

Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra (SKO)

75 years after its founding, the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra (SKO, Stuttgarter Kammerorchester) sees itself in a dual role as a culture institution. Under the direction of Principle Conductor Thomas Zehetmair, Jörg Widmann as an Artistic Partner, as well as Markus Kosselt as the General and Artistic Director, the group has focused both on maintaining its traditions, as well as setting new musical and programmatic standards for the future. It is from the tension between these two poles that the SKO draws its creative energy. A rich repertoire spanning the centuries from Baroque to commissioned compositions, as well as confident forays across genres with jazz and electronic music in exciting formats and projects bridging the gap to the audience make this musical body one of the most adept of its kind. Around 90 concerts fill the ensembles calendar each year, including up to three intercontinental trips and appearances on famous stages. With its award-winning educational program “SKOhr-Labor” for children and youth from all backgrounds, the SKO is making an essential contribution to the musical culture of the future. In addition, as part of digitalization, an array of new projects and visions attempt to break every boundary to reach audiences through virtual and augmented reality, artificial intelligence and hologram concerts. As it ever has done, the group “trusts in the comforting and gladdening power of music”.