Gábor Káli
Conductor

After replacing Iván Fischer upon the maestro’s request in April 2019 with the prestigious Budapest Festival Orchestra, earning rave reviews and standing ovations in major cities and venues such as Budapest, Hamburg Elbphilharmonie, Paris and Luxembourg Philharmonies, Hungarian Gábor Káli positioned himself as one of the most promising young conductors.

In 2022/23, his expansive opera experience leads him to the prestigious Bayerische Staatsoper for *The Bartered Bride*, Semperoper Dresden (*Magic Flute*) and Graz Opera (*Madame Butterfly*). Other upcoming highlights establish him as a powerful leader of symphonic formations, with invitations to major orchestras such London Philharmonic, Gulbenkian Orchestra, Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra and Janáček Philharmonic.

He is regularly invited to guest-conduct major orchestras: Orchestre de Paris, Wiener Symphoniker, MDR Sinfonieorchester Leipzig, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lille, Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic orchestras, Scottish Chamber Orchestra on tour, Irish Chamber Orchestra, Kölner Kammerorchester, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Staatsorchester Stuttgart, Philharmonie Zuidnederland, Slovak Philharmonic and Taiwan National Symphony Orchestra.

In summer 2019, he performed at Salzburg Festival with ORF Radio-Symphonieorchester Wien. A live recording of the concert was released in Summer 2020 from the Salzburger Festspiele.

He is regularly invited to prestigious opera houses: Bayerische Staatsoper (*Turandot*, 2021); Semperoper Dresden upon Christian Thielemann’s invitation, which follows his 2018 huge success at Deutsche Oper am Rhein, conducting Verdi’s Rigoletto; Theater und Philharmonie Essen (*Bluebeard’s Castle, 2022*); Nationaltheater Mannheim (Così fan tutte). In 2015, he took up the position of First Kapellmeister and Deputy Music Director of the Nürnberg Staatstheater, conducting Berg’s *Wozzeck*, Puccini’s *La Bohème*, Janáček​’s *From the House of the Dead*, Bizet’s *The Pearl Fishers*, Strauss’ *Arabella* and Verdi’s *Otello*.

As a very versatile and capable musician, Gábor Káli is also highly committed to contemporary repertoire, regularly conducting new music and premiering various works across the globe. He is in particular greatly appreciated and sought-after for his deep knowledge of Bartók’s works which led him to conduct Budapest Festival Orchestra on tour.

Gábor Káli was awarded the prestigious Nestlé and Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award in 2018. In the same year he also won first prize at the inaugural Hong Kong International Conducting Competition.

Káli studied piano and conducting at the Franz Liszt Music Academy in Budapest. He joined the Dirigentenforum of the Deutsche Musikrat, where he attended masterclasses with Kurt Masur, Colin Metters and Sian Edwards. He also took part in courses with Péter Eötvös, Bernhard Haitink, David Zinman and the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich.