

Principal conductor Pietari Inkinen

Finnish conductor Pietari Inkinen took up his position as Principal Conductor of the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie (*German Radio Philharmonic Orchestra*) in September 2017. He is also the principal conductor of the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, the Prague Symphony Orchestra and the Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele).

Highlights of recent and upcoming seasons include first performances with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Gürzenich Orchestra, the NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra, the SWR Symphonieorchester and Budapest Festival Orchestra. In 2017/2018 he continued his series of concert performances with the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra playing Wagner's *The Ring* cycle. A new production of *Madama Butterfly* at the Finnish National Opera was preceded by a gala concert on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Finland's Declaration of Independence.

As guest conductor he has been on the podium with many well-known orchestras, including the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Staatskapelle, the Munich Philharmonics, the Milan La Scala Orchestra, the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Philharmonique de Radio France Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Orchestra, Spanish National Orchestra, Helsinki Philharmonic, Swedish Radio Symphony, as well as the Dresden Staatskapelle and the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra.

In autumn 2018, Pietari Inkinen will return to Melbourne to perform Wagner's *The Mastersingers of Nuremberg* at Opera Australia, where he already had great success with the revival of Neil Armfield's renowned production of Wagner's *The Ring of the Nibelung* in 2016. This production earned him the Helpmann Award for best opera director in 2014. He also conducted operas at the Finnish National Opera, at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, at the Staatsoper Unter den Linden and at the Bavarian State Opera. He conducted Wagner's *Rheingold* and *Valkyrie* at the Teatro Massimo in Palermo, and he took the podium at the Dresden Semperoper for the successful new production of *Eugen Onegin*.

During his time as Music Director of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Pietari Inkinen conducted the recording of the complete Sibelius Symphonies for the Naxos label and also Rautavaara's *Manhattan Trilogy*. He produced a live recording of a further Sibelius cycle with the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra. Worth mentioning are also a CD recording with arias and orchestral pieces by Richard Wagner with the tenor Simon O'Neill (EMI) as well as Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1 and Britten's Cello Symphony together with Johannes Moser (Hänssler).

Pietari Inkinen is not only a successful conductor, but also a successful violin soloist. He studied under Zakhar Bron at Cologne Music College before continuing his education as a conductor at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki.

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