



## Vladimir Altschuler

The conductor of the Academic Symphony Orchestra of the St.Petersburg Philharmonia (known in the UK as the St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra), Honoured Artist of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Altschuler joined the orchestra in 1969 as a viola player, one year before graduating from the Leningrad Conservatory (class of Yuri Kramarov, viola). In 1972 he created the Philharmonic String Orchestra and in 1982 became the leader of the viola section. At the same time, he began to study conducting and entered the department of opera and symphony conducting at the Leningrad Conservatory under professor Alexander Dmitriev, the chief conductor of the Academic Symphony Orchestra. In 1984 Vladimir Altschuler made his conducting debut. The same year he became an assistant conductor of the Academic Symphony orchestra.

Since 1994, Altschuler has held the post of conductor of the Academic Symphony Orchestra. With the orchestra he has premiered all the symphonies by Bruckner, Händel's oratorio "Saul", "Orpheus" by Monteverdi (an authentic version) in Russia. Maestro Altschuler has a particular interest in the music of the 20th century and as a result conducted the St Petersburg premiere of "Child of our Time" by Tippett and "Bernauerin", the musical drama by Carl Orff. He also conducted the premières of the music by G. Ustvolskaya, Y. Falik, V. Basner and other St.Petersburg, Russian and foreign composers. The conductor actively tours in Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Turkey, Croatia, Macedonia, the Baltic countries and the Republic of Korea.

Vladimir Altschuler also has a keen interest in scientific research with his PhD art history dissertation dedicated to the history, theory and practice of conducting.

He is the associate professor of the State St. Petersburg Conservatory and the professor of the St.Petersburg University of Culture and Art. But the collaboration with the St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra is the most important part of the Altschuler's professional activity. In the Season 2014/15 the conductor will perform such masterpieces as Beethoven's Symphony No 5, Schubert's Symphony No 7, Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde and Orff's Carmina Burana. The season also includes a concert featuring works by Tchaikovsky & Dvořák and the New Year's Eve concert. His traditionally versatile programme includes works by Brahms, Sibelius, Rimsky-Korsakov, Prokofiev, Basner, Pleshak and Izosimov.

On May 2014 Vladimir Altschuler received the Order of Friendship.