

Dominik Beykirch

Conductor

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BIOGRAPHY

The German conductor Dominik Beykirch has been instrumental in defining the artistic profile of the **Deutsches Nationaltheater (DNT)** and the **Staatskapelle Weimar** since the 2015/16 season, consistently upholding a high standard of excellence. He was initially engaged as Kapellmeister and subsequently appointed 'Chief Conductor of Music Theatre' in 2020. Since the 2023/2024 season, Dominik Beykirch has assumed the role of **Music Director**.

The 2024/25 season at the DNT will feature two noteworthy productions: Richard Strauss's *Salome*, directed by Friederike Blum, and Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata* in collaboration with opera director Andrea Moses and composer Brigitta Muntendorf. This season crowns Dominik Beykirch's highly successful decade-long working relationship with the DNT, which he will be terminating at the end of this season at his own request. Dirk Schmeding's reading of Puccini's *Trittico* will also be revived in the course of this season. With this work, Dominik Beykirch will appear at the Royal Danish Opera in Copenhagen in November 2024, marking his Scandinavian debut. Symphonic highlights of the season include performances of such substantial choral symphonic works such as Dvořák's *Stabat mater*, Vaughan Williams' *Sea Symphony* and Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*, as well as the New Year's Eve concert with the SWR Symphony Orchestra in the Liederhalle in Stuttgart. Participatory projects such as WE IN CONCERT and special concerts, for example as part of the Liszt Biennale Thüringen, also enrich the current season.

Dominik Beykirch has a long-standing collaboration with pianist Frank Dupree, with whom among other projects he introduced Nikolai Kapustin's piano concertos to a broader audience for the first time. The Second and Sixth Piano Concertos will be included in their second joint recording with the SWR Symphony Orchestra and the SWR Big Band, which is scheduled for release in November 2024. For his recording of the Fifth Piano Concerto with the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin on the Capriccio label, Dominik Beykirch was nominated as Conductor of the Year for the OPUS Klassik award. The recording was released in February 2023 and was awarded numerous accolades, including the International Classical Music Award and the Diapason d'Or.

Dominik Beykirch has repeatedly received international acclaim for his opera conducting at the DNT. In October 2022, the opera *Samson* by Swiss composer Joachim Raff (directed by Calixto Bieito) was performed for the first time in 170 years at the initiative of Beykirch. In the 2019/2020 season, Dominik Beykirch achieved notable success with the opera *Lanzelot* by Paul Dessau, which had not been performed for 40 years. The trade journal *Opernwelt* singled out this production, directed by Peter Konwitschny, as "Rediscovery of the Year" and also nominated Dominik Beykirch as "Conductor of the Year". In January 2023, the *audite* CD label

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released a recording of the entire opera, which was met with considerable critical acclaim. It received both the German Record Critics' Award and *Opernwelt's* "CD of the Year" award in addition to be nominated for the International Opera Awards. New productions such as Richard Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos* in the award-winning production by Martin G. Berger (FAUST Prize 2020), Vincenzo Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* (directed by Jossi Wieler and Sergio Morabito), *Der fliegende Holländer* (directed by Barbora Horáková), *Aida* (directed by Andrea Moses) and *L'italiana in Algeri* (directed by Tobias Kratzer) were met with great acclaim from both audiences and the specialists press.

In addition to his permanent position, Dominik Beykirch regularly appears as guest conductor. He has collaborated with numerous renowned orchestras, including the symphony orchestras of the HR, MDR, WDR, and SWR, the Staatskapelle Dresden, the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, the Dresden Philharmonic, and the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester. Mr. Beykirch has conducted the Berlin Philharmonic, the Duisburg Philharmonic, the Staatskapelle Halle, the Bremen Philharmonic, the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra, the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, the Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen, and the Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie. He has also appeared at the Leipzig Opera, the Staatstheater Kassel, the Theatre in Chemnitz and has conducted performances at the Staatsoperette Dresden. Furthermore, he has collaborated with such distinguished soloists such as Nemanja Radulovic, Cameron Carpenter, Jens Peter Maintz, Jan Vogler, Danae Dörken, Michael Barenboim, Harriet Krijgh and Claudio Bohórquez.

In 2020, the album *Clarinet Concertos* was released on the Berlin Classics label. It features clarinetist Sebastian Manz performing the Clarinet Concerto by Danish composer Carl Nielsen, together with the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie Saarbrücken under the direction of Dominik Beykirch. Dominik Beykirch also recorded Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* with the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra for Berlin Classics (narrator: Malte Arkona).

Dominik Beykirch completed his studies at the Franz Liszt University of Music in Weimar in the conducting class of Prof. Nicolás Pasquet, Prof. Gunter Kahlert and Martin Hoff. He received further enriching artistic inspiration from Bernard Haitink, Jukka-Pekka Saraste and Ton Koopman, among others, and as a scholarship holder in the Conductors' Forum of the German Music Council. He now shares his experience in master classes and by teaching at the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy University of Music and Theatre in Leipzig. During the winter semester of 2024/25, he will also be teaching the main Orchestral Conducting class at the Franz Liszt University of Music in Weimar.

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