

**Annual Press Conference
Deutschen Symphonie-Orchesters Berlin**

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

23/24

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27 April 2023, 11 a.m. (CEST)

ICC Berlin, Pullman Lounge

People on the podium:

Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Ott, Managing Director

Marlene Brüggem, Head of Artistic Planning

Johannes Watzel, Violinist and Representative of the Players' Committee

Claudia Benker-Schreiber, Cellist and Representative of the Players' Committee

Charlotte Bray, Composer

Benjamin Dries, Head of Marketing and Communication

Texts

1. The Season 2023-24

2. Casual Concerts

3. »Music and Crime«

4. »Schöne Töne Live«

5. Cabaret Concerts

6. Chamber Music Concerts

7. »Notturmo« Concerts

8. Music Education

9. »Symphonic Mob«

Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin

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An Ensemble of

ROC Rundfunk
Orchester
Chöre

The Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin presents its 2023-24 season

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

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Berlin, 27 April 2023

At the annual press conference of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) in the Internationales Congress Centrum (ICC) on Thursday, 27 April 2023, Managing Director Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Ott, Head of Artistic Planning, Marlene Brügggen, as well as Johannes Watzel (violin) and Claudia Benker-Schreiber (cello), representatives of the DSO's players' committee, presented the projects of the 2023-24 season. Great artists, fascinating works, new formats, and exciting experiments await the audience.

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“There is to be no concert this season without at least one work by a female composer” – this motto accompanies the DSO throughout its new season, and it promises encounters with female composers from the 12th century to the present. Currently, only two percent of all the works played in the concerts of professional German orchestras are by women. This motivated the DSO to proclaim a “feminist programme policy” from the 2023-24 season on in analogy to the “feminist foreign policy” of the current German government, which focuses on the rights, representation, and equipping with resources of women and marginalised groups and thereby affects all areas of the DSO's activities.

Subscriptions for the upcoming season will be available from 27 April, single ticket sales will start on 17 July 2023.

Concerts with Music Director Robin Ticciati

The DSO and its Music Director Robin Ticciati will open their seventh season together at the Musikfest Berlin festival on 30 August with Gustav Mahler's '**Das Lied von der Erde**' ('The Song of the Earth'), the enchanting song cycle based on free adaptations of ancient Chinese lyric poetry and directed towards the afterlife. The sound of the sheng, the ancient Chinese mouth organ, which Berlin-based composer Unsuk Chin allows to merge with the orchestra in her '**Šu**' concert, is also downright celestial.

The Music Director then puts two legendary ninth symphonies on the programme only one week apart: **Bruckner's Ninth** can be heard on 15 October in a rarely performed completion of the finale – after the German premiere of Camille Pépin's new Violin Concerto, which the French composer wrote for Renaud Capuçon. **Beethoven's Ninth** follows only a week later, and between the movements, Navid Kermani reflects on its creation, humanism, and reception with his own texts. In the first part, Beethoven's choral symphony is conceptually expanded by Helen Grime's '**Meditations on Joy**', a work commissioned by the DSO.

Robin Ticciati continues his **Mahler cycle**, which has already taken him to the First, Third, and Fourth Symphonies, with the **Fifth Symphony** on 17 November. He prefaces the legendary work with Elizabeth Ogonek's '**Ringling the Quiet**' – and John Adams' minimalist, rhythmically driven orchestral piece '**Fearful Symmetries**', which is translated into movement by ballet dancer Michèle Seydoux on the stage of the Philharmonie concert hall.

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On 17 February, Ticciati celebrates a song of praise to the greatest of all human themes with two tragic romances and pairs of lovers who have shaped cultural history like no others: **Romeo and Juliet** as well as **Tristan and Isolde** – with the love scene from **Berlioz’ dramatic symphony**, the second act from **Wagner’s music drama**, and with a **commissioned work by composer Charlotte Bray**, which follows the traces of love into the present day.

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Busoni’s monumental, highly romantic **Piano Concerto with male choir** is an absolute rarity on international programmes. Ticciati is presenting it twice – 100 years after Busoni’s death – together with pianist Benjamin Grosvenor: on 23 February moderated in the Casual Concert, on 24 February in combination with **Schumann’s ‘Rhenish’ Symphony** and the **Overture to Ethel Smyth’s opera ‘The Wreckers’**, which rivals Busoni in terms of its powerful sound.

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Romantic piano intoxication and breath-taking virtuosity can also be found in **Rachmaninoff’s First Piano Concerto**, which Kirill Gerstein will interpret on 15 and 16 March and discuss with Ticciati in the concert. It is framed “in French” by **Lili Boulanger’s ‘D’un matin de Printemps’** and **Maurice Ravel’s ballet music ‘Ma mère l’oye’**.

The DSO Music Director and pianist legend Emanuel Ax will present a **brilliant Viennese finale** at the end of the season on 28 and 29 June – with a **Sinfonia by Marianna von Martines**, who took piano lessons from the young Haydn and later welcomed **Mozart** to her salon, with the latter’s late **C major Piano Concerto**, and with **Haydn’s last of his ‘London Symphonies’**, which brought him world fame far from home. Ticciati has the music of the First Viennese School once again performed on gut strings, thereby bringing the timbres of the late 18th century to life in an impressive way.

Concerts with guest conductors

The DSO has always maintained a close artistic relationship with its former Music Directors. **Kent Nagano**, now Honorary Conductor of the orchestra, is a guest twice. After the Sixth this season, he will present Mahler’s Seventh Symphony next season. Later, he interweaves the masterful violin concertos from Vivaldi’s ‘Four Seasons’ in an arrangement by Aziza Sadikova for four different solo instruments with Fanny Hensel’s piano cycle ‘The Year’. **Ingo Metzmacher** devotes himself to Schubert’s ‘Great C major’ symphony, once in a pure version in a Casual Concert, then in a subscription concert in combination with Olga Neuwirth’s Trumpet Concerto. **Tugan Sokhiev** finally returns to his Berlin orchestra with Clara Schumann’s Piano Concerto and Bruckner’s ‘Romantic’ Symphony, the Fourth.

Numerous conductors who have been associated with the DSO for many years or who have recently proven themselves here are once again conducting the orchestra: **Marin Alsop** completes the trio of the great Ninths with Dvořák’s Symphony ‘From the New World’. **Stéphane Denève** strolls through the world of fairy tales and myths between Paul Dukas’ ‘The Sorcerer’s Apprentice’, Lera Auerbach’s Icarus explorations, and Sergei Prokofiev’s ‘Cinderella’ ballet. **David Robertson** presents Strauss’ tragicomic ‘Don Quixote’ with satirical texts by and with Oliver Kalkofe. And **Andris Poga** weaves a French programme around Berlioz’ ‘Symphonie fantastique’.

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The subsequent generation is also prominently represented: The “young wild one” **Maxim Emelyanychev** brings Brahms’ Second, **Santtu-Matias Rouvali** Shostakovich’s Tenth, high-flyer **Tarmo Peltokoski** Sibelius’ ‘Lemminkäinen’ Suite, **Dalia Stasevska** his Fifth, and **Ruth Reinhardt** Dvořák’s Fifth to the stage of the Philharmonie. As conductor and violin soloist, **Pekka Kuusisto** leads through the worlds of sound between Haydn, Beethoven, and the female composers of today.

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Conducting the DSO for the first time will be **Václav Luks**, who, in addition to Beethoven, will present largely unknown contemporary Jan Václav Voříšek and Parisian Louise Farrenc; **Kazuki Yamada** with Rachmaninoff’s Second Symphony; and **Aivis GreTERS**, who explores the tension between Bruckner and Wagner; as well as **Delyana Lazarova** and **Adam Hickox**, who will appear as part of the ‘Debut on Deutschlandfunk Kultur’ series.

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And at the rbbKultur children’s concerts, promising newcomers such as **Holly Hyun Choe**, **Anna Sułkowska-Migoń**, and **Christoph Koncz** can be experienced for the first time leading the DSO, alongside experienced colleagues **Gijs Leenaars** and **David Robertson**. **Lee Reynolds** organises the popular concerts in the Tempodrom with **Circus Roncalli** on New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day.

Vocal and instrumental soloists

The subscription concerts for the coming season will feature numerous great voices. Mezzo-soprano **Karen Cargill** and tenor **Allan Clayton** can be heard in the solo parts of Mahler’s ‘Lied von der Erde’, while Beethoven’s Ninth is prominently cast with **Sally Matthews**, **Karen Cargill**, **Dmytro Popov**, and **Christof Fischesser**. In the second act from Wagner’s ‘Tristan und Isolde’, soprano **Dorothea Röschmann** and tenor **Michael Weinius** can be heard in the title roles, as well as **Karen Cargill**, tenor **Jan Remmers**, and bass **Franz-Josef Selig**. Mezzo-soprano **Okka von der Damerau** will perform Wagner’s ‘Wesendonck-Lieder’, soprano **Aphrodite Patoulidou** Britten’s ‘Les illuminations’, and soprano **Anja Petersen** at the ‘Ultraschall Berlin’ festival. Writer and orientalist **Navid Kermani** recites his own texts to Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony; **Oliver Kalkofe** takes a satirical look at Strauss’ ‘Don Quixote’. **Michèle Seydoux** gives dance expression to music by John Adams and Gustav Mahler.

The masters of the keys are **Emanuel Ax**, **Kirill Gerstein**, **Benjamin Grosvenor**, **Jan Lisiecki**, **Nikolai Lugansky**, **Jean-Frédéric Neuburger**, and **Daniil Trifonov** on the piano, and **Lauma Skride** on the fortepiano. **Renaud Capuçon**, **Vilde Frang**, **Vadim Gluzman**, **Alina Ibragimova**, and **Frank Peter Zimmermann** will show their skills on the violin, and **Hayoung Choi**, **Alban Gerhardt**, and **Anastasia Kobekina** theirs on the cello. Clarinettist **Boglárka Pecze**, trumpeters **Håkan Hardenberger** and **Simon Höfele**, and sheng virtuoso **Wu Wei** also shine on their instruments.

From the DSO’s own ranks, First Concertmasters **Wei Lu** and **Marina Grauman**, Principal viola player **Igor Budinstein**, Principal cellist **Mischa Meyer**, Principal oboist **Thomas Hecker**, and Principal trumpeter **Falk Maertens** make an impression as soloists. Violinist **Dmitry Smirnov**, pianist **Danae Dörken**, flutist **Mario Bruno**, and drummer **Vanessa Porter** will make their debuts in ‘Debut on Deutschlandfunk Kultur’.

An Ensemble of

The **Rundfunkchor Berlin**, the highly valued partner ensemble in the Rundfunk Orchester und Chöre (ROC) gGmbH, will perform in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, in a work by Hildegard von Bingen, in Busoni's Concerto, and in a children's concert in Handel's 'Messiah'.

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New and established concert formats

The **new 'Music and Crime' concert format**, in cooperation with the successful 'ZEIT Verbrechen' podcast, brings turbulent crime stories of music history live to the stage of the main broadcasting hall in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre on two dates – with **Sabine Rückert**, deputy editor-in-chief and long-standing crime reporter for DIE ZEIT, **Andreas Sentker**, head of the department for science and education, and chamber music ensembles of the DSO. The **rbbKultur children's concerts** are also held six times in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre to mark their 100th edition, as are the opening and closing concerts of the **'Ultraschall Berlin'** festival for new music under the direction of **Lin Liao** and **André de Ridder**.

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Also new is the format **DSO@home**, which, for the first time in the history of the DSO, does not invite its audience to concerts at the Philharmonie, but **visits the audience at home** in their living rooms with its concerts: "They open their living rooms and music rooms for private concerts with chamber music ensembles of the DSO and invite old and new friends of the orchestra to extraordinary musical experiences", the **founding initiative of the Friends of the DSO** for the promotion of the orchestra explains. "Here you can experience great music up close and then discuss and deepen what you have heard in a relaxed atmosphere with musicians and like-minded people."

The **'Die Kunst der UnFuge'** (which is a play on words – literally 'The art of nonsense' – alluding to Bach's 'The Art of Fugue') series of **cabaret concerts** in the Schlosspark Theatre in Steglitz, which celebrated its successful debut under this title in the current season, will be continued with **Dieter Hallervorden, Torsten Sträter, Anka Zink, Gayle Tufts, Piet Klocke**, and five adventurous chamber music ensembles. The **'Notturmo' concerts**, organised in cooperation with the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, this time attract visitors to the James Simon Gallery, the Museum of Photography, and the Pergamon Panorama. And the traditional **chamber music series** of the DSO will be continued with five concerts at **Villa Elisabeth**.

The **Casual Concerts** have been a trademark of the DSO for many years. In the 2023-24 season, **Ingo Metzmacher, Robin Ticciati**, and **David Robertson** will moderate and conduct the three Friday evenings in the Philharmonie concert hall. Together with the radioeins radio station of the rbb, singer-songwriter **Anika**, multi-instrumentalist and electro musician **Perera Elsewhere**, and **Gudrun Gut**, co-founder of the German music group 'Einstürzende Neubauten', will be performing as Live Acts in the lounge taking place afterwards.

Also in cooperation with radioeins, the DSO is playing two concerts in the **'Schöne Töne Live'** ('Beautiful Sounds Live') series with composer and moderator **Sven Helbig**, conductor **Ralf Sochaczewsky**, and musical guests such as **Neil Tennant** from the Pet Shop Boys in the main broadcasting hall of the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre.

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Under the title **DSO Kiezkonzerte** (DSO neighborhood concerts), the DSO brings chamber music to the districts of Berlin on the second weekend in September. On Saturday, 9 September, ensembles will play **street music at its finest** in public places; the following day, the DSO can be found between Urbanhafen and the East Side Gallery on a **boat tour on the waterways of Berlin**.

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‘Symphonic Mob’ in Berlin and “on tour”

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Berlin’s largest spontaneous orchestra, the **‘Symphonic Mob’**, celebrates its 10th anniversary in the 2023-24 season. Since 2014, the popular and innovative play-along format of the DSO has been regularly attracting over 1,000 enthusiastic amateurs who gather with the orchestra professionals on the piazza of the Mall of Berlin to make music together. The big **“anniversary mob”** will take place on 25 May 2024 under the direction of **Marie Jacquot**, with **ensemblerlino vocale** as choir partner for the first time.

As in previous years, the ‘Symphonic Mob’ was and will be realised in other locations by local orchestras in cooperation with the DSO, including in **Lübeck, Munich, Salzburg, and Colmar**. As part of guest performances, the DSO will be taking on the professional part twice in the current season – in the ‘Symphonic Mob’ at the **Kissinger Sommer** music festival on 2 July 2023 with Honorary Conductor Kent Nagano and at the **Beethovenfest festival in Bonn** on 2 September 2023 with Cornelius Meister.

Guest performances

In the 2023-24 season, the DSO will once again extend its presence beyond its concerts in Berlin to the national and international musical world. Together with Honorary Conductor Kent Nagano, it will be a guest at the **AUDI Summer Concerts in Ingolstadt** in summer 2023 with the piano duo Lucas & Arthur Jussen, and then with pianists Rafał Blechacz and Roman Borisov for two concerts at the **Kissinger Sommer**. In September, the orchestra can be heard performing Beethoven’s Ninth under the direction of Cornelius Meister at the **Beethovenfest in Bonn**. In March 2024, the DSO will be making guest appearances with Music Director Robin Ticciati and pianist Kirill Gerstein at the **Alte Oper in Frankfurt**, and with pianist Jan Lisiecki under the direction of Tarmo Peltokoski at the **Klara Festival in the BOZAR in Brussels**. Further guest performances are in preparation.

Outlook in numbers

In the 2023-24 season, the DSO will give a total of 73 concerts: 70 in Berlin, including 28 symphony concerts, three Casual Concerts, and two concerts from the ‘Debut im Deutschlandfunk Kultur’ series in the Philharmonie concert hall, two New Year’s Eve concerts and one New Year’s Day concert in the Tempodrom, two concerts as part of the ‘Ultraschall Berlin’ festival, six rbbKultur children’s concerts, and two concerts in the ‘Schöne Töne’ series in the main broadcasting hall in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre, 20 chamber concerts at different locations and in public places, and four cabaret concerts. In addition, at least three guest performances take the orchestra to major concert halls in Europe.

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Casual Concerts

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

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The Casual Concerts with lounge and live act in the Berlin Philharmonie concert hall have long been a trademark of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO). The popular, open, and moderated concert format has been an integral part of the capital's cultural life since 2007 and will be continued in the 2023-24 season with three concerts conducted by Ingo Metzmacher, Robin Ticciati, and David Robertson.

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Classical music and club sounds: The Casual Concerts offer the best of both worlds – without the usual concert rituals, without fear of contact. The evenings at the Philharmonie concert hall are a great introduction to the world of classical music, yet even experienced concertgoers can still learn a thing or two. Enjoying music and understanding music are two sides of the same coin here.

The DSO's Casual Concerts have been delighting audiences since 2007. There is no designated seating in the Philharmonie concert hall, and both orchestra and audience are dressed casually. The conductors moderate the evening and give the audience unusual access to the works performed – through personal stories, entertaining information about their creation, illustrative explanations of the content, and numerous musical examples – before the work is finally heard in its entirety. Hearing the familiar as well as the unfamiliar with new ears is the name of the game here. Tickets are available for the standard price of € 30 (reduced € 15). The doors of the concert hall open at 8 pm, the concerts start at 8.30 pm and last a good hour.

Ingo Metzmacher, who initiated the format, will take over the first Casual Concert of the season on 1 December, taking a very personal look at Schubert's 'Great C major' symphony. **Music Director Robin Ticciati** presents an absolute rarity on 23 February: Ferruccio Busoni's monumental Piano Concerto with male choir, together with pianist Benjamin Grosvenor and the gentlemen of the Rundfunkchor Berlin choir. And the wondrous adventures of the Spanish knight 'Don Quixote' by Richard Strauss will be presented by **David Robertson** on 3 May. Together with satirist **Oliver Kalkofe**, he presents the bizarre story in a completely new way.

The **Casual Concert Lounge**, which transforms the foyer of the Philharmonie into a club with a Live Act and DJ after the concert, also contributes to the popularity of the series. It opens itself to the urban sounds of the metropolis with exciting discoveries from the international popular music scene and ensures the transition into the night with danceable sounds. In cooperation with **radioeins of the rbb**, three prominent Live Acts are on the programme: singer-songwriter **Anika** (1 December), electronic musician **Perera Elsewhere** (23 February), and **Gudrun Gut**, co-founder of the band 'Einstürzende Neubauten' (3 May).

All information at → dso-berlin.de/cc

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‘Music and crime’ – chamber music and crime (hi)story

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Music Director

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Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

Together with Sabine Rückert and Andreas Sentker, the protagonists of the successful ‘ZEIT Verbrechen’ podcast, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) brings a new concert format to the stage in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre on two evenings, featuring bizarre, hair-raising, and almost unbelievable criminal cases from the history of music.

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Sabine Rückert, deputy editor-in-chief and long-time crime reporter at the DIE ZEIT weekly newspaper, is an expert on crime and how to fight it. She sat in major criminal trials, wrote award-winning court reports, and investigated unimaginable criminal cases. With her colleague Andreas Sentker, head of the department for science and education of DIE ZEIT, she talks about real, exciting, and absurd criminal cases every fortnight in the ‘ZEIT Verbrechen’ podcast, taking a close look at criminology, criminal law, and the judiciary.

In the new ‘Music and Crime’ concert series, which the DSO initiated together with the DIE ZEIT publishing group, Rückert and Sentker now bring turbulent criminal stories of music live to the stage in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre and tell of forgers, murderers, and headless composers.

‘Das Geigen-Geschäft – Dietmar Machold und die Stradivaris’ (‘The violin deals – Dietmar Machold and the Stradivarius violins’)

The **first ‘Music and Crime’ concert on 12 November** recounts the incredible case of Dieter Machold, who dealt in rare violins in the fifth generation, got tangled up in shady business deals, accumulated tens of millions in debt, and was finally sentenced to six years in prison in 2012 for embezzlement and bankruptcy fraud. A DSO chamber music ensemble consisting of Byol Kang and Elena Rindler (violin), Guy Ben-Ziony (viola), Dávid Adorján, and Sara Minemoto (cello) accompanies the story with works by Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Mozart, Schubert, and Schumann.

‘Der Mörder Carlo Gesualdo und der enthauptete Joseph Haydn’ (‘The murderer Carlo Gesualdo and the decapitated Joseph Haydn’)

The **second ‘Music and Crime’ concert on 12 May**, which focuses on Carlo Gesualdo, proves that composers don’t have to be saints either. The composer and Renaissance prince is known not only for numerous motets and madrigals, but also for the murder of his wife and her lover. No such misdeeds are known of Joseph Haydn, but the head of the artist disappeared under mysterious circumstances soon after his burial and made its way through dubious private collections for decades. A chamber music ensemble of the DSO consisting of Olga Polonsky and Lauriane Vernhes (violin), Francesca Zappa (viola), Claudia Benker-Schreiber (cello), and Oskari Hänninen (double bass) accompanies the stories with music by Gesualdo, Georg Friedrich Haas, and Haydn.

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‘Schöne Töne Live’ – the radioeins show with Sven Helbig and the DSO on stage

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

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Berlin, 27 April 2023

Composer Sven Helbig will be presenting his ‘Schöne Töne’ radioeins show together with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) live on the stage of the main broadcasting hall in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre not once but twice. Classical music from six centuries rearranged and explained with Electronica and Ambient, and with prominent guests from all genres.

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Composer Sven Helbig presents everything he encounters, receives, and likes on his musical travels to the delighted audience of his ‘Schöne Töne’ (‘Beautiful Sounds’) weekly programme on the radioeins radio station. Here, good music far from the orchestra pit – Electronica, Ambient, new, or ancient – flows together with symphonic music in an original and effortless way. Venetian Snares meets Alexander Scriabin, Jóhann Jóhannsson meets Richard Strauss, Boards of Canada meets Johann Sebastian Bach.

Last year, the internationally successful musician, whose works have been performed by renowned artists such as the Fauré Quartet, cellist Jan Vogler, and conductor Kristjan Järvi, and who has also been working for the Pet Shop Boys and Rammstein for a long time, brought his ‘Schönen Töne’ live to the stage for the first time together with the DSO and worked sounds from three centuries into a fascinating mix of music of today in a two-hour show.

Reason enough for a sequel: In the 2023-24 season, ‘Schöne Töne Live’ will be broadcast twice from the main broadcasting hall, with the DSO and conductor Ralf Sochaczewsky providing the colourful orchestral sound. As entertaining and enjoyable as in his radio show, Sven Helbig himself will moderate the evening, welcome guests, and share anecdotes from his almost infinite treasure trove of musical stories.

On **10 November**, among others he will be welcoming music legend **Neil Tennant from the Pet Shop Boys**, to whom he’s had ties since the joint ballet and stage projects ‘The Most Incredible Thing’ and ‘A Man from the Future’, which he orchestrated for the stage. The guests for the second show on **2 March** have not yet been announced.

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‘Die Kunst der UnFuge’ – cabaret concerts in the Schlosspark Theatre

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

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Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

Chamber music ensembles of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) and well-known cabaret artists once again go on a voyage of discovery together. In the Steglitz Schlosspark Theatre they present for the second time a tour de force between musical nonsense, political cabaret, and cultural-philosophical depth – with Dieter Hallervorden, Anka Zink, Gayle Tufts, and Piet Klocke.

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A successful experiment that begs to be continued: With the ‘Kunst der UnFuge’ (this is a play on words – literally ‘The art of nonsense’ – alluding to Bach’s ‘The Art of Fugue’) programme, the DSO has a new successful format on offer since last season. And so in the 2023-24 season, on four Mondays, adventurous chamber music ensembles of the orchestra will once again walk a funny, subtle, and offbeat tightrope together with stars of the German cabaret scene. In the Steglitz Schlosspark Theatre, host Dieter Hallervorden and orchestra director Thomas Schmidt-Ott have put together a programme that stimulates both the laughing muscle and the critical mind in equal measure and nonchalantly tears down the boundaries between serious music and entertainment.

The kick-off will be on **23 October** with host **Dieter Hallervorden**, who can now look back on more than 60 years as a comedian, award-winning actor, singer, and cabaret veteran. He has been director of his Schlosspark Theatre since 2009 where he frequently performs major roles on stage himself. He has remained true to the political-satirical cabaret since his beginnings as the founder of the ‘Die Wühlmäuse’ (‘The voles’) cabaret and ensemble and will once again prove this in his collaboration with the **DSO-Schlosspark-Quintet**.

Anka Zink is considered an expert on (inter)human crises and catastrophes and, true to the motto “Someone’s got to it”, takes naughty, life-size points of view. On stage, the Rhenish cabaret artist practices laughter yoga for the brain, during which many synapses cross paths that would otherwise never have met. On **18 December**, ‘**The Glorious Five**’ will fearlessly stand by her side.

With a keen eye, a lot of humour, and sensitivity, **Gayle Tufts** observes not only her life as an American in Germany, but also her old homeland. The entertainer and singer has made “Denglisch”, her very own stage mixture of German and English, her trademark. Together with the cello-piano duo **Radutiu-Rundberg**, she will make the hall go wild on **12 February**.

Piet Klocke is touring the country’s stages as a verbal scatter brain and master of tangled half-sentences. With the ‘**6Basses**’, the comedian, author, musician, and film composer has a backing band at his side on **15 April** that is as profound as it is quirky.

All four concerts are available as a bundle in the cabaret package → dso-berlin.de/unfuge

In addition, the cabaret concert with Torsten Sträter and the ‘**DSO Randgruppe**’ ensemble, which had to be cancelled last season due to illness, will be made up on **29 January**. The tickets remain valid.

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Chamber concerts at Villa Elisabeth

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The chamber music series of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) expands the programme line-up of the symphony concerts, opening up new perspectives on the familiar and providing space for exciting discoveries. It also has a permanent place in the 2023-24 season – with five concerts at Villa Elisabeth.

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The DSO's chamber music programme offers a broad selection for the 2023-24 season: In addition to the 'Die Kunst der UnFuge' series, which has been playing at the Steglitz Schlosspark Theatre with four cabaret concerts each since last season, and the new 'Music and Crime' concept, which, together with the creators of the 'ZEIT Verbrechen' podcast, brings the criminal history of music to the stage in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre in two lecture concerts, the traditional chamber music series will also be continued. In five concerts in the classicist, acoustically outstanding gallery hall of Villa Elisabeth in Invalidenstrasse, it offers varied programmes with music for the most diverse ensembles from three centuries.

The **opening concert of the chamber music series** on **20 October** will be performed by an ensemble led by concertmaster Marina Grauman, Sebastian Breuninger and Elsa Brown (violin), Annemarie Moorcroft (viola), Mischa Meyer (cello), and Benjamin Hochman (piano) with numerous repertoire discoveries. It begins with the first of Clara Schumann's Romances, which she wrote to perform together with violinist Joseph Joachim – in an arrangement for violoncello and piano. The works by three female composers, written between 1913 and 1917, have very different characters: The string quartet by Viennese Zemlinsky student and composition teacher Johanna Müller-Hermann breathes fin de siècle and a harmonious spirit of optimism; the 'Morpheus' duo by British viola player Rebecca Clarke combines the sound of folk songs with impressionistic overtones; and the Berceuse by Germaine Tailleferre, the only female member of the 'Groupe des Six' around Honegger, Milhaud, and Poulenc, combines simplicity and lyrical songfulness. The evening closes with the opulent and uniquely scored Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet by Ernest Chausson.

Chamber music for flute and piano trio is the focus of the second concert on **26 November** with Upama Muckensturm (flute), Daniel Vlashi Lukaçi (violin), Adele Bitter (violoncello), and Holger Groschopp (piano): By Louise Farrenc, who was appreciated in the mid-19th century as a symphonic composer, piano virtuoso, and the only female professor at the Paris Conservatoire – and then forgotten. By Fanny Hensel, who was not allowed to become a composer or to perform in public. By Claude Vivier, who absorbed Balinese gamelan music on his travels in Asia. By Ursula Mamlok, who developed her very own tonal language from twelve-tone music. And by Simon Laks, who found his neoclassical tone while studying in Paris.

An ensemble consisting of violinists Ksenija Zečević and Marija Mücke, viola player Viktor Bátky, cellist Claudia Benker-Schreiber, and pianist Senka Brankovic will take a musical journey to fin de siècle Vienna on **3 March**. Anton Webern's Slow Movement for string quartet was written in 1905, when he had just become a composition student of Arnold Schoenberg, and foreshadows the approaching modernism without concealing his

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romantic roots. For Croatian composer Dora Pejačević, Vienna was always just a stopover; she lived in Dresden, Munich, and at the family estate of Našice Castle. Her String Quartet, composed shortly before her untimely death in 1922, still exudes the late-Romantic spirit of the turn of the century. Erich Wolfgang Korngold not only composed a piano concerto for only the left hand for pianist Paul Wittgenstein, who had lost his arm in the First World War, but also the dense and sonorous Suite for Piano Quartet. In between, actor Helmut Mooshammer reads texts about Vienna, art, intoxication, and the search for equality.

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

On **21 April**, the **Padma Trio**, consisting of Kamila Glass (violin), Leslie Riva-Ruppert (violoncello), and Anna Kirichenko (piano), together with viola player Kim Esther Roloff, will present the expressive Piano Trio by Polish composer Andrzej Panufnik from 1934, followed by Zoltán Kodály's light, early Intermezzo for String Trio and the expressive, densely composed String Trio by Gideon Klein, inspired by Moravian folk music, which the composer wrote in the Theresienstadt concentration camp, just a few days before he was deported to Auschwitz. Grażyna Bacewicz also takes up folkloric melodies from Central and Eastern Europe in her short, snappy Three Dances, before the entire ensemble finally comes together in virtuoso and refined fashion in Alexandre Tansman's 'Suite-divertissement' for piano quartet.

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In keeping with tradition, the end of the chamber music season will be performed on **9 June** by the members of the Ferenc Fricssay Academy, who's training naturally also includes chamber music. Together with colleagues from the DSO, they will present Rossini's Duo for Cello and Double Bass, string quartets by Beethoven and Rossini, and Erich Wolfgang Korngold's String Sextet.

Further information at → dso-berlin.de/kammerkonzerte

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‘Notturmo’ – nightly chamber concerts with the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

The ‘Notturmo’ series is a cooperation between the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) and the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation. Since 2010, it has been inviting audiences to nightly chamber concerts in the Berlin State Museums. The three concerts of the 2023-24 season will take place in the James Simon Gallery, the Museum of Photography, and the Pergamon Panorama.

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The ‘Notturmo’ concert series, which the DSO initiated in partnership with the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation and under the patronage of the Foundation’s President, Prof. Dr. Hermann Parzinger, is now in its 14th season. The concerts are a crowd puller, and the associated subscriptions are so popular that there are usually only a few remaining tickets available at the evening box office. Three times a season, ‘Notturmo’ welcomes music-loving night owls to Berlin’s venues of art and knowledge. Starting at 9 pm, the collections can be explored under the competent guidance, and at 10 pm, there are chamber concerts lasting about an hour with “night music” for a wide variety of ensembles, tailored entirely to the venues. In the dialogue of sound, space, and exhibit, the “Notturmi” open up completely new facets of art reception and bring music to spaces where otherwise at late hours, only silence and twilight envelop the most beautiful testimonies of human artistic creativity.

The first concert of the series in the 2023-24 season will take place on **6 October in the James Simon Gallery**, the entrance building and information centre of the Museum Island designed by David Chipperfield, which not only commemorates the great patron of the arts, but also includes an auditorium and numerous rooms for special exhibitions, lectures, and education projects. Clemens Linder (violin), Adele Bitter (violoncello), and Holger Groschopp (piano) present an evening with a wide variety of night music: ‘NAHT’ for violin and cello by Philipp Maintz, ‘Rapsodia notturna’ for cello and piano by Karol Rathaus, Franz Schubert’s Notturmo for piano trio, and Arnold Schoenberg’s ‘Verklärte Nacht’ (‘Transfigured Night’) in a trio arrangement by Eduard Steuermann.

Sophisticated string quartets from Poland and the Baltic States can be heard on **9 February in the Museum of Photography** at Berlin Zoologischer Garten station, which houses the exhibitions of the Helmut Newton Foundation and the Photographic Collection and offers space for special presentations from almost 200 years of photographic history. The Anamyktos Quartet, consisting of Mika Bamba and Marija Mücke (violin), Leo Klepper (viola), and Mathias Donderer (cello), play the gripping and highly virtuoso Fourth String Quartet by Grażyna Bacewicz, which she composed in 1951, and the Fifth String Quartet by Latvian contemporary Pēteris Vasks from 2004. In addition, the world premiere of the quartet version of ‘Violin Ritzos’ by Latvian composer Rūta Vitkauskaitė will be performed.

While the Pergamon Museum will be completely closed in October for extensive renovation work, antiquity can still be experienced at the exhibition space on Kupfergraben. The **Pergamon Panorama**, designed by Yadegar Asisi, invites visitors on a breath-taking 360-degree journey to the metropolis of Asia Minor. On **24 May**, Kornelia Brandkamp (flute),

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Thomas Hecker (oboe), Thomas Holzmann (clarinet), Bernhard Nusser (clarinet and bass clarinet), Douglas Bull (bassoon), and Ozan Çakar (horn) will present a colourful woodwind programme at the end of the 'Notturmo' season with works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Amy Beach, Ferenc Farkas, Jean Françaix, Pierre Octave Ferroud, and Leoš Janáček.

Further information at → dso-berlin.de/notturmo

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

In cooperation with



**Stiftung
Preußischer Kulturbesitz**

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Discovering classical music – music education at the DSO

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

The Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) offers listeners of all ages direct, exciting, and varied access to classical music with a wide range of educational programmes.

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rbbKultur children's concerts with Open House

Listen, join in, have fun, discover music – children's concerts are the perfect introduction to the wonderful world of classical music. Together with rbbKultur, the DSO invites audiences to the popular matinees six times per season. They always take place on Sunday around noon in the main broadcasting hall in the Haus des Rundfunks broadcasting centre on Masurenallee and offer an exciting and entertaining musical experience for audiences of primary school age. In the 2023-24 season, the series will again offer a wide variety of events: we celebrate the 100th concert with Leonard Bernstein, travel on the Mississippi to the Southern States of the USA with Florence Price, put on a nativity play with the Rundfunkchor Berlin choir and Handel's 'Messiah' in December, dress up with a DSO ensemble for the 'Carnival of Instruments', accompany a mad knight with Richard Strauss' 'Don Quixote', and let Beethoven take us on an excursion into nature. Together with the DSO, moderator Christian Schruff takes the six to twelve-year-old concertgoers on entertaining and interactive voyages of discovery, tells exciting stories, and presents great music. Even the youngest music fans can join in, have their say, and experiment, already before the concert: at the Open House, the children can do crafts, sing, and have their faces painted, but above all they can get to know the instruments together with the members of the orchestra.

→ dso-berlin.de/kinderkonzerte

Classical music's not dead – DSO chamber music in schools

The orchestra members of the DSO not only work with the next generation of musicians at the Open House or the pop-up rehearsals before the 'Symphonic Mob', but also devote their full efforts to further educational projects. With 'Classical music's not dead – DSO chamber music in schools', they provide music education directly at Berlin schools, including the Beethoven-Gymnasium, the Canisius-Kolleg, the Droste-Hülshoff-Gymnasium, the Heinz-Berggruen-Gymnasium, and the Salvator Catholic School. In weekly lessons, members of the orchestra coach chamber music ensembles of all ages. By now, more than a dozen DSO musicians are involved. Some of them mentor the pupils for several years, supporting the musical process from the rehearsal of the works to technical questions and how to play together in a chamber music setting. The results of the collaboration are presented in a public chamber concert every school year. The next one will take place on 14 January at 4 pm at Heimathafen Neukölln.

→ dso-berlin.de/schulmusiken

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Rehearsal visits and tickets for pupils

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

The **rehearsal visits** let you look behind the scenes of the orchestra. Here, school classes and youth groups can experience a world-class professional orchestra at work first-hand, learn up close how a classical orchestra works, and gain exciting insights into the everyday life of a large ensemble. Available for grades 1 to 8.

Information and registration → dso-berlin.de/probenbesuche

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A **concert visit** is also possible for all concerts of the DSO. School classes receive tickets for € 5 per pupil upon prior registration and subject to availability.

Information and registration → dso-berlin.de/konzertbesuche

Workshops and school projects

At the DSO, groups of children and young people are very welcome to take part in **workshops related to the symphony concerts**. In each workshop, the focus is on one piece of music, and the topics surrounding the work and the composer are worked out in a participatory way, concluding with the joint concert visit. The workshops are available from grade 9. Dates and works of the 2023-24 season:

- **Antonín Dvořák** Symphony No. 9 (concert on 1 October 2023)
- **Ludwig van Beethoven** Symphony No. 9 (concert on 22 October 2023)
- **Franz Schubert** Symphony 'Great C major' (Casual Concert on 1 December 2023)
- **Ferruccio Busoni** Piano Concerto (Casual Concert on 23 February 2024)
- **Richard Strauss** 'Don Quixote' (Casual Concert on 3 May 2024)

Information and registration: → dso-berlin.de/workshops

In addition, the DSO offers school classes from grade 3 the opportunity **to take part in selected children's concerts**, for example with a choreography, their own compositions, or instruments the pupils made themselves. Primary school teachers who would like to participate with a class on stage, please send an email to
→ musikvermittlung@dso-berlin.de

An Ensemble of

‘Symphonic Mob’ – 10 years of Berlin’s largest spontaneous orchestra

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

Since 2014, the DSO’s ‘Symphonic Mob’ has brought music-loving amateurs of all ages and musical backgrounds together with the professional musicians of the DSO to form a large spontaneous orchestra. The anniversary will be celebrated with a large ‘anniversary mob’ on 25 May 2024 at the Mall of Berlin. Conductor Marie Jacquot will be in charge, with ensemblerlino vocale taking part as choir partner for the first time.

Under the registered trademark ‘Symphonic Mob’ and in cooperation with the DSO, the concept has been implemented by orchestras from 17 cities so far since 2016. In 2023, Salzburg, Colmar, and Bonn will join as well. Moreover, as part of guest performances, the DSO will be taking on the professional part twice in the anniversary season – in the ‘Symphonic Mob’ at the Kissinger Sommer music festival (2 July 2023, with Honorary Conductor Kent Nagano) and at the Beethovenfest festival in Bonn (2 September 2023, with Cornelius Meister). Under the motto “Do it Yourself”, interested orchestras have access to an online platform on the website → symphonic-mob.de with sheet music and detailed information on how to set up their own ‘Symphonic Mob’.

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→ symphonic-mob.de

20 years of DSO’s Abo-Orchester

For all music lovers who would like to play in an orchestra on a regular basis and under professional guidance, rather than just once at the ‘Symphonic Mob’, the DSO’s Abo-Orchester, an orchestra originally made up of subscribers to DSO concerts, has been offering the perfect opportunity for 20 years. The repertoire is broad, the fun of making music is great, and the result is thrilling. Demanding concert literature is just as much a part of the amateur orchestra’s programme as excursions into the world of opera and film music. Many DSO members are regularly involved as soloists or lecturers. Heinz Radzischewski, associate Principal trumpet of the DSO until 2019, founded the Abo-Orchester orchestra in 2003 and still directs it today. An anniversary tour to the Bohemian Spa Triangle is planned for October, and concerts in Berlin are scheduled for December, March, and June.

Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings from 7.30 pm to 10 pm in the DSO rehearsal hall, and new members are always welcome.

→ dso-berlin.de/aboorchester

An Ensemble of

10 years of ‘Symphonic Mob’ – Berlin’s largest play-along orchestra

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

Berlin, 27 April 2023

The ‘Symphonic Mob’, Berlin’s largest play-along orchestra, has quickly become a trademark of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO). The popular and low-threshold concept is meanwhile being implemented by orchestras all over Europe. On 25 May 2024, the ‘Symphonic Mob’ celebrates its 10th anniversary under the direction of Marie Jacquot in Berlin.

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Berlin’s largest spontaneous orchestra has an anniversary, and this is to be celebrated properly. In the summer of 2014, more than 400 musicians between the ages of eight and 84 gathered at the Open Day at the Federal Foreign Office to perform excerpts from Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony and Bizet’s opera ‘Carmen’ together with members of the DSO. The success was overwhelming, the sequel already planned.

Since then, the popular and innovative play-along format has developed into a true trademark of the DSO and now inspires more than 1,000 music enthusiasts of all ages and musical backgrounds every year, some of whom even travel from far and wide to perform with the DSO and for an enthusiastic audience at the Mall of Berlin. Stars such as Honorary Conductor Kent Nagano, Music Director Robin Ticciati, or violinist Christian Tetzlaff regularly conducted or took part as soloists.

The big ‘anniversary mob’ will take place on **25 May 2024 at the Mall of Berlin**. The programme this time includes the ‘Dance of the Knights’ from Prokofiev’s ballet ‘Romeo and Juliet’, the drinking song from Verdi’s opera ‘La Traviata’, the waltz from Khachaturian’s ‘Masquerade’ suite, and the ‘Hallelujah’ from Handel’s oratorio ‘The Messiah’. As usual, simplified parts are available for download in addition to the original sheet music, and in joint section rehearsals with DSO musicians in the weeks before the ‘Mob’, there is ample opportunity to prepare for the big day. This time, **conductor Marie Jacquot** will be in charge, with **ensemblerlino vocale** taking part as choir partner.

The concept has been so successful that 17 other orchestras in Germany, Austria, France, and the Netherlands have now adopted the idea. In 2023, a ‘Symphonic Mob’ will take place in Lübeck, Munich, Salzburg, and Colmar, among other places. As part of guest performances, the DSO will be taking on the professional part twice in the current season – in the ‘Symphonic Mob’ at the Kissinger Sommer music festival on 2 July with Honorary Conductor Kent Nagano and at the Beethovenfest festival in Bonn on 2 September with Cornelius Meister.

More at → symphonic-mob.de

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Online Press Area

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Honorary Conductor

In our online press area you will find current press releases, digital brochures, seasonal motifs, documentary photos, artist biographies and images.

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→ dso-berlin.de/presse

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From about 3 p.m. we will also make pictures of today's press conference available here for your use free of charge.

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