

Sir Simon Rattle

With his captivating charisma, deep enthusiasm, great love of experimentation and meticulous artistic seriousness, it is no surprise that the Liverpool-born Sir Simon Rattle is one of the most fascinating conductors of our time. He first conducted the BR Chorus and the BRSO in 2010. This developed into an intensive collaboration, and his performances in Munich have always been true highlights. In 2023, the 71-year-old Brit with a German passport took over as chief conductor of the orchestra he has admired since his youth. Sir Simon Rattle's repertoire ranges from Bach, Haydn, and Mozart to modern and contemporary music, and from classical symphonies to concertante opera. Under the label "BRSO barock," he has also established performances of early music on original instruments at the BRSO. He is equally passionate about music education, and challenging projects with the BRSO Academy, of which he is patron, are just as important to him as broader-impact projects that bring together professional and amateur musicians. These include the "Symphonischer Hoagascht" in 2024 and "Singen mit Sir Simon" (Singing with Sir Simon) in July 2026.

Sir Simon Rattle's meteoric career began with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, which he made internationally famous between 1980 and 1998. From 2002 to 2018, he was chief conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra and, from 2017 to 2023, music director of the London Symphony Orchestra. He remains associated with the latter as "Conductor Emeritus." He is also "Principal Artist" of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Principal Guest Conductor of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra ("Rafael Kubelík Conducting Chair"), and, most recently, Honorary Conductor of the Berlin Staatskapelle. He has longstanding relationships with the Vienna Philharmonic, the Royal Opera House in London, the Berlin State Opera, the New York Met, and the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, where he conducted the BRSO in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in the summer of 2025. Recently he has also begun working with the Mahler Chamber

Orchestra. Simon Rattle has received numerous high honours, including the Ernst von Siemens Music Prize in May 2025. Several of his CDs released with the BRSO have received awards: Mahler's Sixth, Seventh, and Ninth Symphonies received a Gramophone Editor's Choice; the Sixth was included in the German Record Critics' Award list of the best recordings; the Seventh was awarded the Diapason d'or de l'année and a Presto Award; and his recording of Haydn's *The Creation* received a Pizzicato Supersonic Award. At the Gramophone Classical Music Awards 2025, Simon Rattle was honored as Artist of the Year.

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