Hannu Lintu

Conductor

With a “scrupulous ear for instrumental color and blend” (*Washington Post*) and bringing “a distinctive dynamism to the podium” (*Baltimore Sun*), Hannu Lintu enters his eighth year as Chief Conductor of the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra in the 2020/21 season. Highlights include Schumann’s *Faust Szenen*, Berlioz’s *La Damnation de Faust* and the second-ever FRSO Festival – devoted in 2019 to new and large-scale works by national composer Magnus Lindberg.

In May 2019 Lintu was appointed Chief Conductor of the Finnish National Opera and Ballet, a role which he commences in August 2021 as his final season as the FRSO’s Chief Conductor comes to a close. The appointment follows a series of hugely successful collaborations with the company – including *Tristan und Isolde* in 2016, Sibelius’s *Kullervo*in 2017, Berg’s *Wozzeck* in 2019 and Strauss’s *Ariadne auf Naxos*in 2020 – and reflects Lintu’s shifting focus into the field of opera.  Future productions will include the majority of the house’s rescheduled Ring cycle which will recommence with Die Walkure in Autumn 2022.

Also in 2021 Lintu makes his highly anticipated debut with Opéra national de Paris, conducting Wagner’s *Der fliegende Holländer.* Lintu also regularly conducts at the Savonlinna Festival, most recently for productions of Verdi’s *Otello* (2018) and Sallinen’s *Kullervo* (in 2017, as part of Finland’s centenary celebrations).

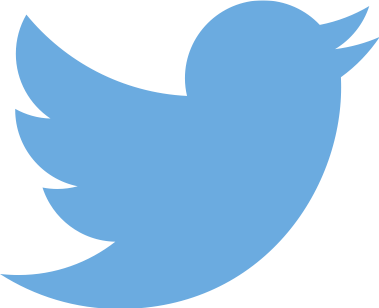
Guest highlights of the 2020/21 season include returns to the London Philharmonic and Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Gulbenkian Orchestra, Tampere Philharmonic and Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne; Lintu also debuts with the Orchestre National de France and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Recent engagements include debuts with the Chicago and Boston symphony orchestras, Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Tonkünstler-Orchester Niederösterreich and returns to the Baltimore, St Louis and Cincinnati symphony orchestras, New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Singapore Symphony Orchestra and NDR Elbphilharmonie.

Lintu has made several recordings for Ondine, BIS, Naxos, Avie and Hyperion; recent releases include the complete Beethoven Piano Concertos with Stephen Hough, Bernd Alois Zimmermann’s *Die Soldaten* and Violin Concerto with Leila Josefowicz, Lutoslawski’s Symphonies Nos. 1 & 4 and Nos. 2 & 3 and works by Kaija Saariaho with Gerald Finley and Xavier de Maistre, all of which feature Lintu’s principal recording partner, the FRSO.

Lintu has received several accolades for his recordings, including two ICMA awards for Bartók’s Violin Concertos with Christian Tetzlaff (2019) and works by Sibelius featuring Anne Sofie von Otter (2018), a 2021 GRAMMY nomination in the Best Orchestral Performance category for his recording of Lutoslawski’s Symphonies Nos 2 & 3, a 2011 GRAMMY nomination for Best Opera CD (Rautavaara’s *Kaivos*), and Gramophone Award nominations for his recordings of Enescu’s Symphony No.2 with the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra and the Violin Concertos of Sibelius and Thomas Adès with Augustin Hadelich and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

Lintu studied cello and piano at the Sibelius Academy, where he later studied conducting with Jorma Panula. He participated in masterclasses with Myung-Whun Chung at the L'Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena, Italy, and took first prize at the Nordic Conducting Competition in Bergen in 1994.



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