

London **Philharmonic** Orchestra

LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES KARINA CANELLAKIS AS PRINCIPAL GUEST CONDUCTOR FROM 2020/21 SEASON

The London Philharmonic Orchestra today announces the appointment of American conductor Karina Canellakis as its new Principal Guest Conductor from September 2020.

One of the most dynamic and exciting conductors of our time, Karina Canellakis made an immediate impact on the players of the LPO when she made her debut with them in October 2018 in a concert of Sibelius, Dvořák and Bartók at the Royal Festival Hall. Currently Chief Conductor of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic and Principal Guest Conductor of the Rundfunk Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Canellakis's international reputation has quickly grown since winning the Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award in 2016.

Canellakis began her career as a violinist, graduating from the Curtis Institute of Music, performing frequently as soloist and chamber musician, and playing for two years in the Berlin Philharmonic as a member of their Orchester-Akademie. She then spent a number of years playing regularly in the Chicago Symphony and appearing as Guest Leader of various orchestras including the Bergen Philharmonic. Having been inspired to focus more seriously on conducting, she decided to study at Juilliard, and began conducting professionally in 2013, initially with the International Contemporary Ensemble in New York. She made her European conducting debut in 2015 and over the last few seasons has made hugely successful debuts with leading orchestras around the world that have resulted in instant re-invitations and lasting relationships.

Timothy Walker, Chief Executive & Artistic Director of the LPO, says:

'There are very few conductors who instantly impress players by their command of a score, their insights and their intellectual rigour. Karina is one of those few, and everyone at the London Philharmonic Orchestra is thrilled that she will join us as our next Principal Guest Conductor. We look forward to many years of music-making with Karina.'

Karina Canellakis, Principal Guest Conductor, says:

"I am honoured and excited to become the new Principal Guest Conductor of the LPO, an Orchestra which both impressed me and captured my heart during our first rehearsals together. Together we are going to explore all kinds of different repertoire, looking through a fresh lens at the most beloved works of Beethoven and Brahms, plunging into the intense world of Shostakovich, as well as venturing into lesser known territory with works such as Brett Dean's Komarov's Fall. I cannot wait to see the members of the orchestra again, to hear their virtuosic and soulful playing, and to make thrilling music together."

Canellakis will conduct four Royal Festival Hall concerts with the LPO in the 2020/21 season. Her first concert as Principal Guest Conductor is part of the LPO's year-long *2020 Vision* series, pairing Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 with John Adams's concerto for string quartet, *Absolute Jest* [3 Oct 2020]. The following day she conducts the orchestra in one of their FUNharmonics concerts. She returns to the RFH in April 2021 to conduct *Komarov's Fall* by the LPO's Composer in Residence, Brett Dean [14 April 2021], and a programme of Brahms and Beethoven with Stephen Hough [16

April 2021]: a programme that she will also take to Brighton as part of the LPO's residency [17 April 2021].

For further information please contact Simon Millward at Premier,
simon.millward@premiercomms.com, 07990 507 310

LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

One of the finest orchestras on the international stage, the London Philharmonic Orchestra balances a long and distinguished history with its reputation as one of the UK's most forward-looking ensembles. As well as its concert performances, the Orchestra also records film soundtracks, releases CDs and downloads on its own label, and reaches thousands of people every year through activities for families, schools and local communities.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra was founded by Sir Thomas Beecham in 1932, and has since been headed by many great conductors including Sir Adrian Boult, Bernard Haitink, Sir Georg Solti, Klaus Tennstedt and Kurt Masur. In 2017 Vladimir Jurowski celebrated his tenth anniversary as the Orchestra's Principal Conductor. Edward Gardner is currently Principal Conductor Designate, and will take up the position when Jurowski's tenure concludes in September 2021.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra has performed at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall since it opened in 1951, becoming Resident Orchestra in 1992. As well as its London home, it also has flourishing residencies in Brighton, Eastbourne and Saffron Walden, and each summer plays for Glyndebourne Festival Opera, where it has been Resident Symphony Orchestra for over 50 years. The Orchestra also tours internationally, performing to sell-out audiences worldwide.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra broadcasts regularly on television and radio. It also works with the Hollywood and UK film industries, recording soundtracks for blockbusters including the Oscar-winning score for *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. In 2005 it established its own record label, which now numbers over 100 releases all available on CD and to stream or download.

In summer 2012 the London Philharmonic Orchestra performed as part of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pageant on the River Thames, and was also chosen to record all the world's national anthems for the London 2012 Olympics. In 2013 it was the winner of the RPS Music Award for Ensemble. The London Philharmonic Orchestra's dynamic Education & Community programme provides first musical experiences to children and families; offers creative projects and professional development opportunities for schools and teachers; inspires talented teenage instrumentalists to progress their skills; and develops the next generation of professional musicians.

The Orchestra's work at the forefront of digital technology has enabled it to reach millions of people worldwide: all its recordings are available to download and stream and, as well as a YouTube channel, the Orchestra has a lively presence on social media.

www.lpo.org.uk

facebook.com/londonphilharmonicorchestra

twitter.com/LPOrchestra

instagram.com/londonphilharmonicorchestra

KARINA CANELLAKIS

Karina Canellakis is the newly appointed Chief Conductor of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra and Principal Guest Conductor of Rundfunk Sinfonieorchester Berlin. Internationally acclaimed for her emotionally charged performances, technical command and interpretive depth,

Canellakis has conducted many of the top orchestras in North America, Europe, and Australasia since winning the Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award in 2016.

She makes several notable debuts in the 2019/20 season, including Philadelphia Orchestra, the symphony orchestras of San Francisco, Atlanta and Minnesota, London Symphony, Munich Philharmonic and NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra. With a strong presence at European summer festivals, Karina also makes debut appearances at St Denis Festival with Orchestre Philharmonique du Radio France and Edinburgh International Festival with BBC Scottish Symphony, and returns to Bregenz Festspiele with Wiener Symphoniker with a programme featuring the third act of Wagner's *Siegfried*. Other notable re-invitations include the Orchestre de Paris, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, the Houston and Toronto symphonies and the LA Philharmonic for performances at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

A sterling 2018/19 season saw Karina conduct the First Night of the Proms in London and the Nobel Prize Concert in Stockholm. Debuts included Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, St. Louis Symphony, Melbourne Symphony, London Philharmonic, Deutsches Symphonie-orchester Berlin, Dresdner Philharmoniker and Oslo Philharmonic. She returned to Swedish Radio Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the symphony orchestras of Cincinnati, Dallas, Detroit and Milwaukee.

On the operatic stage, Karina returns this season to Opernhaus Zurich, where she will lead a fully staged production of Verdi's *Requiem*. Last season she conducted critically acclaimed performances of *Don Giovanni* with the Curtis Opera Theater at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. She has also conducted *Die Zauberflöte* with Opernhaus Zurich, *Le nozze di Figaro* with Curtis Opera Theatre, and gave the world premiere of David Lang's opera *The Loser* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. In 2017 Karina led Peter Maxwell Davies's final opera *The Hogboon* with Luxembourg Philharmonic.

Already known to many in the classical music world for her virtuoso violin playing, Karina was initially encouraged to pursue conducting by Sir Simon Rattle while she was playing regularly in the Berlin Philharmonic for two years as a member of their Orchester-Akademie. In addition to appearing frequently as a soloist with various North American orchestras, she subsequently played regularly in the Chicago Symphony for over three years and appeared on several occasions as guest concertmaster of the Bergen Philharmonic in Norway. She also spent many summers performing at the Marlboro Music Festival. She plays a 1782 Mantegazza violin on generous loan from a private patron. Karina Canellakis previously served as Assistant Conductor of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School.

LPO 2020/2021 performances with Karina Canellakis

3 October 2020, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall

John Adams Absolute Jest
Bartók Four Orchestral Pieces
Beethoven Symphony No. 8
Karina Canellakis *conductor*
Heath Quartet

4 October 2020, 12pm, Royal Festival Hall

FUNharmonics family concert
Berlioz *Symphonie fantastique*
Karina Canellakis *conductor*

14 April 2021, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall

Brett Dean Komarov's Fall
Schumann Violin Concerto
Shostakovich Symphony No. 5
Karina Canellakis *conductor*
Frank Peter Zimmermann *violin*

16 April 2021, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall

Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1
Beethoven Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
Karina Canellakis *conductor*
Stephen Hough *piano*

17 April 2021, 7.30pm, Brighton Dome

Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1
Beethoven Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
Karina Canellakis *conductor*
Stephen Hough *piano*