

MEDIA ADVISORY:
July 11, 2016

**CALGARY PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCEMENT:
Conductor Rune Bergmann Named Music Director of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra**



Conductor Rune Bergmann is named incoming Music Director of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra

CALGARY, AB, July 11, 2016: The Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra is delighted to announce Norwegian conductor Rune Bergmann as the incoming Music Director effective for the 2017/2018 Season. Maestro Bergmann will perform several concerts in the upcoming 2016/2017 Season as Music Director Designate, one concert in October 2016 along with a pair of concerts closing the upcoming Season in June 2017:

- Saturday, 22 October, 2016: *Greatest Classical Hits*
- Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10, 2017: Holst's *The Planets*

An energetic and compelling figure on the podium, the Norwegian conductor is considered one of the brightest stars of the current generation of young conductors, and is in growing demand with orchestras throughout Europe and North America. Maestro Bergmann's performances in Calgary and Medicine Hat as guest conductor of the Calgary Philharmonic during the recently completed 2015/2016 Season left a lasting impression on the Orchestra's musicians, organization, and Albertans, leading him to be the successful selected candidate.

The audience will be sure to continue to feel the inspired energy and passion emanating from the stage with Maestro Bergmann on the podium.



Maestro Bergmann on the appointment:

“Some of the best talents I have worked with in recent years are at the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and I am honoured to be selected as the incoming Music

Director. I am also excited to grow with them as we take our performances to a global stage, digitally and live. Together with the dedicated and hardworking musicians, we will make this Orchestra an important destination on the world’s musical map.”

Paul Dornian, President & CEO of the Calgary Philharmonic on the appointment:

“Maestro Bergmann’s infectious enthusiasm for the Orchestra and his artistic goals are evident and extend beyond the stage. His commitment to growing the Calgary Philharmonic’s community Outreach and Education programs is rooted in his deep belief (aligned with that of the organization) that it is critical to create accessibility of live orchestral music to every Calgarian.”

The October 2016 performance previously mentioned will be associated with a Press Conference at which time Maestro Bergmann and Paul Dornian, President & CEO of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, will be available for a live question and answer. Invitation for these events will follow at a later date.

Media Opportunities

For all questions and interview requests, please contact

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Entering its 61st Season, the Calgary Philharmonic has been a cornerstone of Calgary’s multi-faceted arts community since 1955 and is one of North America’s finest and most versatile live music ensembles. A repertoire that is extensive and broad in scope consistently attracts acclaimed guest artists and conductors. The music is everywhere. The music is for everyone.

RUNE BERGMANN, biography

An energetic and compelling figure on the podium, Norwegian conductor Rune Bergmann (pronounced Rue-na Bairg-mahn) is a dynamic, versatile conductor with an extensive classical, romantic, operatic and contemporary repertoire. Considered among today’s most talented young Scandinavian conductors, his elegant interpretations and reputation as an inspiring and profound musician continue to attract the attention of orchestras throughout the world.

Principal guest conductor of Lithuania’s Kaunas City Symphony Orchestra since 2013, and artistic director of Norway’s innovative Fjord Cadenza Festival since its inception in 2010, among the distinguished orchestras and opera houses abroad with which Maestro Bergmann has developed relationships are the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Norwegian National



Opera, Mainfranken Theater Würzburg, and Philharmonie Südwestfalen, as well as the symphony orchestras of Malmö, Helsingborg, Bergen, Kristiansand, Stavanger, Trondheim, Karlskrona, and Odense, and Lisbon's Orquestra Sinfonica Portuguesa. In North America, he has guested with such orchestras as the Alabama Symphony Orchestra (where he led the world premiere of Grawemeyer Award-winning Serbian composer Djuro Zivkovic's Psalm XIII), Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Houston Symphony Orchestras, the Calgary and New Mexico Philharmonics, and the Brevard Music Festival.

Upcoming highlights of Bergmann's 16/17 season include return engagements in Calgary, Lisbon and New Mexico, as well as North American debuts with the Edmonton, Hawaii, Pacific, and Toledo Symphony Orchestras and the Wrocław and Argovia Philharmonics in Europe. The 16/17 season also marks the beginning of Bergmann's tenure as the new Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Szczecin Philharmonic in Poland.

A multi-talented musician who also plays trumpet, piano, and violin/viola, Rune Bergmann studied choir and orchestral conducting under Anders Eby, Jin Wang and Jorma Panula at Sweden's Royal College of Music. He graduated with high honors from the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland, where he studied conducting under Chief Conductor Emeritus of the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra/former principal conductor of the Vienna Radio, Finnish Radio, and Danish National symphony orchestras, Leif Segerstam. Honors include the 2010 Kjell Holm Foundation Culture Prize, the 2009 SMP Press culture award, and second prize in Helsingborg's 2002 Nordic Conducting Competition. Maestro Bergmann's former posts include deputy – General Musik Direktor with the Augsburger Philharmoniker and Theater Augsburg in Germany.

