

Peter Dijkstra
Conductor



Peter Dijkstra is one of today's most sought-after choral conductors. Born in 1978, he studied choral conducting, orchestral conducting and voice at the conservatories of The Hague, Köln and Stockholm, and graduated summa cum laude with distinction. He also took part in masterclasses with leading choral conductors like Tonu Kaljuste and Eric Ericsson. In 2002, he was awarded the Kersjes-van de Groenekanprize for young orchestral conductors and the following year, won first prize at the Eric Ericson Competition in Stockholm, which launched his international career.

Between 2005-2016 Peter Dijkstra was Artistic Director of the Choir of the Bavarian Radio in Munich. He developed the choir into a world class ensemble, known for its versatile music-making and with guest appearances at the foremost European festivals and orchestras. In September 2007, he was appointed Music Director of the Swedish Radio Choir, a position he still holds. Since September 2015, Dijkstra is also Chief Conductor of the Netherlands Chamber Choir, having worked with them as First Guest Conductor for several years.

Peter Dijkstra is regularly invited to conduct leading European choirs, such as the BBC singers, RIAS Chamber Choir Berlin, Collegium Vocale Gent, Danish National Choir, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Radio Choir of Berlin and the Netherlands Radio Choir. He performs a broad repertoire, from early music to premieres of new commissions, from a-cappella works to opera.

Peter Dijkstra is also a much sought-after guest conductor with orchestras such as the Symphonieorchester and Rundfunkorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, the Deutsches Symphonieorchester Berlin, Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Amsterdam Sinfonietta, Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo Metropolitan Orchestra, the Stavanger Philharmonic Orchestra, the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, The Residentie Orchestra, The Netherlands Radio Chamber Philharmonic, Munich Chamber Orchestra and early music ensembles such as Concerto Köln, Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, B'Rock und the Swedish Drottningholms Baroque Ensemble.

In the Netherlands, Peter Dijkstra is artistic leader of vocal ensemble MUSA (www.musa.nu) and first guest conductor of vocal ensemble The Gents (www.thegents.nl). With this all-male ensemble, he has toured Japan, Spain, Sweden and Great-Britain and recorded several award-winning discs for the Channel label. With the Nederlands Kamerkoor Peter Dijkstra has recorded an unanimously acclaimed album of Bach Motets, also for Channel Classics (CCS

27108).

In 2012, he won an ECHO Klassik (Fauré Requiem/Sony Classics) and two Diapason d'Ors (Strauss, Wagner, Mahler/BR Klassik and Figure Humaine, Francis Poulenc/Channel Classics). In 2014, his recording of Schnittke's Choir concerto received an ECHO Klassik award in the category 'Best Ensemble'. Brahms' Sacred Choral Works with the Swedish Radio Choir received the coveted Edison Klassiek Award 2015.

Peter Dijkstra conducted the World Youth Choir on their African Tour in 2007 and is regularly invited to give and initiate masterclasses and projects to promote choir singing and conducting at the highest possible level. He is an honorary member of the Royal Swedish Music Academy and was presented with the Golden Violin 2013, an award for internationally successful Dutch musicians, and the Eugen Jochum Prize in 2014.

Very recently, he was appointed Professor for Choral Conducting at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne.

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