

## Dresdner Philharmonie

Press Release  
Dresden/ 24 April 2024

### ***Up close* - The Dresden Philharmonic presents its 2024/25 season**

**Frauke Roth**, Artistic Director Dresden Philharmonic:

"Up close! Closer to the orchestra, to the music, to our sound - and vice versa, closer to the audience, to the city, to the issues that concern us all.

The motto of our new concert season combines our goal of being the best hosts in Dresden with the conviction that the quality of the Dresden Philharmonic has many facets.

Artistic excellence is combined with the best conductors on the podium, the expertise of our musicians and the outstanding reputation of the guests we invite to perform with us.

First and foremost is Sir Donald Runnicles, who will be leading some remarkable programmes as Chief Conductor designate. Kahchun Wong will characterise the orchestra for another season as Principal Guest Conductor.

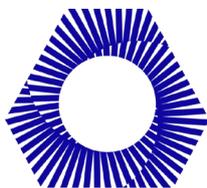
We have Marek Janowski and Kent Nagano on the podium as well as the outstanding conductors Tabita Berglund, Dalja Stasevska and Anna Rakitina.

Augustin Hadelich has joined us as Artist in Residence, and Olivier Latry returns as Palace Organist.

We are expanding our partnerships with Prague and Wrocław by giving concerts at the Dvořák Festival Prague, the Smetana Festival and the Wrocław New Music Forum and inviting Polish ensembles to the concert hall in Dresden. The Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra is touring Asia with Marek Janowski, and I am also delighted that the Philharmonic Children's Choir will be returning to China.

For us, excellence also means being attractive to new audiences. We are already achieving this with our abgeFRACKt concerts. In the coming season, we will be adding "Best of Klassik", a series of short concerts with masterpieces of classical music and short presentations. And an absolute novelty in our field is the digital concert finder, which allows you to 'date' concerts that best suit your preferences.

Both excellence and approachability, the highest quality standards and openness to our audience cannot be achieved in a vacuum. On the contrary, the social developments in our country, the crises and wars elsewhere make us realise, especially in this election year, how fragile our cohesion is. That's why I see what we do as an invitation to embrace the new, to accept the familiar and the unfamiliar in equal measure and to live democratic values in a very concrete way."



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**Annekatriin Klepsch**, Mayor of Culture, Science and Tourism of the state capital Dresden:

"I am looking forward to the 2024/2025 concert season of the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, which, as the orchestra of the state capital Dresden, will set new musical accents with the designated chief conductor Sir Donald Runnicles and will also accompany the Dresden 2025 commemorative year with concerts in a special way. The Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra is therefore one of the most important international representatives of our city. It is also an ambassador for the city and region as well as a place for cultural and artistic encounters."

### **Chief Conductor Designate: Sir Donald Runnicles**

Sir Donald Runnicles will lead the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra as chief conductor from the 2025/2026 season. He is already expected to present three programmes in the coming season: He will open the season with Mahler's Fifth Symphony (31 Aug/1 Sep), conduct Beethoven's "Eroica" in the New Year's Eve concert and Benjamin Britten's "War Requiem" (13 Feb) to mark the 80th anniversary of the bombing of Dresden.

### **Principal Guest Conductor: Kahchun Wong**

In the 24/25 season, the Dresden Philharmonic will continue its collaboration with Kahchun Wong as Principal Guest Conductor. Dresden audiences can look forward to three programmes with him, in which he will conduct Antonín Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 "From the New World" (18 Oct), organ works by Franz Liszt in arrangements by Marcel Dupré, Peter Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony (23/24 Nov) and Igor Stravinsky's "Firebird" in combination with works by Akira Ifukube and Tan Dun (7/8 Jun).

### **Artist in Residence: Augustin Hadelich**

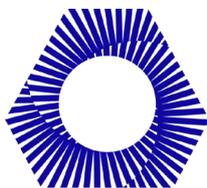
The music world unanimously agrees that violinist Augustin Hadelich is one of the world's best. The audience at the Kulturpalast has already experienced this several times. As Artist in Residence for the 2024/25 concert season, he will introduce himself to Dresden audiences with the violin concertos by Peter Tchaikovsky (25/26 Dec) and Benjamin Britten (13/15 Jun). He proves that he is also an excellent chamber musician in a duo evening with his fellow artist and friend Francesco Piemontesi (9 Feb).

### **Composer in Residence: Pascal Dusapin**

This season, Pascal Dusapin, a composer who is also referred to as the "French Wolfgang Rihm", takes centre stage. Not only because he is similarly successful, but also because he is just as versatile as his German artistic colleague. Under the direction of Kent Nagano, the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra will perform the world premiere of an important part of his planned Opératorio "Antigone" (soloist: Christel Loetzsch, 29/30 Nov). The programme also includes "Khôra", a work for string orchestra (20 Apr); chamber music works are also planned.

### **Palace organist: Olivier Latry**

Olivier Latry already made a name for himself in the hearts of the Dresden organ audience with his first residency in 2017/18. Back then, he helped inaugurate the Eule concert hall organ and gave his first concerts on it. In the seasons that followed, he returned regularly with great success. Now the titular organist of Notre-Dame in Paris can once again be experienced as the "palace organist" at the Kulturpalast. Alongside Emmanuel Pahud, he will perform works for organ and organ/flute by French composers (4 Sep), arrangements of organ pieces by Franz Liszt with



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orchestra (23/24 Nov), the traditional organ concert on New Year's Eve (31 Dec) and a programme for organ four hands together with his wife Shin-Young Lee (21 May).

### **Our Guests**

Kent Nagano, Dima Slobodeniouk, Vasily Petrenko, Krzysztof Urbanski, Andrew Manze, Michael Sanderling, Cristian Măcelaru and others will return to the podium of the Dresden Philharmonic, Jonathan Nott, Markus Poschner, Nicholas Collon and Kerem Hasan. We are delighted to welcome Tabita Berglund, Dalja Stasevska and Anna Rakitina, three highly talented conductors. Marek Janowski will also be a guest again: he will be touring Asia with the orchestra and conducting two concert performances of Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde". Maxim Emelyanychev, Adam Hickox, Giuseppe Mengoli and Václav Luks will be conducting the Dresden Philharmonic for the first time. We will be supporting up-and-coming conductors when the three finalists of the last round of the "Campus Conducting" university competition present themselves in a short concert.

Augustin Hadelich leads the line-up of outstanding soloists as Artist in Residence. Leila Josefowicz and Josef Špaček will also be performing violin concertos. The pianists Kirill Gerstein, Martin Helmchen, Lucas and Arthur Jussen, Anna Vinnitskaya and Lukáš Vondráček should also be mentioned. Emmanuel Pahud will be a guest again, and we have invited a number of outstanding singers for various programmes, above all Stuart Skelton (Tristan) and Anja Kampe (Isolde).

### **Outstanding, Memorable and New**

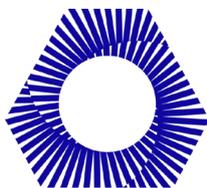
Several projects stand out from the broad programme: Britten's "War Requiem" will be performed on the **80th anniversary** of the **destruction of Dresden** on 13 Feb 1945, with Sir Donald Runnicles conducting the memorial concert. We will commemorate the **80th anniversary of the end of the war** with a joint concert with the Dresdner Kreuzchor and works by Mozart and Pärt (May) as well as works by Gorécki and Weinberg in two programmes on 8 May, the day of remembrance, in which we will share ideas with the Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra. To mark **35 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall**, Andrew Manze conducts Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (9/10 Nov).

The new season has a **piano focus**: Anna Vinnitskaya will play all of Sergei Rachmaninov's piano concertos and his Paganini Variations in one weekend (2/3 Nov). In cooperation with "DK Deutsche Klassik", Jan Lisiecki will be a guest with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields (29 Jan), the brothers Lucas and Arthur Jussen will perform Mendelssohn Bartholdy's Concerto for Two Pianos in E major (8 Feb), and Artist in Residence Augustin Hadelich has invited his fellow artist Francesco Piemontesi for a recital (9 Feb) - to name just a few of the highlights.

The series of concert opera performances continues: **Marek Janowski** conducts two performances of Wagner's "**Tristan und Isolde**" with Stuart Skelton as Tristan and Anja Kampe as Isolde, as well as other outstanding soloists (9/15 Mar).

An excellent cast of baroque singers has been invited to perform a **Handel** programme under the direction of Hans-Christoph Rademann (3 May).

With palace organist **Olivier Latry** and the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, the first CD production on the Eule organ is created in the concert hall.



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In addition to the traditional performances of the Christmas Oratorio with the Dresden Kreuzchor, a "**Christmas Oratorio for Children**" will be performed for the first time, also with the Kreuzchor, which uses new texts to bring the content of the work closer in a contemporary way.

### **Tours**

In September, the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra will be travelling to Asia with its former chief conductor Marek Janowski, giving concerts in Shanghai and Beijing, among other places. The partnerships with our Central Eastern European partners are being expanded through reciprocal invitations. For example, the Dresden Philharmonic will give a concert with Michael Sanderling at the Dvořák Festival in Prague (Sep 2024) and will perform with Maxim Emelyanychev at the Smetana Festival in Litomyšl (Jun 2025). The orchestra has also been invited back to its twin city of Wrocław, where it will perform with Krzysztof Urbanski (May 2025). The tradition of travelling together with the Dresdner Kreuzchor will continue with guest performances in Munich and Hamburg (May 2025).

### **Guest choirs and guest orchestras**

The Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra accepts the invitation of the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra to give a concert at the Kulturpalast under the direction of Ingo Metzmacher (26 Aug). The partnerships with the Prague Philharmonic Choir (Prague, Dvořák: Requiem, Michael Sanderling) and the NFM Wrocław Philharmonic will be expanded. The collaboration with the Dresdner Kammerchor (Handel project, MAI) and the Dresdner Kreuzchor (Brahms Requiem, Christmas Oratorio, Christmas Oratorio for Children, St John Passion, joint concerts, and tour) will also continue.

### **abgeFRACKt and Best of Klassik: the short concert series**

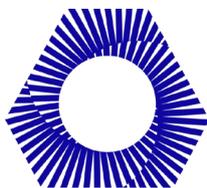
The short concerts in our abgeFRACKt series have become a magnet, especially for new audiences. We are continuing them and offering a further series of short concerts to anyone who would like to delve further into the world of classical music: Best of Klassik. The programme includes masterpieces that are presented on stage. Afterwards, the audience will have the opportunity to meet the conductor in a relaxed atmosphere in the café area on the 1st floor (moderator: Malte Arkona).

### **The concert finder**

Our short concerts arouse curiosity, and many visitors would like to come to other concerts as well, but don't quite know which one to choose. That's why we're offering a new tool on our website from the start of the season: the concert finder. It works like a little personality test that you can use to find out what type of concertgoer you are: curious, adventurous, more intellectual or bon vivant. For each type, there are then specific concert recommendations with a direct link to the ticket. The tool is an absolute novelty for orchestras and concert halls.

### **School concerts, family programmes & more**

Fully booked school concerts, popular family programmes, rehearsal visits and the Philharmonic Children's Choir's work - the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra now reaches over 41,000 young and very young people with its music every year, and the trend is rising (before Covid: 24,000). The orchestra is building on this with a wide range of activities, including special projects such as the Christmas Oratorio for Children as a school concert (together with the Dresdner Kreuzchor,



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13 Dec). The proven partnership with the orchestra of the Heinrich Schütz Conservatory continues with the "Flying Classroom", a musical journey based on Erich Kästner (15th Dec).

### **Chamber Concerts**

Artist in Residence Augustin Hadelich presents himself to Dresden audiences in a recital together with Francesco Piemontesi, and in the coming season we will also give the Philharmonic's chamber ensembles the opportunity to present themselves in the concert hall. Among the highlights of the ten concerts are the programme by the Collenbusch Quartet with works by Shostakovich and Smetana (15 Jun) and the Advent concert by KultBlechDresden, the brass ensemble of the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra (18 Dec).

### **Organ concerts at the Kulturpalast**

Organ and orchestra, organ with flute, solo organ and organ for four hands - in addition to its soloist role in the concerts of the Dresden Organ Cycle, the Eule organ will once again prove to be a partner in the concert hall in the coming season. And for the first time, a CD will be produced with it: Palace organist Olivier Latry will record works by Franz Liszt and Marcel Dupré as a soloist and together with the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra.

Olivier Latry can also be heard in an organ concert on New Year's Eve (31 Dec), in a duo evening with Emmanuel Pahud (4 Sep) and together with his wife Shin-Young Lee with works for organ for four hands (21 May).

Thomas Ospital (Paris) and Sebastian Freitag (Dresden) have been invited for further concerts as part of the Dresden organ cycle.

### **Film & live music**

Concerts that appeal to lovers of film music are a firm pillar of our programme. We are continuing our series with "Star Wars" ("The Return of the Jedi" 24/25 Jan) and once again have an evening with silent film and live music, this time we are showing "Modern Times" by and with Charlie Chaplin (13 Mar). And "Legends", our concerts with film music highlights at the Film Nights on the Elbe, have almost become a tradition, where there will once again be a programme for adults and one for children (28/29 Jun).

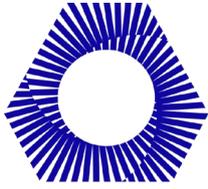
### **Philharmonic Choirs**

The Dresden Philharmonic Children's Choir starts the season with a programme that it will take on tour in China after a family concert in Dresden (29 Sep). There it will perform in Zhuhai, Hangzhou, and Beijing (4-15 Oct). Of course, it will once again be performing its traditional Christmas concert "Sind die Lichter angezündet" (21/22/24 Dec) and invites you to "Dresdner Schulchöre singen" (24 Apr).

Its adult counterpart, the Dresden Philharmonic Choir, is particularly looking forward to its participation in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (Manze, 9 Nov). And both choirs are involved in the performance of Britten's "War Requiem" in the memorial concert under the direction of Sir Donald Runnicles (13 Feb).

### **Advance booking starts:**

Advance ticket sales for Festplatz subscriptions start on 2 May 2024 at 13:00. Free ticket sales and the sale of optional subscriptions start on 12 June 2024 at 10.00 am.



**Dresdner  
Philharmonie**

**Ticket service at Kulturpalast**

2 Schloßstraße

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