Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra - the National Orchestra of Sweden

Since 2017, Santtu-Matias Rouvali is Chief Conductor of Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra - the National Orchestra of Sweden. He is one of the most sought-after conductors of our time and has led the orchestra on successful tours to four Nordic capitals as well as to Germany and Austria. Barbara Hannigan and Christoph Eschenbach are principal guest conductors since 2019. The orchestra has made acclaimed performances on the world's most prestigious stages, among them the BBC Proms in London and the Musikverein in Vienna, and gives around 100 concerts each year in the Gothenburg Concert Hall, including extensive concert projects for children. Live streams and recorded orchestra concerts with world-leading conductors and soloists are available on gsoplay.com and apps, as well as chamber concerts and imaginative film productions.

Already at the orchestra’s very first years, the great Swedish composer Wilhelm Stenhammar was appointed principal conductor, contributing strongly to the Nordic profile of the orchestra by inviting his colleagues Carl Nielsen and Jean Sibelius to conduct their own works. Subsequent holders of the post include Sergiu Comissiona, Sixten Ehrling and Charles Dutoit. During Neeme Järvi’s tenure (1982-2004), the orchestra became a major international force. In 1997 it was appointed the National Orchestra of Sweden. During his celebrated tenure as music director (2007-2012), Gustavo Dudamel took the Orchestra to major music centres and festivals in Europe. The list of prominent guest conductors has included Wilhelm Furtwängler, Pierre Monteux, Herbert von Karajan, Myung-Whun Chung, Herbert Blomstedt and Sir Simon Rattle.

Among the orchestra’s many prestigious recording projects is the complete Sibelius Symphonies with Santtu-Matias Rouvali for Alpha Classics, two volumes released already to critical acclaim. Earlier, the orchestra has issued over 100 recordings on BIS, Deutsche Grammophon, Chandos, Farao Classics and several other labels. The Gothenburg Symphony is owned by the Region Västra Götaland.