

In September 2010, Jacques Lacombe succeeded Neeme Järvi as Music Director of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra ; he is also artistic director of the Trois-Rivières Symphony Orchestra in Canada.

Born in Cap-de-la-Madeleine, Quebec, Jacques Lacombe received his musical training at the Conservatoire de Musique in Montreal and at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna.

After starting his career as Charles Dutoit's assistant at the Montreal Symphony Orchestra , he has worked on an international scale with some of the most prestigious opera companies, symphony orchestras and ballet companies.

Between July 2002 and June 2006, Jacques Lacombe was Principal Guest Conductor of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and conducted over 75 concerts of diverse repertoire.

He is a regular guest conductor for Canada's principal orchestras ; in 2010, he conducted his fourth Canadian tour of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

Jacques Lacombe is also Guest Conductor for the Austin Symphony Orchestra (Texas), the Honolulu Symphony and the Saint-Louis Symphony (Missouri).

In Europe, he completed a three-year appointment between 1998 and 2001 as Music Director for the Philharmonie de Lorraine in Metz-France. He was also "chef associé", for the 2005-2006 season with the Orchestre Lyrique Régional Alpes Provence in Avignon. In addition, Jacques Lacombe was invited to conduct Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre Lamoureux, Halle Symphonic Orchestra, Slovakia Philharmonic, the Budapest Symphony and the Royal Flanders Philharmonic Orchestra.

In the operatic field, these past few seasons have brought Jacques Lacombe to the most renowned stages: In January 2004, he made his Metropolitan Opera debut in Massenet's *Werther* with Roberto Alagna and Vesselina Kassarova and was immediately invited back for *Die Fledermaus*. In America , he is regularly invited by the Operas companies of Philadelphia, Minnesota, Milwaukee, Montreal and Vancouver where he just conducted the world Premiere of *Lillian Alling*, from John Estacio.

In Europe, his recent engagements include *Cavalleria Rusticana-Oedipus Rex* for his debut with Teatro Regio di Torino, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *Der Traumgöрге* de Zemlinsky, *Der fliegende Holländer*, *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Robert Carsen production), *Oberst Chabert* from Waltershausen & *Eugène Onéguine* at the Berlin Deutsche Oper, *Colombe* by Jean Michel Damase and *Marius et Fanny* by Vladimir Cosma with Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorghiu with the Opéra de Marseille, *Faust* with the Karlsruhe Badisches Staattheater, *Hérodiade & Les Huguenots* with Opéra Royal de Wallonie, *Jenufa*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Turandot & Les Contes d'Hoffmann* at the Monte Carlo Opera, several productions with the operas companies of Avignon, Toulon, Metz. More recently (2009), he made his debut at the Royal Opera House of Covent Garden in *Tosca* (Gheorghiu, Giordani, Terfel) and at the Bayerische Staatsoper de Munich where he conducted *Ariadne auf Naxos*

For 12 seasons, Jacques Lacombe was Music Director of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and he has also been regularly invited by the Royal Ballet of Covent Garden including a tour in Australia in 2002.

Among his main projects : *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Ballo in Maschera* at the Berlin Deutsche Oper, *Le Cid* with Roberto Alagna and Beatrice Uria Monzon at the Opéra de Marseille, *Romeo et Juliette* with Philadelphia Opera, *La Traviata* at Vancouver Opera, concerts as Music Director of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, with Trois-Rivières Symphony Orchestra and will the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra in Spain.