

## SWR Symphonieorchester

### François-Xavier Roth, chief conductor and artistic leader

The SWR Symphonieorchester has its artistic home at the Liederhalle Stuttgart and the Konzerthaus Freiburg. Formed in September 2016 through the merger of the SWR Radio Symphony Orchestra Stuttgart and the SWR Symphony Orchestra Baden-Baden and Freiburg, its artistic profile encompasses interpretative approaches from historically informed performance practice, the classical-romantic core repertoire, and contemporary music in equal measure. In September 2025, François-Xavier Roth will assume the position of Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the SWR Symphonieorchester, succeeding Teodor Currentzis, who led the orchestra from 2018 to 2024.

Annual highlights in the SWR Symphonieorchester's concert calendar include SWR's own concert series in Stuttgart, Freiburg, and Mannheim, as well as performances at the Donaueschingen Music Festival and the Schwetzingen SWR Festival. Since 2020, the orchestra has been the resident orchestra of the Whitsun Festival at the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden. It regularly receives invitations to renowned venues and festivals such as the Salzburg Festival, the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, and concert halls in Berlin, Cologne, Frankfurt, Dortmund, Essen, Vienna, Edinburgh, London, Barcelona, Madrid, and Warsaw.

Internationally acclaimed conductors such as Herbert Blomstedt, Peter Eötvös, Christoph Eschenbach, Pablo Heras-Casado, Manfred Honeck, Jakub Hrůša, Elisha Inbal, Ingo Metzmacher, Kent Nagano, Sir Roger Norrington, Jonathan Nott, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Petr Popelka, Michael Sanderling, and Giedrė Šlekytė have collaborated with the SWR Symphonieorchester. Among its distinguished soloists are Leif Ove Andsnes, Yulianna Avdeeva, Renaud Capuçon, Sol Gabetta, Martin Grubinger, Isabelle Faust, Vilde Frang, Hilary Hahn, Janine Jansen, Alexandre Kantorow, Sabine Meyer, Emmanuel Pahud, Fazil Say, Gil Shaham, Antoine Tamestit, and Christian Tetzlaff. Since September 2024, violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja has joined the SWR Symphonieorchester as Artistic Partner for two seasons.

With its extensive music education programme, the orchestra reaches around 15,000 children, young people, and adults across the SWR broadcasting region each year. Numerous live broadcasts on SWR Kultur and concert streams on [SWR.de/so](https://www.swr.de/so) enable music lovers worldwide to experience the orchestra's performances.

Since 2024, the SWR Symphonieorchester has been an official partner of *La Maestra*, the world's leading international competition for young female conductors.