

## GERMAN RADIO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

The German Radio Philharmonic Orchestra (*Deutsche Radio Philharmonie*, DRP) is a radio symphony orchestra with a repertoire that encompasses the full range of classical music in all its diversity. It is jointly funded by two regional broadcasting corporations, Saarländischer Rundfunk (SR) and Südwestrundfunk (SWR), and based in both Saarbrücken and Kaiserslautern.

Under Chief Conductor Pietari Inkinen the orchestra has comprehensively explored the world of Late Romantic symphony music - including works by Anton Bruckner, Antonín Dvořák, Sergei Rachmaninoff and Richard Wagner - as well as the early Modern repertoire from the first half of the 20th century with composers like Béla Bartók, Sergei Prokofiev and Dmitri Shostakovich. The constant thread running through Pietari Inkinen's work with the DRP, however, has been the work of Finland's greatest composer, Jean Sibelius: his symphonies, of course, but also less well-known pieces.

The DRP also brings a wide variety of other periods and styles to its audiences: Baroque and contemporary music, new works to discover and others - some long neglected on the concert circuit - to rediscover, and even some incursions into jazz and pop. Special concerts for those new to classical music, families and schools are also an integral part of the orchestra's work. Members of the orchestra also independently organise and play three chamber music series and a cycle entitled "Moments Musicaux".

The orchestra gives guest performances at the Festspielhaus in Baden-Baden, the Arsenal in Metz, the Festspielhaus in Salzburg and the Kölner Philharmonie auditorium. In the last few years the DRP has toured South Korea several times, but also Switzerland, Poland and China.

Guests who appear with the DRP include not only big names from the world of classical music, but also young musicians on their way to the top. The orchestra is particularly committed to promoting upcoming talent. The newly founded Skrowaczewski Academy (2024) funds scholarships to give young musicians the opportunity to get to know the everyday working life of a top-class professional orchestra and all the demands that go with it. The Orchestra Academy joins the Saarbrücken International Composition Workshop, the Théodore Gouvy Composition Prize, the Saarbrücken Conducting Workshop and the WWR Young Opera Stars competition to further enhance the DRP's efforts to promote excellence in music.

The German Radio Philharmonic Orchestra was formed in 2007 by merging two existing orchestras, the Saarbrücken Radio Symphony Orchestra and the SWR Kaiserslautern Radio Orchestra. Its founding Chief Conductor was Christoph Poppen, and he was succeeded in 2011 by British conductor Karel Mark Chichon. The current Chief Conductor, Finn Pietari Inkinen, who has held the position since 2017, will be stepping down in 2025 but will maintain his links to the orchestra as a guest conductor. Josep Pons has been appointed to take over from him as of the 2025/26 season.

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[www.drp-orchester.de](http://www.drp-orchester.de)