

NHK Symphony Orchestra & Chief Conductor Paavo Järvi will perform concerts in 9 cities across 7 European nations from late February to early March 2020

The NHK Symphony Orchestra will be making a European concert tour from late February to early March of 2020. The coming tour will also be led by Chief Conductor Paavo Järvi for the first time since 2017. They will perform in 9 cities across 7 European nations including major cities such as London, Paris, Vienna and Berlin, as well as Tallinn, the capital city of Mo. Järvi's native country of Estonia. Khatia Buniatishvili, pianist, who has worked with the orchestra before, and Sol Gabetta, cellist, who will debut with the orchestra, will be the soloists.

Message from Maestro Paavo Järvi

The NHK Symphony Orchestra and I have been scheduled to have a European tour for the second time in February 2020. We will be visiting 7 countries, performing in 9 cities which are closely connected to classical music including Berlin and Vienna where we performed on our previous trip, as well. It will be quite a significant occasion for all of us.

The first leg is Estonia, my native country, where, in the past, I performed with the Orchestre de Paris when I was Music Director, therefore, ever since I became Chief Conductor of the NHK Symphony Orchestra, it was my earnest wish to take the orchestra there. So I am very happy that finally it will be realized.

I hope we can fascinate the local audience throughout the tour.

Programme

Paavo Järvi, conductor

Sol Gabetta, cello [Programme A,B]

Khatia Buniatishvili, piano [Programme C,D]

Programme A

Takemitsu / How slow the Wind (1991)

Schumann / Cello Concerto A Minor Op. 129

Bruckner / Symphony No. 7 E Major

Programme B

Takemitsu / How slow the Wind (1991)

Schumann / Cello Concerto A Minor Op. 129

Rakhmaninov / Symphony No. 2 E Minor Op. 27

Programme C

Takemitsu / How slow the Wind (1991)

Beethoven / Piano Concerto No. 3 C Minor Op. 37

Bruckner / Symphony No. 7 E Major

Programme D

Takemitsu / How slow the Wind (1991)

Beethoven / Piano Concerto No. 3 C Minor Op. 37

Rakhmaninov / Symphony No. 2 E Minor Op. 27

Schedule

Saturday, February 22, 2020 7:00p.m.

Tallinn (Estonia) [Programme A]

Estonia Concert Hall

Website:

<https://concert.ee/en/kontsert/nhk-sumfooniaorkester-tokyo-s-gabetta-tsello-dir-paavo-jarvi/>

Monday, February 24, 2020 7:30p.m.

London (United Kingdom) [Programme B]

Royal Festival Hall

Website:

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/123941-paavo-jarvi-nhk-symphony-orchestra-2020>

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 8:30p.m.

Paris (France) [Programme C]

Philharmonie de Paris

Website:

<https://philharmoniedeparis.fr/en/activity/concert-symphonique/20411-nhk-symphony-orchestra-tokyo-paavo-jarvi>

Thursday, February 27, 2020 7:30p.m.

Vienna (Austria) [Programme C]

Wiener Konzerthaus

Website:

<https://konzerthaus.at/concert/eventid/57065>

Friday, February 28, 2020 8:00p.m.

Cologne (Germany) [Programme A]

Kölner Philharmonie

Website:

<https://www.koelner-philharmonie.de/en/programm/s-gabetta-nhk-symphony-orchestra-tokyo-p-jarvi-bruckner-sc-humann-takemitsu/122798>

Saturday, February 29, 2020 8:00p.m.

Dortmund (Germany) [Programme A]

Konzerthaus Dortmund

Website:

<https://www.konzerthaus-dortmund.de/de/programm/29-02-2020-sol-gabetta-nhk-symphony-221993/>

Monday, March 2, 2020 8:15p.m.

Amsterdam (Netherlands) [Programme B]

Concertgebouw

Website:

<https://www.concertgebouw.nl/en/page/41451#581ffb57eae47db881558b389f1d9b196bf67b27>

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 8:00p.m.

Berlin (Germany) [Programme C]

Berliner Philharmonie

Website:

<https://www.berliner-philharmoniker.de/en/concerts/calendar/details/52818/#highlight=NHK>

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 8:00p.m.

Brussels (Belgium) [Programme D]

Palais des Beaux-Arts

Website:

<https://www.bozar.be/en/activities/150908-nhk-symphony-orchestra-tokyo-paavo-jarvi>



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Paavo Järvi, conductor

The Estonian conductor and Grammy Award winner Paavo Järvi is widely recognised as the musicians' musician. On his farewell tour with the Orchestre de Paris, of which he was Music Director for six years, the Wiener Zeitung wrote: "One rarely experiences such an immediate connection between orchestra and conductor, such an extraordinarily attentive presence on both sides so that with economical means an understanding of the most subtle shades is possible."

Paavo Järvi's close association with orchestras is evident through his long-standing relationship with The Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen of which he has been Artistic Director since 2004. This season he returns with them to Asia for performances across Japan and Korea in December 2018. Throughout 2018/19, they tour Europe with their latest Schubert project, which includes an ongoing residency at Vienna's Musikverein, and release the second album in their Brahms Symphonies cycle.

Paavo Järvi opens his fourth season as Chief Conductor of the NHK Symphony Orchestra, presenting a wide range of repertoire spanning from Orff's Carmina Burana to Messiaen's Turangalila. He is also Conductor Laureate of Frankfurt Radio Symphony and Music Director Laureate of Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

Before starting his new role as Chief Conductor and Music Director of the TonhalleOrchester Zürich from the 2019/20 season, Paavo Järvi will conduct the Orchestra several times both at home in Zürich and on tour in China and Korea in Autumn 2018.

In addition to his permanent positions, Järvi is in much demand as a guest conductor, appearing regularly with the Berliner Philharmoniker, London's Philharmonia Orchestra, Staatskapelle Berlin, Münchner Philharmoniker, Staatskapelle Dresden and Leipzig Gewandhaus. Highlights of his recent and upcoming guest engagements include the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Wiener Philharmoniker, New York Philharmonic, Teatro alla Scala in Milan and NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester. This season, he also returns to the Orchestre de Paris, and takes London's Philharmonia Orchestra on tour to Munich, Cologne and Hamburg in early 2019.

Each season concludes with a week of performances and master-classes at the Pärnu Music Festival in Estonia, which Paavo Järvi founded in 2011. As a Festival celebrating the orchestra at its heart, Paavo created a new ensemble which has become the uncontested highlight of the summer season: the Estonian Festival Orchestra. He toured with them for the first time in Europe's major capital cities in January 2018 and introduced them to the BBC Proms and Hamburg Elbphilharmonie in August 2018. He now brings them, for the first time, to Japan in Spring 2019.

Paavo Järvi is a dedicated supporter of Estonian composers and is Artistic Adviser to the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra. He was awarded the Order of the White Star by the President of Estonia in 2013 for his outstanding contribution to Estonian culture.

With an extensive discography, Paavo Järvi's upcoming projects include the second recording in the Brahms Symphony series with The Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen featuring Brahms' Symphony No.1 and Haydn's Brahms Variations (Autumn 2018 Sony / RCA label). The complete Sibelius Symphony cycle, which Järvi recorded with the Orchestre de Paris, will also be released internationally in Autumn 2018. It was for this performance and recording project that Järvi was honoured with the Sibelius Medal, in recognition of his work in bringing greater attention to the Finnish composer's music to French audiences.

Recent recording projects include the Estonian Festival Orchestra's debut CD of Shostakovich on Alpha Classics, the first of three Strauss albums with NHK Symphony Orchestra on RCA Red

Seal/Sony, the complete Nielsen Symphonies with Frankfurt Radio Symphony on Sony, and Elgar and Walton's Cello Concertos with Steven Isserlis and Philharmonia Orchestra on Hyperion.

Paavo Järvi has won a Grammy Award for his recording of Sibelius' Cantatas with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Estonian National Male Choir and Ellerhein Girls Choir. He was named Artist of the Year by both Gramophone (UK) and Diapason (France) in autumn 2015. He has also been appointed Commandeur de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture, for his contribution to music in France.

Born in Tallinn, Estonia, Paavo Järvi studied Percussion and Conducting at the Tallinn School of Music. In 1980, he moved to the USA where he continued his studies at the Curtis Institute of Music and at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute with Leonard Bernstein.



Sol Gabetta, cello

©Uwe Arens

Following recent appearances with Berliner Philharmoniker and Sir Simon Rattle, Los Angeles Philharmonic under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel and BBC Symphony Orchestra with Sakari Oramo opening the BBC Proms, Sol Gabetta starts into this season as Artist-in-Residence at Staatskapelle Dresden. As part of her residency she will join forces with Christian Thielemann, Tugan Sokhiev, and Daniele Gatti. This season she is also Portrait artist with Bamberg Symphony and will collaborate with Klaus Mäkelä and perform one of her signature works, Elgar's Cello Concerto, under the baton of Jakub Hrůša on tour throughout Germany and Spain. A respected advocate for lesser known works, Sol Gabetta will conclude her Bamberg residency illuminating, under the direction of Krzysztof Urbanski, Weinberg's Cello Concerto, which she also brings to Gewandhausorchester Leipzig.

Later in the season, Gabetta tours extensively throughout Europe with NHK Symphony Orchestra and Paavo Järvi, and reunites with Czech Philharmonic and Jakub Hrůša once again on tour of Germany. This season also sees Gabetta return to the Philharmonia Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, and premiere the newly commissioned Wolfgang Rihm Cello Concerto -Concerto en Sol – which was written for her.

A sought after guest artist at leading festivals, Sol Gabetta was Artiste étoile at Lucerne Festival last season where she appeared with Wiener Philharmoniker and Franz Welser-Möst, Mahler Chamber Orchestra and Francois-Xavier Roth and the London Philharmonic Orchestra directed by Marin Alsop. She continues drawing inspiration from a wide circle of collaborators and musical encounters at the Solsberg Festival, which flourishes under her committed artistic direction.

Chamber music is at the core of Gabetta's work, visible in her upcoming tour of Italy with Nelson Goerner, performances at Semperoper Dresden and Heidelberger Frühling with her longtime recital partner Bertrand Chamayou and recent appearances with the Hagen Quartet at Salzburg Festival, Tonhalle Zürich, Elbphilharmonie and Wiener Konzerthaus. In the past, chamber music performances led her to venues such as New York's Lincoln Center, Wigmore Hall in London, Lucerne, Verbier, Schwetzingen and Rheingau festivals, Schubertiade Schwarzenberg and Beethovenfest Bonn.

In recognition of her exceptional artistic achievements, Sol Gabetta was honoured with the Herbert von Karajan Prize at the Salzburg Easter Festival in 2018 where she appeared as soloist with the Staatskapelle Dresden and Christian Thielemann. The ECHO Klassik award saluted her accomplishment biennially between 2007 and 2013, and most recently in 2016, when Sol Gabetta

was announced Instrumentalist of the Year for her interpretation of Pēteris Vasks' Cello Concerto No. 2. A Grammy Award nominee, she also received the Gramophone Young Artist of the Year Award in 2010 and the Würth-Preis of the Jeunesses Musicales in 2012 as well as commendations at Moscow's Tchaikovsky Competition and the ARD International Music Competition in Munich. She continues to build her extensive discography with SONY, the most recent releases being a recording of late Schumann works and a live recording of the cello concertos by Elgar and Martinů with the Berliner Philharmoniker and Sir Simon Rattle /Krzysztof Urbanski. In 2017, Gabetta joined forces with Cecilia Bartoli on an extensive tour throughout Europe showcasing their album *Dolce Duello*, released on Decca Classics.

Sol Gabetta performs on a cello by Matteo Goffriller from 1730, Venice, provided by Atelier Cels. She has been teaching at the Basel Academy of Music since 2005.



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Khatia Buniatishvili, piano

Born in 1987 in Georgia, Khatia Buniatishvili discovers piano at her very early age (3 years). She gives her first concert with Tbilisi Chamber Orchestra at 6 and appears internationally at her 10. Khatia studied in Tbilisi with Tengiz Amiredjibi and in Vienna with Oleg Maisenberg.

She made her U.S. debut at Carnegie Hall, in 2008. Since then, she has performed at Hollywood Bowl, iTunes festival, BBC Proms, Salzburg festival, Verbier Festival, Menuhin Festival Gstaad, La Roque d'Anthéron Festival, Klavier-Festival Ruhr, « Progetto Martha Argerich », at the great halls: New York Carnegie Hall, Los Angeles Walt Disney Concert Hall, London Royal Festival Hall, Vienna Musikverein and Konzerthaus, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Berlin Philharmonie, Paris Philharmonie and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Milan La Scala, Venice Teatro La Fenice, Barcelona Palau de la Música Catalana, Geneva Victoria Hall, Zurich Tonhalle, Prague Rudolfinum, Shanghai Grand Theater, Beijing NCPA, Mumbai NCPA, Tokyo Suntory Hall, Singapore Esplanade Theatre, etc.

Among Khatia's musical partners are world-leading conductors such as Maestro Zubin Mehta or Plácido Domingo, Kent Nagano, Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Mikhail Pletnev, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Semyon Bychkov, Jaap Van Zweden, Gustavo Dudamel, Myung-Whun Chung, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Philippe Jordan etc. and famous orchestras: Israel Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Toronto Symphony, São Paulo State Symphony, China Philharmonic, NHK Symphony, London Symphony, BBC Symphony, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de France, Filarmonica della Scala, Vienna Symphony, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, etc.

During the last seasons, Khatia committed to various projects : 70th anniversary of United Nations – Charity concert for Syrian refugees, Charity Concert in Kiev for wounded persons in ATO area, « to Russia with Love » concert against human rights violations in Russia, took part in the DLDWomen conference. Khatia collaborated with rock group COLDPLAY for their last album « A Head Full Of Dreams ».