



**The Munich Philharmonic presents its 2026/27 concert season:  
Lahav Shani begins his tenure as Chief Conductor**

Munich, 12 March 2026

From September 2026, a **new artistic era** will begin for the Munich Philharmonic: **Lahav Shani** will officially take his post as the orchestra's chief conductor and will have a lasting impact on the artistic direction of the Munich Philharmonic with a total of **eight different concert programmes** across **all subscription series**.

Intendant **Florian Wiegand** looks forward to this new chapter in the history of the Munich Philharmonic: »Exploring the mystery of works of art time and again and creating community from the diversity of those involved – that's what I consider contemporary. Lahav Shani is an artist who manages to do just that. He succeeds in opening up a wide space for experiencing condensed presence together.« For the orchestra, which has already worked closely with Lahav Shani over the past months, making music together is already something special: »He is one of us. Lahav Shani is always open to dialogue and collaboration – and that is exactly what makes the difference«, says **Alexandra Gruber**, principal clarinet and spokesperson of the orchestra board.

Supported by this **spirit of collaboration**, Lahav Shani – widely regarded as one of the most distinguished conductors of his generation – represents a new approach to music making. His inaugural season's programme includes featured programmes, which largely cover the core symphonic repertoire and include major orchestral works by composers such as **Gustav Mahler, Anton Bruckner, Franz Schubert** and Munich-born **Paul Ben-Haim**. As well as being close to Lahav Shani's heart, these composers are closely associated with the orchestra's history. In their first season together, the Munich Philharmonic and Lahav Shani will collaborate with renowned soloists: **Martha Argerich** will perform the opening concerts and **Janine Jansen, Renaud Capuçon, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Mao Fujita** and **Lang Lang** will return as soloists in the 2026/27 season. Béla Bartók's **opera Bluebeard's Castle** will be performed at the Isarphilharmonie and the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden with **Elīna Garanča** and **Christian Van Horn**, laying the foundation for further **concert opera productions** with Lahav Shani in the coming years. In May 2027, the orchestra and its new Chief Conductor are planning to present a **festival in Munich** for the first time in many years, including chamber music and education formats. The detailed programme will be announced in due course.

Alongside the wide range of concert projects conducted by Lahav Shani, the orchestra also looks forward to welcoming back a number of renowned guest conductors. **Honorary Conductor Zubin Mehta, Andris Nelsons, Manfred Honeck, Fabio Luisi** as well as **Tugan Sokhiev, Nathalie Stutzmann** and **Klaus Mäkelä** will be returning to the Philharmonic. Much appreciated guest conductors **Anja Bihlmaier, Barbara Hannigan, Pablo Heras-Casado** and **Maxim Emelyanychev** will also return to the stage, while **Maxime Pascal** and **Ryan Bancroft** will be making their debuts with the orchestra. With internationally acclaimed soloists, such as **Daniel Lozakovich, Beatrice Rana, Avi Avital** and the eagerly awaited debut of **Yulianna Avdeeva**, audiences can look forward to an exciting, varied concert season. Outstanding soloists from within the Munich Philharmonic, including **Matías Piñeira, Raffaele Giannotti** and **Teresa Zimmermann**, will also appear as soloists.



The **Munich Philharmonic Choir** will once again be prominently featured in the 2026/27 season with **numerous choral-symphonic works**. The season opens with **Leonard Bernstein's »Chichester Psalms«** conducted by Lahav Shani. Further highlights include works by **Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy** and **Robert Schumann** under the direction of **Thomas Hengelbrock**, as well as **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Requiem** conducted by **Manfred Honeck** and **Ludwig van Beethoven's »Missa solemnis«** under **Klaus Mäkelä**.

With **more than 30 touring concerts** during the 2026/27 season, the Munich Philharmonic and Lahav Shani will appear in many of the **world's leading concert halls** and at **renowned classical music festivals**. Just before the Munich season opening, the orchestra will travel with Martha Argerich to **Lucerne Festival** and the **BBC Proms** in London. In November, together with Janine Jansen, they will perform at the **Concertgebouw** in Amsterdam as well as for two programmes each at the **Elbphilharmonie Hamburg** and the **Musikverein** in Vienna. The orchestra's three-year residency at the **Festival de Pâques in Aix-en-Provence**, which begins in April 2026, will continue during the 2026/27 season.

To mark **Anne-Sophie Mutter's** 50th stage anniversary, the orchestra will be travelling with her throughout Europe as well as to **Florida** and **New York's Carnegie Hall** in February 2027. The Munich Philharmonic's **international appeal** extends far beyond Germany's borders and that it is one of **Munich's most important cultural ambassadors** is also reflected by long-standing **media partnerships** with Bayerischer Rundfunk, Deutschlandfunk, NHK Japan, Radio Classique in France and additional distribution partners both in Germany and abroad.

The Munich Philharmonic will also continue to strengthen its close connection with the city of Munich through a wide range of outreach activities. With more than 100 events per season beyond symphonic and chamber music concerts, the orchestra reaches over 40,000 people annually – a central focus of its work. Numerous **kindergarden, school, youth, university/u30** and **club concerts** as well as **workshops, open rehearsals**, experimental formats at **Brainlab, Outreach Concerts** across a wide range of Munich locations and the participative **»Symphonic Mob«** foster dialogue with a wide **variety of audiences**. Curated by members of the orchestra, the popular **chamber music series** at the **Münchener Künstlerhaus** will once again present masterpieces and rarities in the 2026/27 season. Thanks to the generous support of **BMW** as long-standing partner of the **»Spielfeld«** education programme, new formats will also be introduced in the 2026/27 season, including the new symphonic musical **»Zirkuszauber im Orchester«** for families and schools and the children's concert **»Das magische Tor«**, opening new pathways into the world of classical music. The **20th anniversary** of Munich's **ODEON Jugendsinfonieorchester** – the Munich Philharmonic's protégé youth orchestra since 2010 and the City of Munich's official youth orchestra – will be celebrated with a special youth concert.

The Munich Philharmonic's commitment to promoting young talent is also evident in its regular concert programme: Thanks to its **U30 tickets**, under-30 year olds now account for almost **11 %** of symphony concert audiences, while the **concert attendance** in the current season, from September 2025 to March 2026, reaches **90% capacity**.



To maintain its range of artistic activities and quality of programming as the orchestra of the City of Munich even in times of municipal budget consolidation, **moderate, socially acceptable ticket price adjustments** will be made for the **2026/27 season**, with standard ticket and subscription prices for regular concerts at the Isarphilharmonie increasing, on average, by 6-7 %. Non-subscription tickets for under-30s will continue to be available from €11 and the U30 subscription price will also remain unchanged, as will the prices for the »Spielfeld« education programme.

With Lahav Shani, the Munich Philharmonic will open a new chapter in its long and distinguished history in the 2026/27 season – artistically ambitious, internationally present and firmly rooted in Munich’s city life.

The 2026/27 programme is available online at [www.mphil.de/en](http://www.mphil.de/en). **Subscriptions** will go on sale from **4 May 2026** and **single ticket sales** starts from **1 June 2026**.