

## Michael Sanderling | Principal Conductor

Michael Sanderling, one of the most distinguished conductors of our time, has been the principal conductor of the Dresden Philharmonic since 2011.

In April 2017 the Dresden Philharmonic moved into the newly renovated concert hall at the Kulturpalast, a real high point of the season. The inaugural performance marking the re-opening of the venue was conducted by Michael Sanderling and featured songs of Franz Schubert (with soloist Matthias Goerne), Julia Fischer performing as soloist in the Johannes Brahms Violin Concerto, and the iconic finale, "Ode to Joy," from Beethoven's Symphony No 9.

Michael is guest conductor of renowned orchestras such as the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, the Munich Philharmonic, the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra of Moscow, the Czech Philharmonic, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and the German Radio Symphony Orchestras of WDR and SWR.

With the Dresden Philharmonic, Michael Sanderling regularly undertakes concert tours in Asia, South America, the U.S.A., Spain, the United Kingdom, Austria, Switzerland and Germany. In cooperation with SONY Classical, since 2015 a CD recording of all the symphonies by Ludwig van Beethoven and Dmitri Shostakovich is being produced under Michael Sanderling's leadership. As of now, the first two CDs of the series have been released, marking a new chapter in the discography of the Dresden Philharmonic.

Born in Berlin, Michael Sanderling is one of the few people who, after playing in an orchestra, has been able to achieve a highly successful career as conductor. In 1987, at the age of 20, he became solo cellist of the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig under Kurt Masur and, from 1994 to 2006, he held the same position in the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra. As a soloist, he gave guest performances with ensembles including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Orchestre de Paris. As a cellist however, he stopped performing a long time ago.

Michael Sanderling first graced the conductor's stand at a concert of the Kammerorchester Berlin in 2000 – to great acclaim. Having been familiar with the art of conducting from a young age, as son of the legendary Kurt Sanderling, Michael Sanderling took on more and more conducting roles, and was named the Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the Kammerakademie Potsdam in 2006.

As an opera conductor, he enjoyed success with Philip Glass' "The Fall of the House of Usher" in Potsdam, and with a new production of Sergei Prokofiev's "War and Peace" at the Cologne Opera. As cellist and conductor, he recorded important works by Dvorak, Schumann, Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky and many others on CD.

One of Michael Sanderling's passions is working with young musicians. He teaches at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Frankfurt/Main and regularly works with the Bundesjugendorchester (National Youth Orchestra of Germany), the Young Philharmonic Orchestra Jerusalem Weimar, the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie and the Schleswig-Holstein-Festivalsorchester. From 2003 to 2013, he was the principal conductor for the Deutsche Streicherphilharmonie.

Since 2017, the "Kurt Masur Academy – The Orchestra Academy of the Dresden Philharmonic", founded thanks to the commitment of Michael Sanderling and the close relationship of Kurt Masur with the Dresden Philharmonic and its Principal Conductor, has welcomed young international musicians and thus contributing to passing the characteristic tonal culture of the history-steeped orchestra on to emerging young talent. The new institution will help ensure the future viability of the orchestra thanks to the impetus of its academy musicians.