

## PRESS RELEASE

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# Joana Mallwitz to be Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Konzerthausorchester Berlin from the 2023/24 season

A change of baton at the helm of the Konzerthausorchester Berlin: from the 2023/24 season, Joana Mallwitz will head the capital's orchestra as Chief Conductor for the next five seasons.

Last season, Joana Mallwitz and the Konzerthausorchester already developed two concert projects that were successfully streamed and broadcast in collaboration with ARTE and rbb.

*"I am very honoured to come to the Konzerthaus as Chief Conductor and am greatly looking forward to working with the Konzerthausorchester, whose musicians I have had the opportunity to get to know over two wonderful projects as modern-thinking, musically joyful, explorative and extremely approachable personalities. Coupled with the exciting and inspiring history of the venue, the beauty of the orchestral sound and the wonderful team under General Director Sebastian Nordmann, one couldn't wish for better prerequisites as a conductor,"* says **Joana Mallwitz**, describing her motives for joining the Konzerthaus Berlin.

**The Senator for Culture and Europe, Klaus Lederer:** *"With Joana Mallwitz, Berlin's cultural landscape will be gaining an inspiring musician as well as an outstanding music educator. She embodies a new generation of orchestral leadership and, with the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, will help to inspire a broad audience for classical music. I am very much looking forward to experiencing numerous musical highlights at the Konzerthaus Berlin with the Konzerthausorchester and its Chief Conductor in the future."*

*"There is an incredible power and dynamism in Joana Mallwitz's conducting. She already casts a spell during concentrated rehearsals. In talking to her about the future of classical music, her great dedication and enthusiasm for music education quickly made her the candidate of choice. I am very happy that she will be joining us in Berlin,"* comments **General Director Sebastian Nordmann**.

*“With Joana Mallwitz as Chief Conductor, we will open an exciting new chapter for the Konzerthausorchester Berlin. We share the concern of bringing music of the highest quality to a broad audience. Her great willingness to experiment and her professional competence provide innovative stimuli for us to set artistic highlights together. We are already very excited about her taking up her new role,”* sums up the **Speaker of the Orchestra Board Uwe Emmrich**.

She takes over the position from Christoph Eschenbach, who will remain closely associated with the orchestra.

The collaboration will begin with the 2023/24 season. The contract is to be concluded for five years, subject to the approval of the Personnel Commission and the consent of the Berlin Senate.

## Biography of Joana Mallwitz

At the latest since her acclaimed debut with Mozart’s “Cosi fan tutte” at the 2020 Salzburg Festival, Joana Mallwitz has been one of the outstanding conductors of her generation. In the 100-year history of the festival, she was the first woman to be entrusted with a new production and an entire series of performances. Since the 2018/19 season, Joana Mallwitz, then 33 years old, has been working as General Music Director at the Nuremberg State Theatre and was awarded “Conductor of the Year” in the autumn of 2019.

As a portrait artist of the Wiener Musikverein, she will take the podium with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and the RSO Vienna during the 2021/22 season; further debuts are planned with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre National de France and at the Semperoper Dresden with a new production of “Rusalka”. In recent years she has appeared at the Bavarian State Opera (“Eugene Onegin” and “L’elisir d’amore”), the Frankfurt Opera (“Salome” and “The Merry Widow”), the Royal Danish Opera (“The Flying Dutchman” and “Madama Butterfly”), the Norwegian National Opera Oslo (“Der Rosenkavalier”) and the Zürich Opera House (“Macbeth”). Concert engagements have taken her to the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, the HR and SWR Symphony Orchestras, the Philharmonia Orchestra London, the Munich Philharmonic, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra.

After her longstanding engagement as Music Director at the Theater Heidelberg, Mallwitz took up her first conducting post at the Theater Erfurt in the 2014/2015 season as Europe’s youngest General Music Director. There she established the Philharmonic Orchestra’s Orchestra Academy and founded the composer-in-residence programme known as “Erfurt’s New Notes”.

Her “Expedition Concerts”, also conceived during this time, have since become a resounding success at her main venue, the Nuremberg State Theatre, and as an online format. After her debut in Nuremberg with productions of Prokofiev’s “War

and Peace” and Wagner’s “Lohengrin”, which received national attention, Joana Mallwitz will rehearse new productions of “Pelléas et Mélisande” and “Der Rosenkavalier” there during the coming season.

Born in Hildesheim, Mallwitz studied conducting with Martin Brauß and Eiji Oue and piano with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling and Bernd Goetzke at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media.

## Pressekontakte

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