

**PRESS RELEASE 05.10.2022**

## **Kristiina Poska chief conductor at Flanders Symphony Orchestra until 2025**

Kristiina Poska joined the Flanders Symphony Orchestra as chief conductor in October 2019. After three successful seasons, her contract was extended until 2025. "Kristiina Poska gives Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen wings. Between all her travels as guest conductor of top-level European orchestras, her permanent engagement as chief conductor of Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen feels every time like coming home." says Geert Dhondt, president of the board of directors. From 13 to 22 October, Poska will usher in the renewed collaboration during 'Enigma', the season opener with music by Edward Elgar, Carl Nielsen and Michael Fine.

[→ Download the press kit of Flanders Symphony Orchestra and Kristiina Poska.](#)

### **Beethoven, Scandinavia & young talent**

Under the wings of Estonian Kristiina Poska, the orchestra pursues a double artistic course. With a focus on early Romantic repertoire - and Ludwig van Beethoven in particular - on the one hand, and music from the geographical axis of England, Scandinavia, the Baltic States and Russia on the other. As co-initiator of the SOV Conducting Masterclass, she created a new talent development project for young conductors. Which celebrated its third edition in August 2022.

### **An international match**

As opportunities for live concerts were scarce during the last two seasons, Poska and the orchestra worked behind the scenes on a quality series of recordings. This gave both parties a chance to get strongly attuned to each other and to get to know each other, both as musicians and as people.

*"From the start I could immediately identify myself with the fresh, inspiring and committed way in which Flanders Symphony Orchestra makes music and with the unique atmosphere of the historical Bijloke concert hall in Ghent, which could not better represent the mentality and way of making music I believe in – based on awareness of the past, looking to the future with flexibility and curiosity, and cherishing the mystery of the moment."* - Kristiina Poska.

*"Poska revels in the orchestra's stylistic awareness, describing its sound as 'flexible, transparent, with the ability to be very slim but at the same time very powerful'. One might add to that fresh, clean and punchy brass and woodwind, and zippy strings that manage to combine agility and transparency with genuine tonal allure."* – Andrew Mellor in Gramophone Magazine.

## Watch Kristiina Poska and Flanders Symphony Orchestra at work

From 13 to 22 October 2022, Kristiina Poska conducts the season opener **'Enigma'** with concerts in Concertgebouw Brugge, Muziekcentrum De Bijloke Ghent, DE SINGEL Antwerp and CC De Spil Roeselare together with violinist Liya Petrova.

### Concert **Enigma**

programme Michael Fine (°1950) Suite for Strings, Carl Nielsen (1865-1931) Violin Concerto Op. 33, Edward Elgar (1857-1934) Enigma Variations, Op. 36

With conductor **Kristiina Poska** and violinist **Liya Petrova**

Repetitions in Muziekcentrum De Bijloke

MO **10.10** 9:30-11:00; 11:30-13:00

TU **11.10** 9:30-11:00; 11:30-13:00; 13:45- 15:15 (last session is with soloist)

WE **12.10** 9:00-10:20; 10:40-12:00 (last session is with soloist)

Concerts

THU **13.10** 20:00 Concertgebouw Brugge

SA **15.10** 20:00 Muziekcentrum De Bijloke Ghent

SU **16.10** 15:00 DE SINGEL Antwerp

SA **22.10** 20:00 CC De Spil Roeselare

More info [www.symfonieorkest.be/enigma](http://www.symfonieorkest.be/enigma)

## Press contact

### Josie Vranken

Communication & press

[josie.vranken@symfonieorkest.be](mailto:josie.vranken@symfonieorkest.be)

+32 (0)9 292 75 58

+32 (0)474 65 72 19