

Annual Press Conference
Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin

24/25

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

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22 April 2024, 12 a.m. (CEST)

C/O Berlin, Amerika Haus

Participants:

Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Ott, Managing Director

Marlene Brügggen, Head of Artistic Planning

Johannes Watzel, Violinist and Representative of the Players' Committee

David Adorján, Cellist and Representative of the Players' Committee

Benjamin Dries, Head of Marketing and Communication

Texts

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| 1. The Season 2024-25 | 7. Cabaret Concerts |
| 2. 'Émigré' | 8. Music Education |
| 3. Casual Concerts | 9. DSO Community Orchestra |
| 4. Museum Concerts | 10. Biography Music Director |
| 5. DSO at the Zoo | 11. Biography Orchestra |
| 6. 'Music and Crime' | 12. Online Press Area |

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The Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin presents its 2024-25 season

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

At the annual press conference of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) on Monday, 22 April 2024, Managing Director Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Ott, the Head of Artistic Planning Marlene Brüggem as well as Johannes Watzel (violin), member of the orchestra board, presented the projects of the 2024-25 season at the C/O Berlin in Hardenbergstraße, formerly the Amerika Haus. The audience can look forward to great artists, fascinating works, new formats and exciting experiments. Subscriptions for the coming season are available as of 23 April; sale of individual tickets will start on 15 July 2024.

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The DSO's motto for the 2023-24 season – “No concert without a female composer!” – caused a furor not just in Berlin, but also internationally. Striving to generate more attention for works by women who compose, and enabling them an integral place on its concert programmes, remains an obligation and commitment for the DSO in the new season. In addition, supported by the national programme ‘**Excellent Orchestral Landscape in Germany**’, the DSO is addressing topics such as cultural and societal diversity in various ways over two seasons. For the orchestra, whose members come from 20 nations and which plays music by, with and for people from all over the world, it is important to deploy its “language”, **music, as a voice against all forms of discrimination**. The DSO takes up the topic of racism with Uri Caine's Passion about murdered civil rights activist Octavius Catto. Anti-Semitism constitutes the backdrop to Aaron Zigman's oratorio ‘Émigré’, which stages a story from Jewish exile in Shanghai and will be presented by the DSO as a European premiere. In this context, we are also holding a lecture-concert in the Jewish Museum Berlin, cooperating with the Museum for the first time.

Taking leave of Music Director Robin Ticciati

In November 2024, the DSO will take leave from its Music Director Robin Ticciati. With a wide-ranging repertoire from the Renaissance to the present day, with exceptional projects like playing on gut strings and free improvisations, as well as elaborate video productions, he has set new standards with the orchestra since 2017. “We are extremely grateful to Robin Ticciati for an exciting time, for gripping concerts full of energy, fascinating repertoire discoveries and artistic highlights – in Berlin, Germany, Europe and Asia. And we are looking forward to welcoming him in the future as our guest at the orchestra podium!”, DSO Managing Director Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Ott says.

Robin Ticciati has selected works that take up the foci of the past years and that are particularly dear to him for his last concerts as Music Director. This includes the **music of Edward Elgar**: Vilde Frang will play his **Violin Concerto**, with its highly virtuoso solo part and mysterious dedication, Gautier Capuçon his **Cello Concerto**, a tragic, melancholy work that was his final one. The violin concerto initiates a programme, that, with **Lotta Wennäkoski's ‘Flounce’** and **Sibelius's Second Symphony**, allows the gaze to wander across Finnish musical worlds. Subsequently, Frang, Ticciati and the DSO will tour with the programme to Paris, Eindhoven

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and Brügge. Ticciati combines the Cello Concerto with **Bruckner's Seventh**. Since his DSO debut with the Fourth, he has repeatedly placed the composer's symphonies on the podium. For Ticciati, Bruckner is a "real person with a beating heart".

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Gustav Mahler's music is also close to his heart. He will officially bid adieu to the orchestra with his **Second Symphony** and its existential questions of human life, from the afterlife to the Resurrection, on 15 and 16 November. In an epilogue, Ticciati can be experienced one last time this season with the DSO on 15 December. With the premiere of **Mark Simpson's Viola Concerto**, performed by Timothy Ridout, he builds on the series of new works that he has made heard in recent years. In parting, it is followed by **Beethoven's 'Eroica'**: a student of the composer said that heaven and earth must shake at its performance.

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Concerts with guest conductors

Collaborators for many years and new friends will shape the other symphony concerts of the season. **Conductor Laureate Kent Nagano** is a guest with his orchestra with Beethoven's 'Pastorale' and Mozart's 'Jenamy' Piano Concerto; pianist Maria João Pires will give her belated debut with the DSO with this "wonder of the world" (Alfred Brendel). The season will open at the Musikfest Berlin with orchestral songs by Mahler and Ravel as well as Bach arrangements. The concert, which should have been conducted by the recently deceased **Sir Andrew Davis** (a replacement has not yet been confirmed), is also the DSO's contribution to the '30 Years ROC' concert series, with which the holding company's anniversary is being celebrated. **David Robertson** and violinist Gil Shaham will present a programme rich in colourful timbres with Boulanger, Korngold and Rachmaninoff, and will then tour with the DSO. **Cristian Măcelaru** will dedicate himself to Brahms' Third Symphony, while **Manfred Honeck** will take on Shostakovich's Fifth, and **Ryan Bancroft** his Sixth. **Cornelius Meister** concludes the season with Mahler's Fourth and a concert excerpt from Unsuk Chin's opera 'Alice in Wonderland'. After a ten-year absence, **Pablo Heras-Casado** will return to the DSO podium with Bruckner's Fifth and Ethel Smyth's Double Concerto for violin and horn. **Patrick Hahn** and pianist Gabriela Montero will bring together Latin American and jazz music with impressionism.

Three different "young wilds ones" will return to the DSO after conducting captivating concerts: **Maxim Emelyanychev** will conduct twice – Mendelssohn's 'Scottish' in November, and a Beethoven programme in April, which also introduces the composer Emilie Mayer. **Elim Chan** will bring along Prokofiev's Fifth and Bryce Dessner's spectacular Piano Concerto with its dedicatee Alice Sara Ott. And with Lorin Maazel's 'Ring ohne Worte' (The Ring without Words), **Tarmo Peltokoski** will bring Wagner's drama of the worlds in 75 minutes to the stage of the Philharmonie.

André Raphel highlights the topic of racism with 'The Passion of Octavius Catto' by jazz pianist and composer Uri Caine. **Marie Jacquot** will illuminate the first female American symphonic composer Amy Beach with the 'Gaelic Symphony'. And, after acclaimed performances in Shanghai and New York, **Long Yu** is bringing the oratorio 'Émigré' by Aaron Zigman to Europe for the first time. **Wayne Marshall** will conduct a musical summit meeting to which the DSO has invited the **NDR Bigband** from Hamburg, offering two premieres for big band and orchestra. Baroque specialist **Bernhard Forck**, who began his career as a violinist, will explore the soundscape between Rameau and Louise Farrenc with soprano Anna Prohaska.

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Leonidas Kavakos too discovered conducting for himself several years ago, and will now perform with the DSO exclusively as conductor for the first time. **Joshua Bell**, in contrast, will play a dual role: soloist in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto and conductor of Schumann's Second Symphony.

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Not a few conductors in the 2024-25 season once launched with the DSO in the scope of the 'Debut on Deutschlandfunk Kultur' series. **Andrés Orozco-Estrada**, who debuted in 2007, will place Strauss's 'Also sprach Zarathustra' at the centre of his programme; the actress Iris Berben will read from texts by Friedrich Nietzsche. **Nicholas Collon**, who debuted in 2015, covers vast terrain, all the way to Stravinsky's 'Le sacre du printemps', at the Biennale, to which the Berliner Philharmoniker invite in February. And **Eva Ollikainen**, a debutant from 2010, will return with Verdi's Requiem. **Tianyi Lu** and **Oscar Jockel** will give their conducting debuts in the new season on 'Debut on Deutschlandfunk Kultur'. And with **Christoph Altstaedt**, **Beatriz Fernández Aucejo**, **Yi-Chen Lin** and **Joel Sandelson**, there are also promising newcomers conducting the DSO for the first time at the radio3 children's concerts. **Paul Daniel** will shape the popular concerts on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day in the Tempodrom with the **Circus Roncalli**.

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Vocal and instrumental soloists

An impressive number of notables will be the DSO's guests on the violin in the 2024-25 season – with **Joshua Bell**, **Renaud Capuçon**, **Isabelle Faust**, **Vilde Frang**, **Randall Goosby**, **Patricia Kopatchinskaja**, **Pekka Kuusisto**, **Midori**, **Gil Shaham** and **Carolin Widmann**. The orchestra will be joined on viola by **Timothy Ridout**, on cello by **Gautier Capuçon**, **Anastasia Kobekina** and **Johannes Moser**. The keyboard masters include **Uri Caine**, **Mao Fujita**, **Gabriela Montero**, **Fabian Müller**, **Alice Sara Ott**, **Maria João Pires**, **Beatrice Rana** and (on tour) **Caleb Borick**. French hornist **Stefan Dohr** and trumpeter **Simon Höfele** will also shine on their instruments, as well as clarinets from the DSO's own ranks for New Year's: **Thomas Holzmann** and **Stephan Mörth**.

The season will once again have numerous great voices on offer. The soprano **Anna Prohaska** will impress with Mozart and Rameau; **Hanna-Elisabeth Müller** will sing the solo part in Mahler's Fourth Symphony. We will hear from tenor **Julian Prégardien** with Mahler's 'Songs of a Wayfarer', and **Joëlle Harvey** and **Karen Cargill** can be experienced in the 'Resurrection Symphony'. The roles in Aaron Zigman's oratorio 'Émigré' are sung by **Janai Brugger** and **Guanqun Yu** (soprano), **Zhu Huiling** (mezzo-soprano), **Arnold Livingston Geis** and **Matthew White** (tenor) and **Andrew Dwan** and **Shenyang** (bass-baritone); those in Verdi's Requiem by **Krassimira Stoyanova** (soprano), **Christina Bock** (mezzo-soprano), **Gregory Kunde** (tenor) and **Kostas Smoriginas** (bass-baritone). The jazz and gospel singer **Barbara Walker** takes on the solo part in Uri Caine's 'The Passion of Octavius Catto', where bassist **Mike Boone** and percussionist **Clarence Penn** complete the jazz trio.

The **Rundfunkchor Berlin**, acclaimed partner ensemble in the Rundfunk Orchester und Chöre gGmbH (ROC), will collaborate in Aaron Zigman's oratorio 'Émigré', in Mahler's 'Resurrection Symphony', and in Schönberg's 'Friede auf Erden' and Verdi's Requiem. The **Bundesjugendchor** makes a guest appearance at the 'Symphonic Mob' and, together with the choir **A Song for You**, in the context of Uri Caine's Passion. The **NDR Bigband** is shaping a

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big band orchestra programme with the DSO for the first time, and actress **Iris Berben** will read from texts by Friedrich Nietzsche to Strauss's 'Also sprach Zarathustra'. Finally, pianist **Mirabelle Kajenjeri**, harpist **Tjasha Gafner**, trombonist **Kris Garfitt** and violist **Ionel Ungureanu** will give their 'Debuts on Deutschlandfunk Kultur'.

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New and time-tested concert formats

The **'Music and Crime' series** introduced in the past season quickly became a success with the public. In cooperation with the popular German podcast 'ZEIT Verbrechen', there will be a second round: turbulent crime stories will again be presented in the Haus des Rundfunks on two dates – with **Sabine Rückert**, editor of the ZEIT VERBRECHEN magazine and ZEIT's editor for special tasks, **Andreas Sentker**, managing editor of ZEIT and publisher of the ZEIT WISSEN magazine, and with chamber music ensembles of the DSO. Six **radio3 Children's Concerts** will also take place in the Great Broadcast Hall, as well as the opening and closing concerts of **'Ultraschall Berlin'**, the festival for contemporary music, conducted by **Anna Skryleva** and **Markus Poschner**.

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The **'Die Kunst der UnFuge' Cabaret Concerts** (this is a play on words – literally 'The art of nonsense' – alluding to Bach's 'The Art of Fugue') in the Schlosspark Theater in Steglitz also enjoy great popularity; they will be continued with **Gayle Tufts**, **Dieter Hallervorden**, **Frank Lüdecke**, **Horst Evers** and four adventurous DSO ensembles. The concerts of the traditional chamber music series will take place in cooperation with the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation in the 2024-25 season, as will the 'Notturmo' series. Chamber music fans can also book **10 MUSEUMS X 10 CONCERTS** as a large museum package. A lecture-concert in the Jewish Museum and a concert with the DSO's Academy participants in the Villa Elisabeth round off the chamber music offerings.

The **Casual Concerts** have been one of the DSO's hallmarks since 2007. In the 2024-25 season, the three Friday evenings in the Philharmonie will be presented and conducted by **Wayne Marshall**, **Elim Chan** and **Manfred Honeck**. In collaboration with radioeins, at the Lounge after the concert exciting DJs and live acts from the international popular music scene will once again transform the foyer of the Philharmonie into a dance floor.

Also in collaboration with radioeins, the DSO will continue the concert series **'Schöne Töne Live'** with composer and host **Sven Helbig**; he will stage his radio show of the same name twice in the Great Broadcast Hall in the Haus des Rundfunks. Electronica, ambient music, new and age-old music come together with classical orchestra music in an original and effortless way. Together with conductor **Lee Reynolds**, trumpeter **Simon Höfele** and other musical guests, he embarks on adventurous journeys through music from all over the world and from all eras.

With the new format **'DSO in the Zoo'**, the DSO will start the new season on 8 September together with Berlin's Zoological Gardens, inviting to an animalesque and musical day with numerous chamber music concerts on the spacious grounds of the Zoo.

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‘Symphonic Mob’ in Berlin, Germany and Europe

Robin Ticciati
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Conductor Laureate

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Berlin’s largest spontaneous orchestra, the ‘**Symphonic Mob**’, is taking place for the 11th time in the 2024-25 season. Since 2014, the DSO’s popular and innovative play-along format has regularly delighted more than 1,000 enthusiastic amateurs, who gather to make music jointly with the orchestra professionals on the Piazza of the Mall of Berlin. **Catherine Larsen-Maguire** will conduct the concert on 14 June 2025; the choral partner will for the first time be the **Bundesjugendchor**.

As in previous years, the ‘Symphonic Mob’ will be implemented this time as well at other locations by local orchestras in cooperation with the DSO, including **Bad Kissingen, Colmar, Lübeck, Munich** and **Salzburg**. page 5/5

Guest performances

In the 2024-25 season, the DSO will again be present beyond its Berlin concerts on the national and international music scene. The orchestra will be guests at the **Musikfest Bremen** with cellist Anastasia Kobekina in late August, and in late September at the **Beethovenfest Bonn** with Lionel Bringuier and the pianist Caleb Borick. In October, the DSO, Music Director Robin Ticciati and violinist Vilde Frang will tour with Elgar’s Violin Concerto and Sibelius’s Second Symphony, performing at **La Seine Musicale Paris**, the **Muziekgebouw Eindhoven** and the **Concertgebouw Brügge**. The NDR Bigband’s guest concert with Wayne Marshall in Berlin will be reciprocated in December with a visit in the **Elbphilharmonie Hamburg**. Together with David Robertson and violinist Gil Shaham, concerts are scheduled in the **Brucknerhaus Linz**, the **Isarphilharmonie München**, the **Lisinski Hall Zagreb** and the **Cankarjev dom Ljubljana** in March. The programme of the concert concluding the Berlin season with Cornelius Meister, the soprano Hanna-Elisabeth Müller and Mahler’s Fourth Symphony can be experienced in the **Philharmonie Köln** once again in late June.

Records 2023-24 and an outlook in figures

In the current 2023-24 season, the DSO is heading for an absolute record in the orchestra’s 75-year history: average capacity of 94% at all its own events, and a 5% increase in ticket sales in the post-COVID financial year 2023 compared to the previous record in 2018 – and sales are continuing to rise.

In the 2024-25 season, the DSO will perform a total of 77 concerts: 66 in Berlin, of which 29 are symphony concerts, three Casual Concerts and two concerts in the ‘Debut on Deutschlandfunk Kultur’ series in the Philharmonie, two New Year’s Eve and one New Year’s Day concert in the Tempodrom, two concerts in the scope of the ‘Ultraschall Berlin’ series, six radio3 children’s concerts and two concerts in the ‘Schöne Töne Live’ series in the Great Broadcast Hall of the Haus des Rundfunks, 19 chamber music concerts at various sites, including three lecture-concerts, four cabaret concerts and a concert day at the Zoo. In addition, the orchestra will perform eleven guest concerts in major European concert halls.

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Émigré – Jewish exile in Shanghai

Robin Ticciati
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With the European premiere of Aaron Zigman's oratorio 'Émigré' and a lecture-concert in collaboration with the Jewish Museum Berlin, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) is commemorating the exile of numerous Jews in Shanghai.

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During the National Socialist era, at least 18,000 Jewish refugees were admitted to Shanghai and thus rescued. Nonetheless, they struggled with an imposed ghettoisation, the effects of the war, inflation and shortages. The American composer Aaron Zigman composed an oratorio set against this historical backdrop that tells of the love between two people at the end of the 1930s. **'Émigré'** is a triumphal, life-affirming work; after its resounding success in Shanghai and New York, it is now being performed in Europe for the first time by the DSO on 3 November 2024. Conducted by Long Yu, the DSO will be supported by a prominent ensemble and the Rundfunkchor Berlin.

Aaron Zigman is a prominent composer in the USA. He has composed the soundtracks for more than 70 Hollywood movies and TV shows, including 'The Notebook', 'Bridge to Terabithia' and 'Sex and the City'. His music combines the Hollywood sound with touches of Puccini and Bernstein. Zigman wrote the piano concerto 'Tango Manos' for the pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. His oratorio 'Émigré' was composed in 2023 based on a libretto by Mark Campbell and additional texts by Brock Walsh.

Lecture-concert

There were more than 450 musicians among the Jewish refugees. A lecture-concert dedicated to the cultural life they developed in exile will be held on 31 October 2024 in the W. Michael Blumenthal Academy; it takes place in collaboration with the Jewish Museum Berlin. Sophie Fetthauer, specialist in exile music, illuminates this time period with the composer of 'Émigré', Aaron Zigman, in attendance. A DSO string quartet with Olga Polonsky and Lauriane Vernhes (violin), Francesca Zappa (viola) and Claudia Benker-Schreiber (cello) will play works by Erwin Schulhoff, Pavel Haas, Wolfgang Fraenkel, Otto Joachim, Aaron Avshalomov and Ding Shan-de. The discussion will take place in English.

Information at → dso-berlin.de/emigre

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Casual Concerts – Classical Music and Club Sounds

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

The Casual Concerts in Berlin’s Philharmonic Hall, with a lounge and a live act, are a hallmark of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO). The popular, open and hosted concert format in cooperation with Radio Berlin Brandenburg’s (rbb’s) station radioeins has been an integral part of cultural life in the capital city since 2007, and will continue in the 2024-25 season with three concerts conducted by Wayne Marshall, Elim Chan and Manfred Honeck.

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Classical music and club sounds: the Casual Concerts combine the best of both worlds – without concert rituals, and with no need for trepidation. These Friday evenings in the Philharmonie are an ideal way to get initiated into the world of classical music, though even experienced classical concertgoers can learn a lot here. Enjoying music and understanding it are two sides of the same coin.

The DSO’s Casual Concerts have been delighting Berlin audiences since 2007. The conductors host the concerts themselves, and they open up unusual access to the works played for the audience – with personal stories, entertaining information on how the works were composed, lively explanations of their content, conversations with soloists, and numerous musical examples, before the work is then played in its entirety. Hearing both familiar and unknown works in a fresh new way – that’s the name of the game. All tickets cost €30 (reduced price €15). The Casual Concerts begin at 8 p.m. starting in the 2024-25 season, no longer at 8:30 p.m., and still last a little more than an hour.

The first Casual Concert of the season on 29 November with **Wayne Marshall** can offer two premieres: with the world premiere of a DSO commission, Florian Weber’s “re-painting” of Ravel’s ‘Ma mère l’oye’ for big band and orchestra. And, as well, the first collaboration with the **NDR Bigband** from Hamburg. The second Casual Concert on 28 March presents a captivating trio: conductor **Elim Chan**, pianist **Alice Sara Ott** and the spectacular Piano Concerto by American multi-talent Bryce Dessner. Finally, **Manfred Honeck**, who slips into the role of music mediator for the third time, will explore, together with the audience, Shostakovich’s ambiguous Fifth Symphony on 23 May.

The **Casual Concert Lounge** is an integral component of the success story. In collaboration with **radioeins by rbb**, live acts and DJs transform the foyer into a dance floor after the concert—with exciting discoveries from the international pop music scene, which bring the urban sounds of the big city into the Philharmonie, ensuring a perfect transition to the weekend with danceable sounds.

All information at → dso-berlin.de/cc

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10 MUSEUMS X 10 CONCERTS – chamber music concerts with the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation

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Unique concerts played by selected Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) ensembles in unique venues of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz – SPK) – that’s what 10 MUSEUMS X 10 CONCERTS offers. Jointly with the SPK, with the series called ‘Notturmo’ the DSO has been inviting to three night-time chamber music concerts per season since 2010. Now, in the 2024-25 season, the cooperation will be expanded to ten concerts for the first time. True to the ‘Notturmo’ concept, the concerts will be preceded by guided tours through the collections or lectures.

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The ‘Notturmo’ concerts, which the DSO initiated in partnership with the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (SPK) and under the patronage of foundation president Prof. Dr. Hermann Parzinger, have been a crowd puller with the audience for many years; they are usually sold out long in advance. That’s reason enough for an upgrade in the 15th season: in the 2024-25 season, ensembles of the DSO will be guests in the SPK’s museums and cultural institutions ten times. The ensembles will welcome musically keen night owls to sites of art and knowledge – with works from the Baroque to the present, from string duo to brass septet. And this will take place not only in the usual “museum highlights” such as the Old National Gallery and the Kulturforum, but also at sites which until now have been less well-known, like the Secret State Archive and the Museum of European Cultures; these have been discovered for the series. Nothing has changed in the meantime about the concept: in guided tours and lectures with experts, the buildings, their history or their collections will be made accessible to the audience, before the hour-long chamber music concerts add completely new facets to the exhibits and venues. Henceforth, they will begin an hour earlier than usual, at 9 p.m., which means the welcome and preliminary programme start at 8 p.m. The ‘Notturmo subscription’ and the chamber music series will continue in this framework with 3 or 5 dates; all 10 concerts can also be booked as the ‘10 Museums’ package.

The first concert in the series takes place on **13 September** in the **Museum of European Cultures** (Museum Europäischer Kulturen), the last exhibition space left at the Dahlem museum site, whose collections are devoted to everyday culture and lifeworlds in Europe from the 18th century to the present. Besides the permanent exhibition on cultural contacts, the museum focuses on such varied thematic areas as Slovenian apiculture, Christmas traditions in the Erzgebirge, and the cultural history of menstruation. Byol Kang, concertmaster of the DSO, and Mischa Meyer, the orchestra’s principal cellist, have designed a programme to be heard in the museum’s foyer, with two-part inventions by Bach, and solo works and duos by Bach, Martinů, Saariaho, Ravel and Xenakis.

On the occasion of Caspar David Friedrich’s 250th birthday – he was probably the most significant painter in the German Romantic era – he is the focus not only of a major Berlin exhibition, but also of a lecture-concert on **11 October** in the **James Simon Gallery**, architectural entry point to Museum Island. The evening is entitled ‘The Magic of Silence’, the title of a book on

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Friedrich that Florian Illies, its author, will shape jointly with clarinetist Bernhard Nusser, soprano Alessia Schumacher and pianist Dirk Wedmann. The programme consists of songs by Meyerbeer, Schubert, Schumann and Spohr that musically pick up on the Romantic spirit.

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On **9 November**, the versatile and adaptable Polyphonia Ensemble Berlin reflects on its roots by presenting, with Frauke Ross (flute), Martin Kögel (oboe), Bernhard Nusser (clarinet), Markus Bruggaier (French horn) and Jörg Petersen (bassoon), rare chamber music pieces for wind trio and quintet by Fromm-Michaels, Hindemith, Ligeti, Schulhoff and Tansman. The concert will take place in the **Villa von der Heydt**, which, since its completion in 1862, can look back on a colourful past as a bankers' and official villa for diplomats and ministers, an illegal gambling club and candy factory – and now houses the SPK's presidium.

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Two weeks later, on **22 November**, the Adamello Quartet, made up of Clemens Linder and Nikolaus Kneser (violin), Susanne Linder (viola) and Adele Bitter (cello), is inviting to a chamber music concert in the **Central Entrance Hall of the Kulturforum**; with its triad of Gemäldegalerie, Museum of Prints and Drawings and Art Library, the museum places a broad spotlight on the cultural creations of modern Europe. The programme leads back in history – with the premiere of a piece for quartet by composer Ursula Mamlok, who died in 2016, Dutilleux's 'Ainsi la nuit' and Debussy's String Quartet, with which the composer found his own style in 1893, and about which Paul Dukas wrote: "The melody moves as if it were striding over a luxurious, artistically patterned carpet of wondrous colours, from which all strident and dissonant sounds have been banished."

An ensemble around concertmaster Byol Kang, violinist Clemens Linder, principal violist Annemarie Moorcroft, principal cellist Mischa Meyer and pianist Benjamin Hochman is devoting itself to piano chamber music. On **6 December**, they will be guests with works by Brahms, Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Saariaho and Xenakis in the acoustically magnificent Otto Braun Hall in the **Ibero-American Institute**, which focuses on scientific and cultural exchange with Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal.

The range of venues this season also includes the **State Library** (Staatsbibliothek) on **Unter den Linden**, one of the world's most important libraries. It holds, among other things, the country's largest music collection, with numerous autographs and copies, including from J. S. Bach, Telemann, Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn Bartholdy. In the Humboldt Hall of the front wing of the Unter den Linden building, principal clarinetist Stephan Mörth and principal cellist Valentin Radutiu, together with pianist Catalin Serban, will on **24 January** shape a programme of clarinet trios by Beethoven, Brahms and Zemlinsky, as well as Clara Schumann's Romances for Clarinet and Piano.

The **Museum of Musical Instruments** (Musikinstrumenten-Museum) in the rear building of the Berliner Philharmonie has an incredible number and breadth of rare and unusual instruments in its collection, from the Naumburg crumhorns to the "Bach harpsichord", from flutes belonging to Frederic II to the "Mighty Wurlitzer" theatre organ. In keeping with the venue, the chamber music concert on **21 February** is dedicated to the viola d'amore. You can discover its wonderful silvery sound, which the instrument owes to its sympathetic strings, in original works and arrangements by Biber, Bingen, Dowland, Král and Rameau. The musicians around Andreas Reincke and Julia Rebekka Adler (viola d'amore), Leslie Riva-Ruppert (Baroque cello) and Avinoam Shalev (harpsichord) will also give an introduction to the specific features and playing technique of the historical "love violin".

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The **Old National Gallery** (Alte Nationalgalerie) on Museum Island, dedicated to artistic treasures of the 19th century, will welcome in the Deutsch Römer Hall on **14 March** the principal flutist Gergely Bodoky (transverse flute), Adele Bitter (cello) and Flóra Fábri (clavichord and pianoforte). Their programme is devoted to sonatas and trios of the 18th and early 19th centuries, including the 'Hamburg Sonata' by Carl Philipp Emanuel, the "Berlin Bach", works by Benda, Haydn and Hummel – and works by two aristocratic Berlin composers: Frederick the Great and his sister Princess Anna Amalia of Prussia.

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

The **Secret State Archive** (Geheimes Staatsarchiv) in Berlin-Dahlem stores about 35,000 linear metres of archive material, ranging from the 12th century to the 1930s, and containing primarily ministerial holdings and archival documents from former Prussian provinces, estates and collections – an invaluable collection of sources, and not only for historical and local history research. The DSO will be a guest here with its chamber music concerts for the first time on **16 May**; Jakob Encke and Kamila Glass (violin), Kei Tojo (viola) and Leslie Riva-Ruppert (cello) will present quartets by Ligeti, Pärt, Stravinsky and Szymanowski.

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The finale of the 2024 chamber music season will take place on **14 June** in the rooms of the **Scharf-Gerstenberg Collection** (Sammlung Scharf-Gerstenberg) near the Charlottenburg Palace, which is completely dedicated to fantastic art – from Giovanni Battista Piranesi to Francisco de Goya to the surrealism of Max Ernst and René Magritte. Music for double reeds and the human voice constitutes the centre of the programme that principal oboist Viola Wilmsen has put together with violist Eve Wickert, mezzo-soprano Elisabeth Stützer and pianist Katharina Landl. They will present sensibility and sensuality in sound in works by Berg, Britten, Boulanger, Poulenc, Satie and others.

More information at → dso-berlin.de/10museen

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DSO at the Zoo – an ‘animalesque’ pleasure

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Together with Berlin’s Zoological Gardens, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) is inviting to a musical day at the zoo on 8 September 2024, right on time to launch the season – with numerous chamber music concerts on the spacious grounds in Charlottenburg.

Berlin, 22 April 2024

The Berlin Zoo is not only Germany’s oldest and most-visited zoo, but is also considered the world’s most species-rich zoo. Its inhabitants include not just the only Giant Pandas in Germany, but also 1,200 other species – from the gigantic elephant to the tiny poisonous spider. The Berlin Zoo has been inviting animal lovers to discover and explore its unique variety of species since 1844. That composers have also been fascinated and inspired by fauna time and again is proven with a brief look at music history, including Schubert’s ‘Trout’, Rimsky-Korsakov’s ‘Flight of the Bumble Bee’, Prokofiev’s ‘Peter and the Wolf’, and of course Camille Saint-Saëns’s ‘Carnival of the Animals’. These are ideal prerequisites for a collaboration between animals and music, between zoo and orchestra.

That’s why the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin is on an animalesque mission right in time for the new school year and the start of the season. In cooperation with the Berlin Zoo, the DSO is holding a day full of concerts for the whole family on Sunday, 8 September between noon and 5 p.m. Numerous chamber music ensembles will perform on the music stage in the zoo restaurant, and can also be heard here and there with little pop-up concerts on the zoo grounds – be it on the baboons’ rock, at the house for antelopes or around the rhino pagoda.

A zoo ticket suffices for entry, and the concerts themselves are free for visitors. For subscribers and members of the DSO’s supporting circle, admission to the zoo will be discounted.

The programme will be announced in July.

You will then find further information at → dso-berlin.de/zoo

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‘Music and Crime’ – Podcast live concerts with ‘ZEIT Verbrechen’

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

There’ll be a second round of ‘Music and Crime’, a successful DSO format in collaboration with the renowned German ‘ZEIT Verbrechen’ podcast. Together with hosts Sabine Rückert and Andreas Sentker, in the 2024-25 season the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) will again present on two evenings curious, hair-raising and almost unbelievable criminal cases with live chamber music in the Haus des Rundfunks on Masurenallee.

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Sabine Rückert, editor of the ZEIT VERBRECHEN magazine and ZEIT’s editor for special tasks, was a crime reporter for many years and is an expert in crime and the combating of crime. She attended major criminal trials, wrote prize-winning courtroom reports and pursued incredible criminal cases. On ‘ZEIT Verbrechen’ she regularly talks with her colleague Andreas Sentker, managing editor of ZEIT and publisher of the ZEIT WISSEN magazine, about real, exciting and absurd criminal cases, and in so doing examines criminology, criminal law and justice. With more than 4 million valid downloads per month, it’s one of the most successful “True Crime Podcasts” in the German-speaking world.

The ‘Music and Crime’ series, which the DSO launched jointly with DIE ZEIT publishing group in the past season, was also an immediate hit with the public; the concerts were sold out in no time. In the 2024-25 season, Rückert und Sentker will once again present turbulent crime stories live on the stage of the Great Broadcast Hall in the Haus des Rundfunks; they will be supported by mystery-loving chamber music ensembles of the DSO.

On **10 November**, Wei Lu, Johannes Watzel, Nari Hong (violin), Eve Wickert (viola), Oskari Hänninen (bass), Bernhard Plagg and Raphael Mentzen (trumpet) will play works by Dukas, Ravel and Stravinsky specifically arranged for string quintet and trumpets.

On **11 May**, the programme will consist of well-known criminal melodies from film history, as well as works by Bizet, Händel and Mozart, interpreted by the ‘DSO Randgruppe’ with flautists Upama Muckensturm and Frauke Ross, bass trombonist Tomer Maschkowski, harpist Elsie Bedleem, percussionist Henrik Magnus Schmidt and pianist Dirk Wedmann.

The criminological topics will be announced at short notice.

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‘Die Kunst der UnFuge’ – Cabaret Concerts in the Schlosspark Theater

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

In the 2024-25 season, chamber music ensembles from the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) and well-known cabaret artists will embark for the third time on a joint journey of discovery. At the Schlosspark Theater in Steglitz they will present a tour de force between musical nonsense, political cabaret and cultural and philosophical profundity – with Gayle Tufts, Dieter Hallervorden, Frank Lüdecke and Horst Evers.

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Sharp tongues encounter beautiful sounds – the DSO has been offering a successful format for two years with ‘Die Kunst der UnFuge’ (this is a play on words – literally ‘The art of nonsense’ – alluding to Bach’s ‘The Art of Fugue’), with which, on four Mondays, adventuresome chamber music ensembles sally forth on funny, subtle and off-the wall balancing acts jointly with stars of the German cabaret scene. For the Schlosspark Theater in Steglitz, host Dieter Hallervorden and DSO Director Thomas Schmidt-Ott have once again put together a programme that will stimulate laughs and critical spirit at the same time, nonchalantly breaking down the borders between serious music and entertainment.

Gayle Tufts, “Germany’s best-known American”, will kick things off. As usual, she’ll observe not only her life in Germany, but also her old home with a sharp eye, a great deal of humour and sensitivity, and she will superbly entertain the audience with her “Dinglisch”, her very own stage mixture of German and English. Together with the **Ensemble Hexagone**, which stirs French esprit into the mix, she will bring the hall down on **14 October**.

On **16 December**, **Dieter Hallervorden** will take over the microphone in the flesh. He can look back on more than 60 years as a comedian, prize-winning actor, singer and stalwart of cabaret. He has been the artist director of his Schlosspark Theater since 2009, and has himself played major roles on the stage time and again. He has remained loyal to political-satirical cabaret since the start of his career as founder of the ‘Wühlmäuse’, and he’ll demonstrate this once again in collaboration with the band **Yellow Cello** around DSO’s Managing Director Thomas Schmidt-Ott.

From the ‘Stachelschweine’ to ‘Anstalt’ – **Frank Lüdecke** is familiar with cabaret in all its manifestations. He trawls through chaotic lived landscapes and observes the race between artificial intelligence and natural stupidity. On **27 February**, he will have an exciting ensemble at his side: the **Berliner Zieharmoniker** around Jakob Encke and Marija Mücke (violin), Viktor Bátky (viola), Claudia Benker-Schreiber (cello) and Miloš Todorovski (accordion, bandoneon, composition).

Horst Evers recounts stories, experiences and observations in which he – lovingly, with wit and a pinch of wisdom – transfigures everyday life and the increasingly unsettling present into comedy. On **19 May** he will set off on a humorous journey of discovery with **The Glorious Four**, consisting of Olga Polonsky and Lauriane Vernhes (violin), Francesca Zappa (viola) and Claudia Benker-Schreiber (cello).

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

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Discovering classical music – music education at the DSO

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

With a broad spectrum of educational offers, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) provides listeners of all ages with a direct, exciting and highly varied access to classical music.

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radio3 Children's Concerts with Open House

Listening, participating, having fun, discovering music – the Children's Concerts are the perfect entry point into the wonderful world of classical music. Together with radio3, the DSO invites listeners **six times each season** to its popular matinee concerts. They always take place on Sunday noon in the Great Broadcast Hall of the Haus des Rundfunks, offering an exciting and entertaining musical experience for an audience of children of primary school age. Once again in the 2024-25 season, the series has diverse offers in store for you: explore the mysterious 'Magic Toyshop' with Respighi, meet a prince and princess in Bartók's magical woods, and enter Tchaikovsky's 'Kingdom of Sweets' with the 'Nutcracker'. Vienna waltzes will be danced with Johann Strauss, walks in the country will take place with Beethoven, and a meeting with the 'French horn and his friends' will be arranged with Mozart. Jointly with the DSO, host Christian Schruoff takes six- to twelve-year-olds on entertaining and interactive journeys of discovery, tells riveting stories and presents great music. Even the young music fans may participate, discuss and experiment – all before the concert: at the Open House, the children can make things, sing, and have their faces made up, but above all, they can get to know the orchestra members' instruments together with them.

→ dso-berlin.de/kinderkonzerte

Klassik's Not Dead – DSO Music in Schools

The members of the DSO orchestra attend to young musicians not only at the Open House or before the 'Symphonic Mob', but they're also wholeheartedly committed to other music education projects. With 'Klassik's Not Dead – DSO Music in Schools' they are directly carrying out music education projects at Berlin schools: at the Beethoven-Gymnasium, the Canisius-Kolleg, the Droste-Hülshoff-Gymnasium, the Heinz-Berggruen-Gymnasium, and at the Catholic School Salvator. At weekly lessons, the musicians support chamber music ensembles of all ages. More than a dozen of them are involved at schools now. At times, they provide assistance and support as mentors over the course of several years, accompanying the musical process from rehearsing the works to support in playing techniques to playing together as a chamber music ensemble. The results of the collaboration are presented every school year at a public chamber music concert. The next one will take place on 12 January in the Heimathafen Neukölln.

→ dso-berlin.de/schulmusiken

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Attending rehearsals and student tickets

Attending rehearsals enables school classes a view behind the scenes of the orchestra. Here children and young people can experience the work of a professional world-class orchestra very directly, learn first-hand how a classical orchestra works and get fascinating insights into the everyday life of a major ensemble. Attendance at rehearsals can be booked from grade 3 onwards.

Infos and registration: → dso-berlin.de/probenbesuche

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

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Concert attendance for all of the DSO's concerts is also possible. After booking in advance, and depending on availability, school classes can purchase tickets for €5 per pupil.

Infos and registration: → dso-berlin.de/konzertbesuche

Workshops and School Projects

Children and youth groups are cordially invited by the DSO to take part in **workshops related to selected symphony concerts**. At each, one musical work is the focus of attention, and topics related to the work and the composer are developed in a participatory process. The project concludes with attending the concert together. The workshops can be booked from grade 9 up. Dates and works of the 2024-25 season:

- **Maurice Ravel** 'Ma mère l'oye' (Casual Concert on 29 Nov. 2024)
- **Igor Stravinsky** 'Le sacre du printemps' (concert on 16 Feb. 2025)
- **Duke Ellington** 'Harlem' (concert on 23 March 2025)
- **Dmitri Shostakovich** Symphony No. 5 (Casual Concert on 23 May 2025)
- **Amy Beach** 'Gaelic Symphony' (concert on 22 June 2025)

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

In addition, the DSO offers school classes from grade 3 up the possibility to **participate in selected Children's Concerts**, for instance with a choreography, compositions of their own or home-made instruments. Primary school teachers who would like to participate with a class on stage, please send an e-mail to

→ musikvermittlung@dso-berlin.de

Symphonic Mob

The DSO's 'Symphonic Mob' celebrated its 10-year anniversary in 2024. Since 2014, Berlin's largest spontaneous orchestra has been bringing enthusiastic musical amateurs of all ages and any musical training together with the professional musicians of the DSO. The 11th Berlin 'Symphonic Mob' will take place on 14 June 2025 under the motto 'You play the music!', conducted this time by Catherine Larsen-Maguire. This year, the Bundesjugendchor will

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take part as vocal partner, and the programme consists of works by Beethoven, Elgar, Mahler, Price and Puccini.

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Under the registered trademark 'Symphonic Mob' and in cooperation with the DSO, the concept has been implemented since 2016 by orchestras from 20 cities; others keep joining the initiative.

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

→ symphonic-mob.de

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DSO Community Orchestra

For all friends of music who would like to devote themselves to orchestral playing, not just as a one-off at the 'Symphonic Mob', but rather on a regular basis and under professional guidance, the DSO Community Orchestra (formerly: Subscribers' Orchestra) has been providing the perfect opportunity for twenty years. The repertoire is wide-ranging, there's lots of fun in making music together – and the results are thrilling. Challenging concert literature is on the amateur orchestra's programme, as are excursions into the world of opera and film music. Many members of the DSO regularly take part as soloists or teachers. Heinz Radzischewski, assistant principal trumpeter of the DSO until 2019, initiated the Community Orchestra in 2003, and continues to lead it through the present day. The new season will include Brahms's 'Ein deutsches Requiem' in November, as well as concerts in March and June.

The rehearsals are always on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 10 pm in the DSO's orchestra rehearsal venue; new members are welcome at any time.

→ dso-berlin.de/community

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DSO Community Orchestra – the Subscribers' Orchestra has a new name

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

Last year, the DSO Subscribers' Orchestra (Abo-Orchester) celebrated its 20-year anniversary. It will head into the future with a new name: the DSO Community Orchestra.

The DSO Community Orchestra has been providing the perfect opportunity for over twenty years for all friends of music who would like to devote themselves to orchestral playing not just as a one-off at the 'Symphonic Mob', but rather on a regular basis and under professional guidance. The repertoire is wide-ranging, there's lots of fun in making music together – and the results are thrilling. Challenging concert literature is on the amateur orchestra's programme, just as excursions into the world of opera and film music. Heinz Radzischewski, assistant principal trumpeter of the DSO until 2019, initiated the Community Orchestra in 2003, and continues to lead it through the present day.

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Originally intended for subscribers to the DSO, the DSO subscribers' orchestra soon opened up for a number of amateur musicians. Not only the classic audience of subscribers is making music here, but in the meantime also students and former DSO orchestra professionals aged 20 to 82 are part of it. It has become an integrative project, a large community of people around the DSO who get along splendidly through and with music. To emphasise this aspect, the ensemble will henceforth have a new name: it is looking forward to the next 20 years as the DSO Community Orchestra.

There's no shortage of opportunities to make music. Over the years, the orchestra has acquired a loyal following. The results of the intensive rehearsals are regularly presented in Berlin and environs; guest concerts have been on the programme repeatedly. For its 20-year anniversary, the orchestra did a tour in October 2023 of the West Bohemian spa triangle, bringing along a programme in the best tradition of spa orchestras.

Brahms's 'Ein deutsches Requiem' is on the programme on 9 and 24 November at the Heilig-Kreuz-Kirche and then the Kirche St. Peter und Paul in Potsdam. On 1 March 2025, the traditional concert benefiting the Krebsstiftung Berlin will follow in the Haus des Rundfunks, this time with works by Offenbach, Saint-Saëns and Sibelius. And on 14 June, the orchestra will strike out on totally new paths between rock and film music with the band 'Ulli und die Grauen Zellen'.

The rehearsals are always on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 10 pm in the DSO's orchestra rehearsal. Interested parties are welcome at any time.

More at → dso-berlin.de/community

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Robin Ticciati – Music Director

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

Robin Ticciati OBE has been the Music Director of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (DSO) since September 2017 and will remain in this position until the end of 2024. In the summer of 2014 he took on the role of Music Director of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera. From 2009 to 2017 he held the position of Principal Conductor of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO), and from 2010 to 2013 was First Guest Conductor of the Bamberg Symphony.

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The young Briton with Italian roots is a regular guest conductor with the London Philharmonic and London Symphony Orchestra, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, the Budapest Festival Orchestra and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe. In addition, his guest-conducting highlights include the Wiener Philharmoniker, Czech Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Orchestre National de France, Philadelphia and Cleveland Orchestra, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig and Staatskapelle Dresden. In 2023, he made his long-awaited debut with the Berliner Philharmoniker.

Tours with the SCO have led Robin Ticciati through Europe and to Asia. In the 2014-15 season, he conducted a Europe tour of the Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam, and in autumn 2016 he toured with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Anne-Sophie Mutter, performing concerts in Berlin, Munich, Paris and Vienna. In January 2019, he performed with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe “in memoriam Claudio Abbado” in Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne und Salzburg. In the 2019-20 season, he conducted an Asia tour with the DSO consisting of a residency in Tokyo and concerts in China, followed by guest appearances, for instance in the Concertgebouw Amsterdam and in the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg.

As Music Director of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Robin Ticciati conducted new productions of Debussy’s ‘Pelléas et Mélisande’, Strauss’s ‘Der Rosenkavalier’ and Mozart’s ‘La finta giardiniera’, in addition to Mozart’s ‘Entführung aus dem Serail’, Dvořák’s ‘Rusalka’, Ethel Smyth’s ‘Les Naufrageurs’ as the world premiere of the original version and a Poulenc evening with ‘La voix humaine’ and ‘Les mamelles de Tirésias’. Furthermore, Robin Ticciati conducted Britten’s ‘Peter Grimes’ at La Scala in Milan, Mozart’s ‘Le nozze di Figaro’ at the Salzburg Festival and Tchaikovsky’s ‘Eugen Onegin’ at the Royal Opera House in London as well as at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, where he also conducted Humperdinck’s ‘Hänsel und Gretel’. In February 2024, he made his debut with the Staatskapelle Berlin for a new production of Dvořák’s ‘Rusalka’ at the Staatsoper Unter den Linden in Berlin.

Numerous CD recordings with Robin Ticciati have been released by Linn Records, including Haydn symphonies, two Berlioz albums and a complete recording of Schumann’s and Brahms’s symphonies with the SCO, as well as Berlioz’s ‘L’Enfance du Christ’ with the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra. These were all enthusiastically received by the critics and won numerous awards. Also with Linn Records, Robin Ticciati and the DSO presented highly acclaimed recordings of works by Bruckner, Debussy, Duparc, Duruflé, Fauré, Rachmaninoff, and Strauss. Ticciati’s discography also comprises Dvořák’s Symphony No. 9, Bruckner’s Mass in F minor and a Brahms recording with the Bamberger Symphoniker and the Choir of the Bayerischer Rundfunk (Tudor), as well as a number of opera recordings for Opus Arte.

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Since taking up his post at the DSO, Robin Ticciati has repeatedly demonstrated his versatility, love of experimentation and flexibility with repertoire ranging from the Renaissance to the present day, as well as with unusual forms of presentation and projects. During the 2020-21 pandemic, he realized a series of elaborate music films with his orchestra, including Strauss's 'An Alpine Symphony' as a musical and philosophical mountain tour with the legendary mountaineer Reinhold Messner, which was presented, among others, on 'DG Stage', Deutsche Grammophon's digital concert hall. In the 2023-24 season, Ticciati and the DSO attracted much attention with a feminist music policy initiative under the motto "No concert without a female composer!". Robin Ticciati will remain at the head of the orchestra until the end of 2024.

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

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Robin Ticciati was born in London in 1983 and trained first as a violinist, pianist and percussionist. He played in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain until turning to conducting at the age of 15. His mentors and patrons include Sir Colin Davis and Sir Simon Rattle. In 2014 he was appointed the 'Sir Colin Davis Fellow of Conducting' at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Robin Ticciati was awarded an 'Officer of the Order of the British Empire' (OBE) for services to music in the Queen's Birthday Honours (2019).

720 words (4686 characters) – as at: April 2024

For more information → askonasholt.com/artists/robin-ticciati

Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

Berlin, 22 April 2024

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The **Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin (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 provided innovative impulses with international remix competitions, electro projects and collaboration with ensembles on the independent scene. With its moderated casual concerts including lounge and live act, it has been successfully building a bridge between club and classical music for over 15 years, reaching a broad, increasingly young audience. Since 2014, it has been bringing amateur musicians together with professionals to form Berlin’s largest spontaneous orchestra, the ‘Symphonic Mob’. In the 2023-24 season, the DSO attracted attention with a feminist music policy initiative under the motto “No concert without a female composer!”. Increasing the audibility of works by women composers and inviting publishers and performers to expand the repertoire has been an important concern of the DSO.

Founded as the RIAS Symphony Orchestra in 1946, it was renamed the Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin in 1956 and has borne its current name since 1993. Robin Ticciati has led the DSO as its Music Director since September 2017. Since then, the Briton has demonstrated his versatility and flexibility with the orchestra with repertoire from the Renaissance to the present day, with unusual forms of presentation and projects ranging from scenic installations and playing on gut strings to free improvisations and the production of extraordinary music films during the pandemic. Robin Ticciati will remain in the position of DSO Music Director until the end of 2024.

With its many guest performances, the DSO is present on the national and international music scene. The orchestra has performed in recent years in Brazil and Argentina, in Japan, China, Malaysia, Abu Dhabi and Eastern Europe, as well as at major festivals such as the Salzburg Festival or BBC Proms. The DSO also has a global presence with numerous award-winning CD recordings. In 2011, it received the Grammy Award for the world premiere recording of Kaija Saariaho’s opera ‘L’amour de loin’ conducted by Kent Nagano. With works by Bruckner, Debussy, Duparc, Duruflé, Fauré, Rachmaninoff and Strauss, Robin Ticciati and the DSO have already presented six highly acclaimed recordings with Linn Records.

Since its inception, the DSO has been able to retain outstanding artist personalities. As the first Music Director, Ferenc Fricsay defined the standards in terms of repertoire, acoustic ideal and media presence. In 1964, the young Lorin Maazel assumed artistic responsibility. In 1982, he was followed by Riccardo Chailly and in 1989 by Vladimir Ashkenazy. Kent Nagano was appointed Music Director in 2000. Since his departure in 2006, he has been associated with the orchestra as a Conductor Laureate. From 2007 to 2010, Ingo Metzmacher and from 2012 to 2016, Tugan Sokhiev set decisive accents in the musical life of the capital.

The Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin is an ensemble of the Radio Orchestra and Choirs gGmbH (ROC). The shareholders are Deutschlandradio, the Federal Republic of Germany, the State of Berlin and Radio Berlin-Brandenburg.

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Online Press Area

Robin Ticciati
Music Director

Kent Nagano
Conductor Laureate

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

Berlin, 22 April 2024



→ dso-berlin.de/press

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