

Giedrė Šlekytė

Born in Vilnius, Lithuania, Giedrė Šlekytė began her musical education at the National M. K. Čiurlionis Art-School in Vilnius. She went on to study conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz, the Academy of Music and Theatre in Leipzig, and the Zurich University of Arts. She also attended masterclasses by Bernhard Haitink and Riccardo Muti.



Last season Šlekytė made notable debuts at the Wiener Staatsoper (*La Bohème*) and the Royal Opera House in London (*Hansel and Gretel*), while returning to Musiktheater an der Wien for a new production of *Das Paradies und die Peri* and Staatsoper Berlin with *The Pearl Fishers* and *Sacre*. Symphonic engagements included debuts with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra —also her US debut— Philharmonia London, and Tokyo NHK Symphony, as well as returns to Münchner Philharmoniker, SWR Symphonieorchester, RSB Berlin, and Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra. Back in November 2023 she stepped in for Daniel Barenboim at short notice, conducting a highly-acclaimed Brahms' cycle in Toronto with Berlin Staatskapelle, simultaneously making her Canadian and North American debut.

In 2025/26, Giedrė returns to Oper Zürich for a new production (*Hansel & Gretel*), RSB Berlin, DSO Berlin, Wiener Symphoniker at Musikverein, and the Royal Opera House for *Le nozze di Figaro*. She will also make exciting debuts with L.A. Philharmonic at Hollywood Bowl in August 2025, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic and Antwerp Symphony Orchestra.

In 2016, Šlekytė was appointed Principal Conductor of Stadttheater Klagenfurt, where she led her first production—Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*. Operatic engagements since have included Bayerische Staatsoper, Oper Zürich, Staatsoper Berlin, Lithuanian National Opera and Semperoper Dresden. New productions under her direction included Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* at Musiktheater an der Wien, *Kát'a Kabanová* at Komische Oper Berlin, Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos* at Royal Danish Opera, Dvořák's *Rusalka* at Opera Ballett Vlaanderen, and Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites* at Oper Frankfurt.

As a guest conductor, she has appeared with the Wiener Symphoniker, Münchner Philharmoniker, Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra, hr-Sinfonieorchester Frankfurt, Tokyo Yomiuri Nippon Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden, Netherlands Philharmonic, Swedish Radio, and many others.

From 2022-25 Giedrė served as Principal Guest Conductor of Brucknerorchester Linz with many appraised concert performances.

Šlekytė was a finalist of the Salzburg Festival Young Conductors Award in 2015 and prize winner of the Malko International Young Conductors Competition in Copenhagen. In 2018, she was nominated in the "Newcomer" category of the International Opera Awards.

An active ambassador of Lithuanian music, she performs works by Raminta Šerkšnytė, Bronius Kutavičius, Osvaldas Balakauskas, Justė Janulytė, Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis, and others across

Europe and beyond. Alongside conductor Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, she recorded an album of Raminta Šerkšnytė's music for Deutsche Grammophon and the highly acclaimed Žibuoklė Martinaitytė album for Ondine.

www.giedreslekyte.com

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Contact: Stefan Fragner, Senior Artist Manager | fragner@rbartists.at | +43 660 300 2897
Helena Telen, Artist Manager | telen@rbartists.at | +43 660 300 2899