



### Mena Mark Hanna

#### *General Director*

Mena Mark Hanna is the General Director of Spoleto Festival USA, where he oversees all aspects of the 17-day performing arts festival. Previously, Hanna served as the Founding Dean and Professor of Musicology and Composition at the Barenboim-Said Akademie. As Dean, Hanna oversaw the strategic and operational management of the Akademie's artistic and academic initiatives in coordination with Daniel Barenboim, including implementing a comprehensive music and humanities curriculum; artistic planning and curation of Akademie concerts, festivals, and events; and building a world-class teaching faculty.

Prior to his role in Berlin, Hanna was the assistant artistic director and dramaturg at Houston Grand Opera, where he served on senior management as the main artistic planning partner with Artistic and Music Director Patrick Summers; supervised the development of new opera commissions; researched and developed new opera productions; and led all main-stage educational initiatives.

Hanna publishes lectures on topics ranging from Coptic chant to post-colonial readings of music performance traditions, pedagogy, and canon, and his compositions have premiered at MaerzMusik, Fondation Royaumont, and ISCM World Music Days. Hanna is creator and curator of the Edward W. Said Days, serves as Trustee of Gingko Library in London, and is on the advisory boards of the Mahler Foundation and the Time In Children's Arts Initiative in New York.

Hanna received a Bachelor of Music in Music Composition from the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University and was the recipient of Temple University's inaugural Honors Distinguished Alumni Award. He earned his master's degree in musicology and a D.Phil. in Music Composition and Critical Writing as an Oxford University Marshall Scholar. He was appointed Spoleto Festival USA's General Director in 2022.