



THE HELSINKI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

- founded 1882
- 102 musicians
- Chief Conductor and Artistic Director Jukka-Pekka Saraste
 - Principal Guest Conductor, Artistic Co-director Pekka Kuusisto
 - Composer-in-Residence Anna Thorvaldsdottir (season 25/26)
- over 100 international tours from year 1900
- over 100 recordings
- Grammy nominated 2021 & 2012

The Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra (HPO) is one of the oldest continuously operating professional symphony orchestras in the Nordic countries. The orchestra was founded in 1882 and moved under administration of City of Helsinki in 1914. The orchestra reaches a total audience of ca 100.000 a year at the Helsinki Music Centre and abroad. The orchestra has evolved into an increasingly impressive operator on the international scene of classical music with a distinctive sound.

The orchestra has a three-member Artistic Leadership Team, which comprises Chief Conductor and Artistic Director Jukka-Pekka Saraste, Principal Guest Conductor and Artistic Co-director Pekka Kuusisto and Composer-in-Residence Anna Thorvaldsdottir (season 25/26).

The Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra has premiered the majority of Jean Sibelius's orchestral compositions, and it has profiled itself as a high-class symphony orchestra that tours the most internationally renowned arenas, makes award-winning recordings and commissions and premieres works of leading international composers. The orchestra is recognized for its strong investment in reaching different audiences through, for example, the HPO Kids project and its own HKO Screen online concerts.

The orchestra regularly performs with renowned guest conductors and artists around the world. The orchestra has worked with e.g. violinist Joshua Bell and Leila Josefowicz, pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, violinist Inmo Yang and composers Joe Hisaishi and Lotta Wennäkoski. Conductors like Esa-Pekka Salonen, Nathalie Stutzmann, Kent Nagano, Dalia Stasevska as well as John Storgårds and Susanna Mälkki – both previous Chief Conductors of the orchestra – have taken the podium in Helsinki Music Centre with HPO.

During its over 140 years of operation, the orchestra has made more than 100 successful tours abroad. The first tour in year 1900 headed to Paris World Fair and since then Helsinki Philharmonic has toured in all continents. Most recently the orchestra has performed in prestigious concert halls in USA and Europe, e.g. Carnegie Hall in New York, Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, Germany and Wiener Konzerthaus in Vienna, Austria,

The orchestra's recordings have received numerous awards and earned several Grammy nominations.

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