

TÕNU KALJUSTE | CONDUCTOR



Hailed by the international press as “charismatic and energetic”, Tõnu Kaljuste is recognized both as a choir and orchestra conductor worldwide. He is a frequent guest conductor of orchestras and chamber choirs worldwide and performed in the major music centres and at renowned festivals worldwide.

In this season he conducts the Orchestra della Toscana and Ensemble Resonanz, tours the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir with a cappella concerts at BBC Proms, Musikfest Bremen, Lausitz Festival, Enescu Festival Bukarest, Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and Tallinn Chamber Orchestra in addition to his numerous activities in Estonia e.g. at Pärt Days of Nargen Festival in Tallinn.

Founder of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir (EPCC) and Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Tõnu Kaljuste is a staunch ally and committed advocate for the work of Arvo Pärt, Erkki-Sven Tüür, Veljo Tormis and Heino Eller. He has collaborated closely with great composers of modernism in Northern and Eastern Europe such as Alfred Schnittke, György Kurtag, Krzysztof Penderecki and Giya Kancheli.

Since 2021/22 Tõnu Kaljuste is again Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the EPCC. From 2019 to 2024 he held the position of Artistic Director of the Tallinn Philharmonic Society and Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. Kaljuste has been Chief Conductor of the Netherlands Chamber Choir and is Conductor Laureate of the Swedish Radio Choir since 2019.

Since 2004 Tõnu Kaljuste has been Artistic Director of Nargen Opera in Estonia featuring the Nargen Festival with music and opera productions, concerts and exhibitions during the summer. The festival is preceded by the Cyrillus Kreek Days in June and followed by the Arvo Pärt Days in September. He collaborates also closely with the Baltic Sea Festival in Stockholm. A highlight of the 2023 edition will be the performance of Saint-Saëns' Organ Symphony with the Estonian National Symphony.

He has appeared as a guest conductor with the Orchestra della Toscana, Ensemble Resonanz, Concerto Copenhagen, Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, Wrocław Philharmonic, Estonian National Orchestra and the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra.

To mark the Pärt Year in 2025, Tõnu Kaljuste performed a cappella concerts with the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir at the BBC Proms, Musikfest Bremen, Dresden Music Festival, Halle Handel Festival, Lausitz Festival, Enescu Festival Bucharest, Prague Spring, Shanghai International Arts Festival, as well as in Paris, the Barbican in London, Glasgow, Dublin, Munich, Berlin, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Antwerp, Ghent, Bruges and Carnegie Hall.

Numerous recordings of Kaljuste's extensive discography for ECM Records, BIS, Caprice Records and Virgin Classics were nominated for the Grammy in various categories and have also other awards such as Cannes Classical Award, Diapason d'Or, Edison Prize and Classic Brit Award. For the Arvo Pärt album *Adam's Lament* the Estonian conductor was awarded the Grammy Award 2014 in the category 'Best Choir Performance'. In 2019 Tõnu Kaljuste won the ICMA Award for the album of Arvo Pärt's Symphonies No. 1-4 with the Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2023 ECM released the album *Remiscentiae* with music by Veljo Tormis as well as the album Arvo Pärt: *Tractus*. Berlin Classics released the album *Lente* with an Arvo Pärt portrait together with Concerto Copenhagen and the EPCC in May 2025.

Tõnu Kaljuste is a member of the Royal Music Academy of Sweden, recipient of the Japanese ABC Music Award and the Robert Edler Prize.

Season 2026/27