



Gergely Madaras, Music Director of the l'OPRL

Gergely Madaras is the newly appointed 9th Music Director of the Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège, beginning his inaugural tenure in September 2019.

Born in Budapest in 1984, Gergely initially studied Hungarian folk music, then went on studying classical flute, violin and composition, graduating from the flute faculty of the Liszt Academy in Budapest, as well as the conducting faculty of the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. He is also Chief Conductor of the Savaria Symphony Orchestra in his native Hungary since 2014, and held the position of Music Director of the Orchestre Dijon Bourgogne between 2013-2019.

Having forged strong professional relationships throughout Europe, Gergely regularly appears as a guest conductor with leading orchestras. Recent seasons saw his engagements with Philharmonia, BBC Symphony, BBC Philharmonic and BBC Scottish Symphony orchestras, the Hallé, Filarmonica della Scala, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI, Oslo Philharmonic, Copenhagen Philharmonic and Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, just to name but a few, appearing on stages such as Philharmonie de Paris, Barbican, Royal Festival Hall or Suntory Hall in Tokyo. Further afield, he has made highly successful debuts with the Melbourne, Queensland and Houston Symphony orchestras. Highlights of the 2019/20 season are his debuts with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Orchestre National de Lyon, and Netherlands Philharmonic in the Amsterdam Concertgebouw.

Gergely has also established a fine reputation as an opera conductor. In 2012 he was chosen to be the inaugural recipient of the Sir Charles Mackerras Fellowship at the English National Opera. The fellowship culminated in his debut with the company, where he conducted Simon McBurney's new production of *Magic Flute* at the London Coliseum. Since then he has conducted highly praised productions of *Figaro*, *Magic Flute*, *Otello*, *Traviata*, *La Bohème*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Vanessa*, *Bluebeard's Castle*, *Albert Herring*, *Fantasio* and *Viva La Mamma*, at houses including De Nationale Opera Amsterdam, Grand Théâtre de Genève and the Hungarian State Opera.

While Gergely is grounded in the core classical and romantic repertoire, he maintains a close relationship with new music. He became the assistant of Pierre Boulez at the Lucerne Festival Academy between 2010 and 2013. In recent years, he has collaborated closely with George Benjamin, György Kurtág and Peter Eötvös, and premiered, conducted or recorded over 100 compositions written after 1970.

For the season 2019-2020