## Roland Kluttig to become principal conductor of the Graz Philharmonic Orchestra and Graz Opera from 2020/21



After ten years as chief musical director at the Landestheater Coburg, Roland Kluttig will be taking up a new appointment in the **2020/21 season**: he will become **principal conductor** of **the Graz Philharmonic Orchestra** and **Graz Opera** (Oper Graz). He has been given a contract for three seasons, parallel to the contract held by the director, Nora Schmid. Roland Kluttig already conducted the production of Dukas' "Ariane et Barbe-Bleu" in Graz in March 2018 and will also be in musical charge of "King Roger" by Karol Szymanowski in 2019 (premiere: 14 February 2019).

Since Roland Kluttig took up his position at the Landestheater Coburg in 2010, the theatre has matured into a bastion of the national opera scene. He has also led the Philharmonic Orchestra

with great success. Kluttig has drawn especial attention with productions such as "Lohengrin", "Parsifal" and "Fidelio". But he has also created sensations at other opera houses: for example, in Stuttgart with "Salome", and with new productions and revivals at Oper Frankfurt, the Hamburg State Opera, the Nationaltheater Mannheim, the Opéra National du Rhin, Opéra Nice and the Leipzig Opera.

**Nora Schmid** on Roland Kluttig's appointment: "Last season, Roland Kluttig made a wonderful guest debut at Graz Opera with Dukas' 'Ariane et Barbe-Bleu' and will conduct 'King Roger' by Karol Szymanowski in the current season. I am delighted that we could gain his services as principal conductor on the basis of this continual collaboration and look forward with great joy to this artistic partnership."

**Roland Kluttig** is also delighted about his appointment as principal conductor at Graz Opera: "The collaboration on Dukas' 'Ariane et Barbe-Bleu' last season was exhilarating and successful in every regard. During this time, I came to greatly value the work with the Graz Philharmonic, the choir, the soloists and the music department of this house and maintained a very good and inspiring interchange with Nora Schmid and the management team at Graz Opera throughout. It will be a great challenge and joy for me to be able to further intensify this work soon."

The current principal conductor at Graz Opera, **Oksana Lyniv**, will not be extending her contract and will work as a freelance conductor.

More information about the Graz Opera (in German): <u>https://www.oper-graz.com/</u>

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