

Orchestra Conducting Masterclass “How to prepare for a conducting competition” with Maestro Arturo Tamayo And Berliner Symphoniker

January 2026, 21st-24th | Berlin | Private concert at the end

About the masterclass:

The conducting masterclass with M° Arturo Tamayo and the Berliner Symphoniker orchestra is designed to help experienced conductors prepare for international conducting competitions.

The repertoire has been chosen to match what is often required in the first round of conducting competitions, and the focus of the masterclass will be on preparing the conductor to stand out and have a clear strategy when competing.

Only a limited number of conductors will be chosen (MAX 9) to grant podium time and extensive preparation and feedback from the Maestro.

Repertoire:

Franz Schubert: Symphony n.5 in B flat major, D.485

Pyotr I. Tchaikovsky: Serenade for Strings Op.48

Béla Bartók: Divertimento for String Orchestra

Conductors are expected to purchase and study deeply their scores before the start of the Masterclass to gain maximum benefit from the sessions.

Conditions

Active participant

A minimum of 70 minutes of podium time conducting the Berliner Symphoniker Orchestra

60 minutes of podium time in four-hand piano sessions with the soloist

Dress rehearsal and the Final concert

Attending a video analysis session, all meetings, classes, and rehearsals

Fee: 1650 EUROS

Semi-active participant

90 minutes of podium time in four-hand piano sessions with the soloist
Attending the video analysing session, all meetings, classes, rehearsals & the final concert as a listener

Fee: 480 EUROS

The fee for the masterclass does NOT include accommodation or transportation

Requirements

There is no age limit for participation.

A video of 5 minutes displaying the conductor's abilities will be required during the application process. Piano sessions are accepted too.

Dates

21st-24th January, 2026

Payment conditions

- 25 % of the participant's fee has to be paid as a deposit via bank at the latest two weeks after the organizers' confirmation of your participation
- The payment deadline for the full participation fee is 31 days before the beginning of the Masterclass

The masterclass fee is 100 % refundable only in case of cancellation or postponement of the masterclass by the organizer.

Application

Click [HERE](#) to apply for the conducting masterclass as a conductor

Each applicant is required to submit a conducting video of at least 5 minutes.

Languages

The masterclass will be taught in English and German. In addition, it will be possible to communicate in Spanish, Italian and French with M° Arturo Tamayo.

About the orchestra

For over five decades, the Berliner Symphoniker have been an integral part of Berlin's musical and cultural life, enriching the German orchestral landscape. Since 1990, they have been the orchestra for all Berliners.

In addition to the popular and long-established symphony concerts held at the Berlin Philharmonic, the Berlin Symphony Orchestra performs throughout Berlin and the surrounding area. They are regular guests at venues including the Konzerthaus Berlin, the University of the Arts, the Berlin Cathedral, the Kulturbrauerei, and Chorin Monastery. With guest performances in Europe and tours to North and South America, Africa, and Asia, as well as appearances at international festivals (including those in France, Italy, Austria, Spain, and Israel), the Berlin Symphony Orchestra enjoys worldwide success and sees itself as Berlin's cultural ambassadors.

In addition to the classical, wide-ranging and popular concert program, the repertoire of the Berlin Symphony Orchestra also includes special rarities – unknown and forgotten works as well as contemporary compositions.

Music education, as a special focus, has always been a hallmark of the orchestra. The Berlin Symphony Orchestra was the first orchestra in Berlin to develop a music education profile with school concerts and children's and family concerts, and to sustainably establish and promote young talent. Numerous CD recordings and television recordings round out the multifaceted work of the Berlin Symphony Orchestra.

About Arturo Tamayo

Born in Madrid (Spain). Studied at the law faculty and at the same time studied music at the Real Conservatorio de Música in Madrid (piano, percussion, music theory, composition), which he completed with an honorary prize for composition. Conducting course with Pierre Boulez in Basel, followed by studies at the Freiburg State University of Music (composition with Wolfgang Fortner and Klaus Huber, conducting with Francis Travis). After completing his conducting studies, he took a conducting course with Witold Rowicki in Vienna.

Until 1998, assistant to Klaus Huber at the Institute for New Music at the Freiburg University. Founding of the ensemble for new music. 1979-1997 Professor for interpretation of XXth century music. Century in Freiburg.

From 1977 onwards, active concert activity and numerous radio productions, especially around new music. Collaboration with important European orchestras (Ensemble Intercontemporain, Ensemble Modern, London Sinfonietta, Klangforum Wien, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra London, RSO-Vienna, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, WDR Symphony Orchestra, RSO Stuttgart, Südwestfunk Symphony Orchestra, German Symphony Orchestra Berlin, Orchestra of the German Opera Berlin, Orchester Nationale de France, Orchester Philharmonique de Radio France, Residentie-Orchester den Haag, Orchester de la Suisse Romande, Symphony Orchestra of the Hessischer Rundfunk, Prague Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Nazionale della RAI Torino, Orchestra del Teatro La Fenice, Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino,

Orchestra dell'Accademia Santa Cecilia Roma, Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchester Philharmonique du Luxembourg, Philharmonic Orchestra Antwerp, Orchester de la BTR Bruxelles, Orquesta Nacional de España, Orquesta de la RTVE Madrid, Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid, Orchester Nationale de Lille, Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchester Nationale de l'Île de France, Holland Radio Chamber Orchestra, Gustav Mahler Chamber Orchestra...). Appearances at international music festivals, also as a sought-after premiere conductor (Donaueschinger Musiktage, Berliner Festwochen, Venice Biennale, Salzburg Festival, Lucerne Music Weeks, Steirischer Herbst, Wien Modern, Cologne Triennale, three CornerMaggio Musicale Fiorentino, Berlin Music Biennale, Holland Festival). World premiere of works by Iannis.

He also worked as an opera and ballet conductor at the Deutsche Oper Berlin (Wolfgang Rihm's "Tutuguri" and "Jakob Lenz"; Mozart's "Magic Flute" and "The Marriage of Figaro", at the Schwetzingen Festival ("Ophelia" by Rudolf Kelterborn), at the Theater des Champs Elysées (Bellini's "Capuletti ed Montecchi"), Opera Comique Paris ("Donizetti's "La Favorite"), at the Grand Opera de Paris the premiere of Mauricio Ohana's "la Celestina", at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden (new production of Britten's "Peter Grimes"), at the Teatro Massimo Bellini Catania (Weber's "Der Freischütz"), at the Teatro Lírico Nacional Madrid (Alban Berg's "Lulu", Ravel's "L'heure espagnole", Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin" and a new production of Verdi's "Stiffelio" with Plácido Domingo in the title role), at the Vienna State Opera (Mauricio Kagel's "Tanz-Schul", De Falla's "Der Three cornered hut!" and Stravinsky's "Le Sacre du printemps"). Busoni's "Doktor Faust", Schoenberg's "Moses und Aron" and Puccini's "La Bohème" at the Graz Opera. Hans Werner Henze "The Bassarids" at the Teatro Real in Madrid. At the Antike Musikspiele in Trier "Antigone" by Arthur Honegger and Strawinsky's "Oedipus Rex" "Prometeo" by Luigi Nono. (Gibellina, Madrid, Berlin) In the Bunka Kaikun Theater Tokyo "Erhaltung" by Arnold Schönberg and "La voix humaine" by Francis Poulenc with Jessie Norman as soloist...

His discography is very wide and diverse. Of his important recordings, the 4 CDs dedicated to Mauricio Ohana's orchestral works, which received 16 international prizes, should be mentioned here. As well as 5 CDs with Iannis Xenakis' most important orchestral works, which received several international awards. The 2 CD in this series is qualified as "one of the three best recordings of new music of 2002". Two further CDs, each containing the orchestral music of Franco Donatoni and "The Rara Requiem by Sylvano Bussotti; the "Concerti per Orchestra" by Goffredo Petrassi with the Radio Symphony Orchestra Hilversum and the Orchestrawer. Arturo Tamayo has given conducting lessons at the Freiburg University of Music, Graz University of the Arts, in Musikene (Basque Country) at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana Lugano, as well as in countless master classes in various European countries.