

Press release – London, 9 October 2019

Orchestre de chambre de Paris :

Lars Vogt, new Music Director



Lars Vogt has been appointed Music Director of the Orchestre de chambre de Paris from 1 July 2020, for a 3-year term in agreement with the City of Paris and the Ministry of Culture - Drac Ile-de-France.

With Lars Vogt, the Orchestre de chambre de Paris has appointed a Music Director who is both an outstanding musician and an internationally acclaimed conductor. His presence further strengthens the orchestra's original artistic approach and its roots in chamber music.

This appointment is the result of a process that was begun more than a year ago by the Board of Directors of the Orchestre de chambre de Paris in constant dialogue with all their musicians. These positive exchanges led to a short list of four candidates including one female conductor on which all the musicians had an advisory vote.

This rigorous procedure allowed the Board of Directors, meeting on 8 October 2019, to appoint Lars Vogt as the next Music Director of the Orchestre de chambre de Paris with the approval of the City of Paris and the Ministry of Culture – Drac Ile-de-France.

The appointment of Lars Vogt marks a new stage in the musical development begun by Douglas Boyd in 2015. Over the last five years, the Orchestre de chambre de Paris has seen a significant regeneration with

44% new players joining in this time. Today recognised as the most youthful orchestra in Paris, it is also the first professional French orchestra to have full gender equality. The Orchestre de chambre de Paris is now recognised as one of the benchmark chamber orchestras in Europe. Its reach stretches over the whole of Paris with concerts at the Philharmonie, Théâtre des Champs Elysées and the Théâtre du Chatelet as well as the wider region for audiences further afield, whilst also developing an international touring presence.

Musically involved in the life of the city, the orchestra has developed a community outreach project open to all Parisians including those in situations of social insecurity. The recent projects with emergency night shelters, and inmates of Meaux prison are both strong examples of this initiative.

Lars Vogt has established himself as one of the leading musicians of his generation. Born in the German town of Düren in 1970, he first came to public attention when he won second prize at the 1990 Leeds International Piano Competition and has enjoyed a varied career for over twenty-five years. His versatility as an artist ranges from the core classical repertoire of Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann and Brahms to the romantics Grieg, Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninov through to the dazzling Lutoslawski concerto.

During his prestigious career Lars has performed with many of the world's great orchestras including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, Santa Cecilia Orchestra, Berliner Philharmoniker, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Bayerischer Rundfunk Munich, Staatskapelle Dresden, Wiener Philharmoniker, London Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Symphony and NHK Symphony.

Since September 2015 Lars has been Music Director of Royal Northern Sinfonia at Sage Gateshead in the UK, a position which he has held for five years with the 2019/20 season marking his final season before he becomes Principal Artistic Partner of the orchestra. As a conductor Lars has also worked with many leading orchestras, including the Cologne and Zurich Chamber Orchestras, Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, Camerata Salzburg, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Hannover Opera Orchestra, Frankfurt Museumorchester, Warsaw Philharmonic, and the Sydney, Singapore and New Zealand symphony orchestras. In May 2019 he undertook a highly acclaimed tour of Germany and France leading the Mahler Chamber Orchestra including concerts in Berlin, Munich and Paris.

Message from Lars Vogt new musical director

"From the first moment of working with the Orchestre de chambre de Paris I felt an immediate and highly emotional connection with the orchestra.

It's fascinating to see how open this immensely creative group is to artistic ideas and to taking risks, which is so much what music-making is all about! I'm thrilled that we are going to go on a long-term journey now and can't wait for all our musical adventures to come.

I also want to thank my predecessor Douglas Boyd for his amazing work with the orchestra, I know he is most highly appreciated by musicians and audiences alike! I'm certain that the outstanding quality of the orchestra today has a lot to do with his work over the last years." Lars Vogt – October 8, 2019

As Music Director of the Orchestre de chambre de Paris, Lars Vogt will conduct 6 to 8 concerts a year as well as touring, recording projects and other various initiatives of the orchestra.

Press contact : Lucy Boccadoro : + 33 6 62 15 50 78 / lucy@boccadoro.fr