

Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO)

The DSO was highlighted by the renowned national newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung as the “orchestral think tank” among the capital city’s orchestras. It is characterized by the rich dramaturgy of its concert programmes, its commitment to contemporary music and regular discoveries of repertoire, as well as the courage to pursue unusual music presentation formats. The DSO has set innovative impulses through its moderated Casual Concerts, the ‘Symphonic Mob’, which has been bringing amateur musicians together with professionals since 2014, as well as its feminist music policy initiative under the motto ‘No Concert Without a Female Composer!’ and its focus on music by Black composers under the title ‘Afrodiaspora – Composing While Black’ in the 2025/2026 season. The DSO was founded as the RIAS Symphony Orchestra in 1946, and was renamed the Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin in 1956; it bears its current name since 1993. Ferenc Fricsay, Lorin Maazel, Riccardo Chailly, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Kent Nagano, Ingo Metzmacher, Tugan Sokhiev and Robin Ticciati were the Music Directors in its first seven decades. They will be succeeded by the Japanese Kazuki Yamada, who will lead the DSO as Music Director from the start of the 2026/2027 season. With its many guest performances, the orchestra is in demand as a cultural ambassador of Berlin and Germany both nationally and internationally, and also has a worldwide presence with numerous award-winning CD recordings. The DSO is an ensemble of the Rundfunk Orchester und Chöre gGmbH (ROC).

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For more information → dso-berlin.de/en