TRAN VUONG THACH - Conductor

Tran Vuong Thach was born in Saigon, Vietnam. He started his musical studies at the age of 10 on the violin. In 1984 he graduated from Ho Chi Minh City Conservatory of Music and began his teaching career there at the Department of Symphonic Instruments. From 1986 to 1990 Thach played violin in the Conservatory Chamber Orchestra. As a conducting student assistant of Professor Quang Hai, he also orchestrated for and conducted rehearsals of the orchestra.

From 1990 to 1996 Thach studied at the Royal Conservatory of Liège (Belgium) and the Conservatory of Maastricht (The Netherlands) under the guidance of Professors D. Gazon, J. Stulen, G. List, H. Pousseur, F. Rzewski, J.P. Rieu, and P. Eotvos. During this period of time, he also served as the principal conductor of the Jean-Noel Hamal Youth Orchestra in Liège, giving concerts in Bruxelles, Huy, Malmedy, Maastrich, among others and toured with the orchestra to Germany, Italy, Spain, Scotland, and the Netherlands. He took part in the Competition for Young Conductors in the City of Besancon (France).

Since 1996 Thach is principal conductor of the HBSO Symphony Orchestra in Ho Chi Minh City. He has conducted all major symphony orchestras of Vietnam and presented concerts in all major cities of Vietnam. In 2008 he was invited to perform with Nis Symphony Orchestra in Serbia, New Prime Symphony Orchestra in Pusan, South Korea, and Vietnam National Symphony Orchestra. In 2008 and 2014, he led HBSO in the Asian Orchestra Week in Tokyo – Japan. In 2015, he won "Best Conductor Award" in the National Competition for Vocal, Dance and Music in Ba Ria City.

A prolific orchestrator and composer, he has orchestrated and composed scores for televisions and recording labels including Ho Chi Minh City Television, Vietnam National Television, Ben Thanh Audio, Saigon Audio, among others and produced programs for Bong Sen Traditional Music and Dance Company, Hoa Binh Theatre, Tran Huu Trang Traditional Musical Theatre Company, and the Military Arts Troupe. Among his major works as a film and theatrical composer are the original soundtrack for the movie "Southern Land" (1997), the theme song for TV drama "Gem of Con Son" (1998), and the music for traditional musical theatre "Kim Van Kieu (2006) and "The Swan Cape" (2007).

Tran Vuong Thach is currently Director of Ho Chi Minh Ballet Symphony Orchestra and Ballet. He also teaches Ensembles and Instrumentation at the Ho Chi Minh City Conservatory of Music. Maestro Thach gained the state recognition of Meritorious Artist in 2007.