestra, Osaka Symphony Orchestra, as well as at the Philharmonie de Paris. She has recorded three albums and premiered over 20 works. She has curated various themed projects, including the celebrated *Amazonia*: a collaboration between Simone and the great Brazilian photographer Sebastião Salgado, highlighting the ever-changing landscapes of the Amazon rainforest and released in September 2023, was performed with more than 10 orchestras all around the world.

Simone Menezes, mentored by Paavo Järvi, studied in Brazil, London and Paris. She started her career as principal conductor of the Brazilian Unicamp Orchestra, she was the second woman to obtain this position in the country. She also closely works with composers like Thomas Ades, Philippe Hersant, Sophie Lacaze and Lera Auerbach. In 2020, she launched her new orchestra, Ensemble K, a flexible ensemble specialising in twentieth-century chamber repertoire.