

Axel Kober

Conductor

GMD Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Düsseldorf/Duisburg
GMD Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra

"The way he [Axel Kober] handles the treacherous differences in sound between the orchestra pit and the hall, the way he gets down to business in a classically balanced yet exciting way, is a testament to great aplomb." 18.08.2021 – *Der Tagesspiegel*- Udo Badelt on „Tannhäuser“ at Bayreuther Festspiele

„The music unfolds in a broad, always controlled stream, which is given a lot of air to breathe by Kober. And this is of benefit, in particular to the supernaturally beautiful Adagio, which is virtually clothed in velvet and silk by the Duisburg musicians.“ 15.02.2019 – WAZ – Pedro Obiera on Bruckner's 7th Symphony with Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra



Axel Kober's interpretations of a wide opera and concert repertoire grow on the basis of profound knowledge, enormous experience and a comprehensive musical sense into spheres of inspiring emotionality.

Since the 2009/10 season, Axel Kober has been General Music Director of Deutsche Oper am Rhein Düsseldorf/Duisburg, where he sets a distinctive course in a wide repertoire – from Rameau and Händel via Mozart, Rossini, Bizet, Verdi, Wagner, Puccini, Lehár, Strauss, Britten, Berg and Poulenc up to the world premiere of Jörg Widmann's *Gesicht im Spiegel*. In addition, he became GMD of Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra in 2019, after having been Chief Conductor of this orchestra since 2017.

Axel Kober has been a frequent guest at Bayreuth Festival since his debut in summer 2013, conducting revivals of *Tannhäuser* and *Der Fliegende Holländer*. In 2021 he conducted the revival of *Tannhäuser* directed by Tobias Kratzer.

In addition, he enjoys a close relationship with the Wiener Staatsoper, where he gave his debut in 2016. Next to his enthusiastically received full cycle of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in January 2019, he conducted *Hänsel und Gretel* as well as *Arabella*, *Mahler 4th* and *Tosca*. In 2021/22 he returns to Vienna for a complete revival of *Der Ring des Nibelungen*.

Further recent invitations lead him to Deutsche Oper Berlin, Hamburgische Staatsoper, Opéra National du Rhin, Semperoper Dresden and Opernhaus Zurich, as well as to concerts of Düsseldorfer Symphoniker, Bruckner Orchester Linz, Dortmunder Philharmoniker, Sinfonieorchester Basel, Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra and Strasbourg Philharmonic Orchestra.

Highlights at Deutsche Oper am Rhein include new productions of *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, released on CD in Spring 2021, of *Wozzeck* and *The Emperor of Atlantis*, as well as a newly edited production of *Tristan und Isolde*. In the season 2021/22 Axel Kober conducts new productions of *Bluebeard's Castle*, *Káťa Kabanová* as well as a scenic *Christmas Oratorio*.

After studying conducting in Würzburg, first engagements took Axel Kober to Schwerin and Dortmund,

before he became deputy, later acting GMD in Mannheim and music director of Oper Leipzig, where he also regularly conducted concerts of the Gewandhausorchester.

<https://www.axelkober.de/>
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Kontakt: Maria Zeugswetter, Senior Artist Manager | zeugswetter@rbartists.at | +43 660 300 2898
Katharina Hollerwöger, Assistant Artist Manager | hollerwoeger@rbartists.at | +43 660 300 2899