

ALIISA NEIGE BARRIÈRE

CONDUCTOR

French–Finnish conductor Aliisa Neige Barrière is one of today's most exciting and distinctive emerging conductors. She collaborates with respected orchestras and conductors, with a repertoire spanning early to contemporary music, and curates engaging programmes that bring together music and dramaturgy, commissioning new works and highlighting voices that have been overlooked.

Barrière made her debut at the Paris Philharmonie sharing a concert with Esa-Pekka Salonen, Ensemble Intercontemporain and Orchestre de Paris. She conducted Mahler Chamber Orchestra at the Ojai Festival, and has been honoured with the Young Artist Award by the Mikkeli Festival. As Artist-in-Residence at Turku Music Festival in 2024 she curated a series of concerts ranging in scale from chamber music to orchestral music exploring an alternative history in which the voices of women were not silenced.

Recent highlights include a new production of Kaija Saariaho's *Emilie* with Avanti! Chamber Orchestra, at their summer residency in Porvoo, and concerts and recordings with Kuopio Symphony, Bergen Philharmonic and Athelas Sinfonietta. This season, Barrière makes appearances with Opéra National de Paris, English National Opera and her debut at Radio France's Festival Présences, with Ensemble NEXT.

Barrière graduated from the orchestral conducting class at the Sibelius Academy in 2023, where she studied under Sakari Oramo. She was previously mentored by Jorma Panula at the Panula Academy. Originally trained as a violinist, she studied in Paris, New York and Oslo, and gained leadership experience as guest concertmaster and section leader with ensembles including Ensemble Intercontemporain, Secession Orchestra, Barokksolistene and Oslo Sinfonietta. She also studied Baroque violin and has brought this curiosity and research into soundworlds to her work with orchestras.

She has received valuable mentorship from conductors such as Esa-Pekka Salonen, Simone Young, Susanna Mälkki, Sakari Oramo and Pekka Kuusisto. From 2021 to 2023 she served as Assistant Conductor to Dalia Stasevska with Sinfonia Lahti, and held the position of Young Conductor in Residence with Århus Sinfonietta. She has worked with orchestras and ensembles including Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Oulu Sinfonia, Tampere Philharmonic, BIT20 and Swedish Radio Orchestra.