

## Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra

Founded in 1945, the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra (SKO) sees itself as a cultural institution with a dual role. The vision of the musicians and their three artistic leaders – Principal Conductor Thomas Zehetmair, Artistic Partner Jörg Widmann and Managing Director and Artistic Director Markus Korszelt – is to preserve tradition while also setting standards for the future in terms of sound and programming. The tension between these two poles is where the SKO draws its creative energy. The rich repertoire spanning the centuries, from Baroque to composition commissions, also includes exuberant genre cross-overs with jazz and electronic music in exciting formats and projects close to the audience. This range makes it one of the most accomplished ensembles in the world of music.

The programme encompasses about 90 concerts each year, including up to three intercontinental tours and performances on the major stages. The orchestra presents itself both as “pure SKO” in its regular line-up of 17 strings as well as a larger ensemble for masterworks from the Classical and Romantic periods.

The Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra is constantly discovering new creative fields in the ever-changing area of digitisation. Since 2018 innovative projects featuring virtual and augmented reality, artificial intelligence and hologram concerts have been created which broaden the classical foundation of the orchestra and offer the audience new artistic experiences.

Motivated by the desire to be more sustainable, in 2022 the SKO became Germany's first climate-neutral orchestra. The orchestra made the transition from sheet music to tablets at the same time, also a first among Germany's orchestras.

With its award-winning education programme "SKOhr-Labor" for children and young people of all backgrounds, the SKO makes a vital contribution to the musical culture of future generations.

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